

Outsmart, the industry body for the Out Of Home advertising industry, has agreed that companies carrying out construction, removals, maintenance and ground-works on behalf of its members, should be externally accredited to a recognised standard or meet the requirements of a SSIP (Safety Scheme in Procurement).

This is to ensure that our industry is in compliance with the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) that came into force in April 2015, which require anyone appointing a Designer or Contractor to work on a project to take reasonable steps to satisfy themselves that those who will carry out the work have the skills, knowledge, experience, and, where they are an organisation, the organisational capability to carry out the work in a way that secures Health and Safety standards and delivery. The extent of 'reasonable steps' will depend on the complexity of the project and the range and nature of the risks involved.

Designers or Contractors can use the services of an independent (third party) assessor to assess their organisational capability including those who are members of the Safety Schemes in Procurement (SSIP) Forum. SSIP assessment is one way a designer or contractor can demonstrate organisational capability at the pre-qualification stage of the appointment process. In this way, Outsmart and the Out of Home industry will ensure that only those recognised competent and appropriate contractors are used by all of our members.

Outsmart assumes your company has taken reasonable steps to prove that Designers or Contractors undertaking work on your behalf have the requisite skills, knowledge, experience and organisational capability to carry out construction work (construction means any building, civil engineering or engineering construction work including removals and dismantlements).

Outsmart member companies will require that all such contractors are successfully assessed by a SSIP Forum Member (i.e. CHAS, Construction Line, Safecontractor, RISQS, etc.) before **31/12/18**. This assessment meets the minimum requirements set out by the HSE and will complement our Contractor Management Policy. We will also accept as meeting our standard, those companies that hold current accreditation to either OHSAS:18001 or ISO:45001.

If you require any assistance in arranging an assessment by a SSIP Forum Member in order to attain accreditation by the end of 2018, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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