Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is the first fire service in the UK to achieve the ISO 45001 accreditation with a 100 percent pass rate. ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System is the world’s first International Standard for Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S). It was introduced in 2018 and replaces the previous British Standard of OHSAS 18001 in the organization.
Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service has been working closely with staff and partners to ensure health and safety management systems are in place to aid employee well-being in the organization. The transformation to the ISO 45001 means that the organization is internationally recognized in an elite category of businesses.

Increases safety and reduces workplace risks

ISO 45001 provides a framework to increase safety, reduce workplace risks and enhance health and well-being at work, enabling an organization to continually improve its OH&S performance. It is applicable to all organizations, regardless of size, industry or nature of business. The Service has already met the generic management system approach of other international standards such as:

- ISO 14001 - effective environmental management system
- ISO 27001 - information security management system
- ISO 22301 – business continuity management system

To change to ISO 45001, the Service has continued to provide a structured and organized
framework for OH&S that relies on evidence based data to ensure that there is reinforced leadership to proactively improve OH&S performance, and that legal and regulatory requirements are met. Delivering high OH&S standards has enhanced the reputation of the service among businesses and organizations by meeting the needs and expectations of CFRS’s workforce, local communities and partner agencies.

**Creation of a positive work culture**

Staff from across the Service can feel their needs and safety are being taken into account and that a positive corporate culture is created. The benefits of being accredited to ISO 45001 include increased confidence in all aspects of OH&S and that a specialist auditor validating policies, procedures, processes and continual improvements on an annual basis. Competencies against every role in the organization are recorded and every system and piece of equipment has training delivered.

“**Achieving the ISO 45001 standard at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is something we should all be proud of**"
Area commander Chris Parker said: “Achieving the ISO 45001 standard at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is something we should all be proud of. Migrating to this new international standard shows our commitment to our employees, partners and the public that we take occupational health and safety seriously. We aim to prevent hazards and promote a positive working culture in the service.

Setting the benchmark for OH&S

“The new management system could not be implemented in depth without the support of staff across Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service. Without their corroboration, it wouldn’t have been embedded in the organization to the degree it has been to make accreditation successful.

“By transitioning to this new standard, it shows that we can set the benchmark for Occupational Health and Safety across all services in the UK.”

The health and safety team have ensured that proactive measures are implemented so that consistency of OH&S standards are met across the organization. This is the main reason how the organization has received their new standard as internal operations have changed from detection mode to prevention. This means that the fire service has transitioned to a new standard that continues provide a framework to manage risks and opportunities to help prevent work-related injury and ill health to workers.
Video Cameras In U.S. States Keeping Watch For Looming Wildfires

There are 200 video cameras keeping watch throughout five Western United States to provide early warning of wildfires. In the near future, t...

Why Suicide and Mental Health Issues Plague the Fire Service

More firemen die of suicide each year than are killed in the line of duty. For example, in 2017, at least 103 firefighters and/or Emergency...

LAFD Exemplifies How Drones Can Be Used In Firefighting

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) is setting the standard for the use of drones in firefighting applications. As one
of the first major...

**Addressing The Physical Fitness Needs Of Fire Departments**

When it comes to physical fitness, every fire department’s approach is different. Some have invested in a fitness initiative, others h...

**Grenfell Highlighted Need For Greater Competency Of Fire System Instal...**

One lesson of Grenfell is how many fire system technicians operate without the appropriate qualifications. Since the Grenfell tragedy, Dame...