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How QHSE (Quality, Health, Safety & Environment) Technology is Supporting the Global Manufacturing Industry

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Introduction

Manufacturing, like so many other industries, is facing increasingly stringent safety and compliance regulations on a global scale. Anyone who has visited or worked in a factory environment understands that it can be a very dangerous workplace. On the job, manufacturing workers are surrounded by heavy equipment, complex machinery and electrical and chemicals hazards. While the manufacturing industry is safer now than ever before, it remains critical that QHSE (Quality, Health, Safety & Environment) technology is integrated into every facet of manufacturing operations around the world.

Manufacturing remains an essential piece of the global economy, and a major growth engine for developing countries. As the global manufacturing landscape continues to change, regulatory hurdles can become a major challenge for manufacturers, particularly when safety regulations differ from country to country. However, staying on top of compliance regulations is essential in maintaining productivity, quality, and most importantly, workplace safety.

Here's how QHSE technology is supporting the global manufacturing industry in navigating the ever-changing business landscape.

Bridging the gap in employee competency with technology

At the core of any manufacturing company is the employee workforce. When an organization has insufficiently trained employees, it presents a significant risk in terms of safety and can have negative impacts on performance. In manufacturing, safety training and compliance management is a must to ensure the workforce is equipped to perform their jobs effectively. Many manufacturers are starting to see a gap between the skills and knowledge of their workforce, and what is demanded by the job. More and more manufacturing positions now require deeper technical know-how or specialized skills, and as automation and digitization become increasingly integrated into all manufacturing processes, the gaps in employee training are only expected to widen. Accurate and timely tracking of workforce training and certification, including the specific training required for certain manufacturing positions or job functions, will be crucial in ensuring workplace compliance.

So how do manufacturing companies begin to address and minimize those gaps?

One of the most obvious answers is to look to technology that can standardize the collection and analysis of employee competency records.

Today's leading QHSE platforms come with rich tools for managing the intricate details of employee competency and can be customized for any organization to help manage their diverse workforce. Leading QHSE software solutions can assist manufacturers in the following areas:

▪ **Job Role Competency Management**

▪ **Job Safety Analysis**

▪ **Training & Exams Records Management**

▪ **Human Resources Information Management**

Furthermore, investing in the training and development of employees not only helps mitigate health and safety risks, but also provides the following benefits:

▪ **Increase efficiencies in operation processes**

▪ **Reduce employee turnover**

▪ **Employee mobility and flexibility**

▪ **Increased job satisfaction and morale among employees**

▪ **Increased employee motivation**

▪ **Increased capacity to adopt new technologies and methods**

▪ **Enhanced company image**

It is evident that the investment into QHSE technology will not only streamline operational processes, but it will also enrich workplace safety and create a positive safety culture.

Building a safer workplace & driving continuous improvements

Manufacturing is a diverse industry, using a wide range of machinery, chemicals and production processes. In these environments, workers can be exposed to a multitude of hazards that can result in serious injuries, illnesses, or even death. The most common manufacturing hazards are mechanical, chemical and fire hazards. While the frequency and impact of these hazards can be mitigated through proper training, regular inspections and maintenance, it is paramount that employees play an active role in identifying and reporting hazards in a QHSE system in order to track and issue corrective actions effectively.

One of the biggest safety concerns in manufacturing is poor equipment and machinery maintenance practices. Poorly maintained equipment can present a significant danger to employees. Without regular maintenance checks, equipment and machinery can become prone to malfunction. To mitigate these risks, companies are leveraging enhanced QHSE technology to better facilitate safety inspections that draw attention to very specific hazards that exist in their environment.

As we've seen, QHSE technology is playing a key role building safer workplaces and driving continuous improvement in the manufacturing industry. Some of the most effective QHSE platforms can now deliver powerful data that provides great visibility and can assist in making data backed decision to improve operations. Mobile accessibility to shared data is another valuable component as it enables improved communications, transparency and increases accountability and alignment within the workforce. It is a necessity that a QHSE software solution contain mobile capabilities to keep the workforce connected no matter where they work.

An example of a leading QHSE software solution that in enabling a safer and more connected workplace is ITRAK. This scalable software solution is designed to assist manufacturing companies in streamlining their QHSE processes from end-to-end and helps them maintain compliance with the health, safety, and environmental standards set forth by regulatory agencies.

Manufacturers that invest in technologies, such as ITRAK, eliminate workplace hazards and will save themselves from the heavy costs associated with workplace injuries and fatalities. It has been found that QHSE software solutions like ITRAK can deliver:

▪ **Fewer workplace accidents, injuries and fatalities**

▪ **Lower employee absence and turnover rates**

▪ **Lower risk of legal action**

▪ **Better reputation for corporate responsibility among investors, customers and communities**

▪ **Higher productivity, with healthier, happier and more motivated employees**

ITRAK - the leading QHSE Software solution for the manufacturing industry

ITRAK's QHSE workflows and dashboards are fully customizable to meet the unique needs of manufacturing companies. The intuitive, flexible, and scalable QHSE solution enables companies around the world to increase efficiency, employee safety, reduce workplace risks, and drive continuous improvement. The efficiency of an intuitive and paperless reporting system allows manufacturers to accurately collect, standardize, and analyze their safety data across their organization. With the ability to perform hazard identification, inspections, workflows, and audits, ITRAK allows manufacturers to manage every facet of their quality and safety programs on an array of mobile devices.

ITRAK's is certified for Microsoft Dynamics 365, allowing users to leverage the power and scalability that comes with the platform. With access to Power BI dashboards, users can obtain a 360-degree view of valuable real-time metrics, these powerful interactive reports display critical business data that can be used to monitor the health of any business and can enable insightful data-backed decisions.
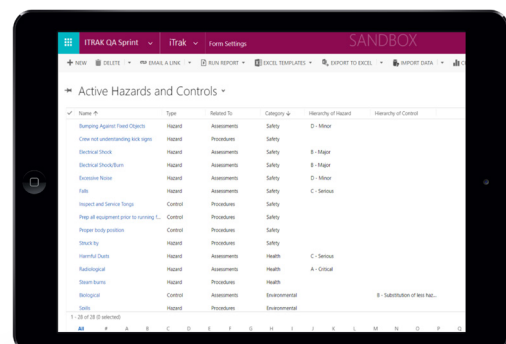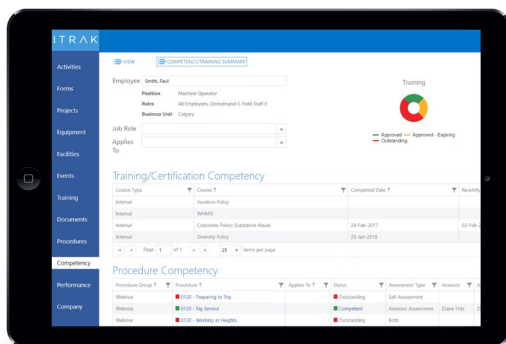
With ITRAK, manufacturing companies can now run their entire QHSE operations from end-to-end with intelligent tolls that seamless work together.