



## FACTSHEET ON STARTSAFE

StartSAFE is a programme initiated by the Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) Council, where trained WSH practitioners proactively visit SMEs to help them identify WSH hazards on site and provide advice to rectify the lapses on the spot. The programme will help SMEs which are unaware of WSH risks and unsure of how to implement good WSH practices, to build its capability in these areas. Through StartSAFE, we hope that SMEs will be motivated to join bizSAFE to sustain their journey in creating safe and healthy workplaces.

### Background

2 The WSH Council conducted a pilot of StartSAFE from September 2015 to February 2016 to help SMEs in the metalworking and manufacturing sector adopt good WSH practices. Under the pilot programme, WSH Council conducted 447 visits in 362 companies. Feedback from participating companies was positive, and were used to fine-tune the programme further.

### About the programme

3 StartSAFE was officially launched in October 2016. Since then, more than 160 visits have been conducted. These companies were from sectors such as construction, logistics and transport, metalworking and manufacturing, wholesale, retail and food and beverage.

4 StartSAFE consists of two visits:

- a) **1<sup>st</sup> visit** (Complimentary)

- During the 1<sup>st</sup> visit, a WSH consultant will identify the WSH lapses on-site together with the employer(s)/ employees and provide advice and hands-on guidance to the companies in rectifying the WSH lapses on the spot.
- Upon completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> visit<sup>1</sup>, the participating company may be given bizSAFE Level 1 recognition if the top management has demonstrated commitment to WSH.

b) **2<sup>nd</sup> Visit (Optional)**

- Companies keen for further onsite assistance can opt for a 2<sup>nd</sup> visit.
- During the 2<sup>nd</sup> visit, a WSH Consultant will train a Risk Management (RM) Champion (appointed by the owner) on implementing a risk management plan. This includes training on risk assessment and safe work procedures.
- Participating company will need to co-pay 10% of the cost of the 2<sup>nd</sup> visit by the WSH Consultant.
- Upon completion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> visit<sup>2</sup>, the participating company may be given bizSAFE Level 2 recognition which signifies that the company has acquired RM capability and the RM Champion has charted out an RM implementation plan.
- bizSAFE Level 2-certified companies are then encouraged to progress to bizSAFE Level 3 by engaging a Ministry of Manpower-approved WSH auditor to assess the implementation of risk management in the workplace.

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**Eligibility Criteria**

5 SMEs that are non-bizSAFE certified may apply. Companies that are under the Business Under Surveillance (BUS) Programme<sup>3</sup> or currently under any legal investigations are not eligible.

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<sup>1</sup> Top management (minimally 3rd Tier management representative) has to be present throughout the 1st visit with the submission of WSH Policy and Organisation chart.

<sup>2</sup> Based on the competency level of the appointed RM Champion at the end of the 2nd visit. WSH Council will have the final decision in the bizSAFE Level 2 recognition.

<sup>3</sup> The Business Under Surveillance (BUS) programme helps poor-performing companies improve their WSH performance by requiring them to develop and implement a robust safety and health management system.

**How to sign up?**

6 Interested companies may register for the programme by emailing [bizSAFE@wshc.sg](mailto:bizSAFE@wshc.sg) or visit WSH Council website ([www.wshc.sg/startsafe](http://www.wshc.sg/startsafe)) for more information.

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