ISO 37001 Anti-bribery management systems – A practical guide

The document is a practical manual developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in collaboration with the United Nations (UN).
The guide aims to help organizations of all types and sizes to implement and maintain an anti-corruption management system, based on the ISO 37001 standard.

CONTENT SUMMARY

Introduction
- Guides on how to develop and implement an anti-corruption management system, based on the ISO 37001 standard.
- It is aimed at organizations of all sectors, sizes and locations, with a special focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.
- The manual is organized into sections that cover everything from understanding what a management system is to the specific requirements of ISO 37001.

About Management Systems
- A management system defines how an organization manages its business to achieve its objectives.
- ISO 37001 specifies measures to help organizations prevent, detect and respond to bribery, including the adoption of an anti-bribery policy, risk assessment, due diligence and financial controls.

About corruption
- Corruption is defined as the offer, promise, delivery or acceptance of an undue advantage, directly or indirectly, in violation of applicable law.
- The guide describes the various forms of corruption, including corruption in the public and private sector, and highlights the importance of fighting corruption to protect the reputation and sustainability of organizations.

How to get started
- The first step is to understand the requirements of ISO 37001 and get the support of the organization's leadership.
- The guide suggests sources of information and support, such as industry associations, government departments and external consultants.

ISO 37001 requirements
- The ISO 37001 standard is voluntary and applies to all forms of corruption, in both the public and private sectors.
- Requirements include understanding the context of the organization, leadership, planning, support, operations, performance evaluation and continual improvement.
- The standard requires organizations to carry out a corruption risk assessment and implement appropriate controls to mitigate these risks.

Leadership and Commitment
   - The organization's leadership must demonstrate commitment to the anti-corruption management system, including approving the anti-corruption policy and allocating adequate resources.
   - The anti-corruption compliance function must be independent and have the authority to operate the system.

Planning and Operations
   - Organizations must plan actions to address risks and opportunities, set anti-corruption objectives and implement financial and non-financial controls.
   - Due diligence is a critical element in assessing the risk of corruption in transactions, projects and relationships with third parties.

Performance Evaluation and Improvement
   - Organizations should monitor, measure, analyze and evaluate the performance of the anti-corruption management system.
   - Internal audits and management reviews are necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the system.
   - Continuous improvement is essential to adapt the system to changes in the context of the organization and the legal environment.

Certification
   - ISO 37001 certification is not mandatory, but may be required by clients or regulations.
   - The certification process involves audits by an accredited certification body, which verifies compliance with the requirements of the standard.

Annexes and Case Studies
   - The guide includes annexes with diagrams, templates and case studies that illustrate the practical implementation of ISO 37001.
   - The case studies show how organizations have faced challenges when implementing an anti-corruption management system.

Conclusion
The ISO 37001 **practical guide is a valuable tool for organizations wishing to implement an effective anti-corruption management system**, providing detailed guidance on how to comply with the requirements of the standard, with practical examples and case studies to help illustrate the application of the concepts in real situations.
Implementing an anti-corruption management system not only helps prevent corruption, but also protects the organization's reputation and contributes to its long-term sustainability.