



Sean Ashton

Highly qualified Health, Safety, Environmental, Quality (HSEQ) and Security professional with extensive experience implementing and maintaining integrated management systems across multiple industries. Founder of Onyx Operations, specialising in security and risk management solutions that incorporate robust HSEQ practices. Proven expertise in ISO standards, security planning, risk assessment, compliance management, and operational excellence. Strong background in leading cross-functional teams, conducting audits, and developing practical solutions tailored to business needs. Skilled in providing consultancy services, delivering specialised training programs, and driving continuous improvement initiatives while ensuring security and safety compliance.

Personal details

Name
Sean Ashton

Address
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Flint, CH6 5JP

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Email
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Date of birth
16/02/1994

Place of birth
Bangor

Gender
Male

Driving licence
Full UK

Nationality
British

Marital status
Unmarried

Skills

Management Systems	Experienced
Security Planning & Implementation	Experienced
Risk Assessment & Management	Experienced
Regulatory Compliance	Experienced
Auditing & Inspection	Experienced
Client Relationship Management	Experienced
Leadership & Team Management	Experienced
Accident Investigation	Experienced
Training Development	Experienced
Continuous Improvement	Experienced
Project Management	Experienced

Work experience

Operations Manager Feb 2025 - Present
CRGI Solutiuons, Remote

As Operations Manager at CRGI Solutions Ltd, I oversee the daily execution of our Integrated Management System across all operations. Leveraging my extensive HSQE background, I ensure compliance with ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, and ISO 45001:2018 standards while upholding the company's dedication to engineering excellence and sustainability. Coordinate and supervise HSQE requirements in all operational processes, ensuring the development, review, and communication of risk assessments and method statements prior to work commencement. Monitor operational performance against established KPIs and implement corrective measures to address nonconformities, utilising my proven expertise in quality management systems and continuous improvement methodologies. Collaborate closely with CRGI's leadership team to guarantee that our operational staff receive adequate training and skills development, while managing emergency response protocols across all sites. My approach to stakeholder communication promotes the seamless integration of HSQE considerations into our innovative engineering solutions. In CRGI's remote-first setting, I contribute to the company's mission to empower clients to explore new ventures with minimal overhead. This allows our team to focus on overcoming obstacles through effective problem-solving rather than politics. My expertise in integrated management systems enables CRGI to fulfill its commitment to aligning technological problem-solving with efficiency, leading to reduced environmental impact and costs.

Founder & Director Jan 2025 - Present
Onyx Operations LTD

Building on my extensive experience in security solutions and HSEQ management, I founded a specialised security consultancy delivering risk management services with integrated HSEQ principles. Drawing from my background in compliance and expertise in implementing ISO standards, I've developed a comprehensive service offering that includes security planning, risk assessment, and compliance management for clients across various sectors. I lead all strategic initiatives, client relationship management, and implementation of security and safety protocols. I've successfully combined my knowledge of threat evaluation with health and safety management to create unique security solutions that consider all aspects of operational risk. My approach incorporates best practices from quality management, environmental compliance, and health and safety, ensuring clients receive holistic protection strategies that safeguard both assets and personnel while maintaining regulatory compliance.

HSQE Manager Feb 2025 - Present
EHV Structures LTD, Torquay - (Concurrent with Onyx Operations)

As HSQE Manager at this specialised steel fabrication company, I lead all aspects of health, safety, quality, and environmental management across the organisation. I maintain multiple accreditations including ISO 9001, 14001, 45001, BS EN 1090, SMAS, Construction Line Gold, and Achilles Silver, while conducting regular site and workshop inspections to enforce compliance and drive continuous improvement. I have successfully developed and implemented integrated management systems that combine HSQE policies with Fabrication Production Control, creating a cohesive approach to quality management. My responsibilities include creating comprehensive RAMS for site works and workshop operations, developing Inspection Test Plans (ITPs) and Test Documentation for client approval, and producing fabrication Q&A packages. I oversee the training matrix, organise specialised certifications including NPORS and CSCS, and conduct inductions while managing non-conformities. I provide crucial HSQE advice to Construction and Production Managers, maintain collaborative relationships with client HSQE teams, complete PQOs for new business opportunities, and promote occupational health and wellbeing initiatives throughout the organisation.

