



ESSA Accredited

What is ESSA Accredited?

It is an independently audited health and safety accreditation scheme that is supplied free of charge to ESSA Members as part of their membership.

Put simply, it allows accredited members the ability to demonstrate to potential clients that they are working to a high level of health and safety management via a third party impartial audit.

Why does it help me?

In a nutshell, it saves you time and helps you to meet your legal duties under The Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) as well as supporting your need to further verify compliance across your supply chain.

Organisers are likely to take on the role of "Client" under the CDM regulations and as such would have the legal responsibility to appoint competent contractors and designers...

"Anyone appointing Designers (including Principal Designers), Contractors (including Principal Contractors) or workers must ensure that those appointed have the necessary skills, knowledge and experience."

The legal requirements of these regulations are to take "reasonable steps" to satisfy yourself that the contractors you appoint are competent to do the work safely.

Your **space only exhibitors** also have this responsibility when appointing their stand contractor or service provider. A simple survey of exhibitors in the UK indicates a complete lack of understanding of their legal responsibility and nor is it a feature of their appointment of suppliers. ESSA Accredited helps them meet this obligation.

How do you currently assess the competency of the contractors that you use? What are your exhibitors doing? Would you be confident that both parties have satisfied their legal responsibility and are able to provide proof?

When choosing ESSA Accredited members, these checks have been done.





What does the accreditation cover?

To achieve ESSA Accreditation a company must have gone through a rigorous examination of its health and safety management systems.

It assesses over 20 different health and safety management areas including company policy, insurances, risk assessment, safe systems of work, work at height practices, subcontractor management and many more. These checks align with the SSIP Core Criteria adopted by schemes such as Safe Contractor and CHAS.

For full details of what the accreditation covers, you can access the guidance notes, available to download here www.essa.uk.com/accredited/essa-accredited.

What can I do to encourage the use of an ESSA Accredited member?

Firstly, standard ESSA membership supports responsible procurement and helps people and businesses go a long way towards meeting their legal obligation. Key membership distinctions such as financial health checks, annual insurance check, code of conduct and quality charter adherence are just four prime examples of why ESSA members should already be prioritised.

ESSA Accredited takes this to a whole new level, it is the new standard within the supplier community.

- **Use ESSA Accredited members yourselves**
- **Promote ESSA Accredited to your suppliers**
- **Encourage your contractor base to become accredited**
- **Educate your sales teams within this area of compliance**
- **Provide us with your logo and agree to becoming a supporter of ESSA Accredited**

By increasing the use of ESSA Accredited members year on year it is a tangible way to show commitment to developments in safer practices across the whole sector.





One last thing...

If you don't already, please would you publish the below statement in your exhibitor guide/zone/communications...

"As an exhibitor, you have a responsibility to appoint a competent exhibition contractor. For the supply of products and services at this event, we strongly recommended that you use ESSA Members – ESSA is the Events Supplier and Services Association. All ESSA Members observe a strict Code of Conduct and Quality Charter, which covers service, ability, experience and business practice. Full members are also covered under the ESSA Bond – click here for more information.

In addition, ESSA Accredited companies have attained an annual company-level H&S qualification for event suppliers and contractors. Independently audited, it provides demonstrable proof that a company is operating at the required level to meet industry standards. For those constructing stands, it also assesses against stage one requirements of assessing competence under Construction Design & Management (CDM) 2015. Accredited ESSA members also have an option to undertake a module in Sustainability. Completion of this module and the level achieved will be visible on their certificate.

All ESSA members will be able to provide you with an up to date certificate of membership and logo or you can find your ESSA company here www.essa.uk.com/members / <https://www.essa.uk.com/accredited/accredited-members>"

Some other useful bits...

Below are some links that we think you may find useful and that will help further back up the points made in this document.

www.cdm4events.org.uk

www.hse.gov.uk/entertainment/cdm-2015/cdm-role-allocation/index.htm

CDM A Short Guide For Clients - www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg411.pdf

Contractors guide for employers - www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/hsg159.pdf

Please feel free to contact the team at ESSA anytime for more information.

