



Press Release

FIL6827
January 2007

ITC FILTRONA ACHIEVES OHSAS 18001 CERTIFICATION

ITC Filtrona (India) has successfully implemented and been certified in the International Standard for Occupational, Health and Safety Management - OHSAS 18001:1999.

The implementation took place over six months and included putting a standard risk assessment model into practice for identifying and assessing all risks affecting health and safety, as well as involving the operating personnel in the risk assessment process. In turn, this helped to link the monitoring and operational control based on the risk levels assessed. For example, a 'permit to work' system for high risk activities has been set up, as well as task observations for critical activity, health monitoring and workplace monitoring.

Surajit Ghosh, Chief Executive Officer for ITC Filtrona said of the new standard, "We already had very good standards and had experienced no lost work days in the last six years. OHSAS 18001 gives us a new system of documentation and a structured risk assessment model through which we are hoping to eradicate the minor incidents that do still occur."

Another benefit to ITC Filtrona of implementing OHSAS 18001 has been the restructure of its health and safety systems in line with internationally recognised best practices, and the subsequent involvement of all personnel through consultation and communications to achieve this.

The integration of the new system with the existing health and safety records is also a distinct advantage and has made the system more measurable and manageable as a result. Surajit Ghosh sums up by saying, "OHSAS certification will benefit us by creating a structured health and safety system which integrates with the management system to become a way of life."

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Editor's note:

Filtrona Filters is the world's leading independent supplier of innovative special filters for the tobacco industry. The company has been developing filters since filtered cigarettes first became popular in the 1950s and is highly focused on staying one step ahead of the market. As legislation becomes more stringent, and the industry demands filters that are able to ensure a precise level of tar and nicotine yield, so Filtrona Filters is ideally placed to provide the optimum solution.

With more than a dozen strategically-located manufacturing facilities around the globe, Filtrona Filters' unparalleled expertise, resources and breadth of vision enables it to deliver high quality, cost effective filter solutions to any customer, anywhere in the world.

To find out more about Filtrona Filters, its services and its highly innovative product line-up, visit the company's website at www.filtrona.com

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