Compliance Manager

Feb 2024 - Jan 2025

SQR Group LTD, Greenfield

As Compliance Manager at SQR Group, I served as lead consultant providing comprehensive HSEQ management and compliance services across multiple industries. I developed and implemented integrated management systems for ISO 9001, 14001, 45001, 27001, and 50001, while conducting health and safety risk assessments and audits across manufacturing, engineering, construction, and service sectors. My role involved designing and delivering specialised training programs for health and safety, fire safety, and site management, as well as performing regulatory compliance inspections with practical, cost-effective solutions. I led SHEQ consultancy services for high-risk sectors including oil and gas, collaborated with UKAS certified bodies to ensure management systems met accreditation requirements, developed contractor control procedures, and conducted thorough accident investigations with effective preventative measures.

Senior Quality & Operational Lead

Feb 2023 - Feb 2024

Greif UK, Ellesmere Port

During my tenure as Senior Quality & Operational Lead at Greif UK, I led compliance with ISO 9001 and established a culture of quality excellence throughout the organisation. I implemented operational excellence initiatives that resulted in significant cost reductions while developing and maintaining quality assurance procedures at both UK and European levels. My responsibilities included conducting comprehensive internal audits, implementing corrective actions, and introducing Lean and Six Sigma methodologies to improve operational efficiency. I successfully managed cross-functional teams to implement integrated business strategies and strengthened occupational health and safety measures across all operations, ensuring a safe and productive work environment while maintaining regulatory compliance.

Head of Operations

Oct 2017 - Feb 2023

DRB Group LTD, Deeside

As Head of Operations at DRB Group, I provided strategic direction as a key member of the Senior Management Team, overseeing Quality, Health & Safety, Maintenance, and Manufacturing Business Processes. I successfully implemented integrated management systems including comprehensive Health, Safety, and Environmental Management frameworks that enhanced operational efficiency. A notable achievement was spearheading a manufacturing scrap reduction program that resulted in £48.5k annual savings, while also implementing tier reporting using the SQDCP model for effective performance monitoring. I managed operational budgets, implemented performance management strategies, and developed critical safety protocols including COSHH, LOLER, and PPE compliance. Additionally, I established robust working at height procedures and manual handling protocols to ensure workplace safety and regulatory compliance across the organisation.

Quality & Training Manager

Oct 2016 - Oct 2017

DRB Group, Deeside

In my role as Quality & Training Manager at DRB Group, I developed and structured a new quality team that significantly enhanced quality assurance and compliance across the organisation. I successfully led the implementation of ISO 9001:2015 across two sites, achieving zero non-conformance reports during certification audits. My responsibilities included managing welding coordination and qualifications in line with ISO 9606 standards, as well as introducing comprehensive project plans for ISO 1090-2 and 3834-2 implementation. I established and oversaw apprentice training programs that developed skilled talent for the organisation, while collaborating with industry partners and educational institutions to advance training and quality standards within the sector.

Education

Higher National Certificate

Sep 2012 - Sep 2014

Wrexham University

- HNC Diploma in Manufacturing Engineering (Merit)
- Advanced degree apprenticeship in Mechanical Engineering (Merit)

Leadership & Management

Sep 2020 - Sep 2022

Deeside College

- Level 4 Diploma in Principles of Leadership and Management

Various Locations

- Graduate Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (Grad IOSH)
- Member of the International Register of Certificated Auditors (IRCA)
- NEBOSH General Certificate
- IOSH Managing Safety
- CSCS Card(s)