

POSITION: Group HSE Head
ORGANISATION: Haji Hassan Group, Kingdom of Bahrain
INDUSTRY/SECTOR: Manufacturing, Engineering and Construction
SOCIAL:



Member Profile:

Ashok Havannavar, FIIRSM

In this interview, Ashok Havannavar highlights his career to date, the reasons why he became a risk and safety management professional and how joining IIRSM can help you build and strengthen your skills, and support professional development

Tell us about your background, your current role and IIRSM membership grade

I am an engineer by background and have acquired a wide range of international qualifications during the 25 years I have worked as a health, safety and environment (HSE) professional. These include a Master's in Environmental Science, a Level 7 health and safety qualification awarded in the UK and a post-graduate qualification in health and safety management from the Indian government.

I am originally from Belgaum, Karnataka state in India and have worked in India as well as Qatar, Oman, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Bahrain. I currently work as Group HSE Head for the Haji Hassan Group in Bahrain.

I am an IIRSM Fellow and also an IOSH graduate member. I have been appointed as IIRSM Ambassador for India and Bahrain.

What prompted you to become a risk and safety management

professional?

I decided to become a risk and safety management professional for a number of reasons. One of the main reasons is that it has helped me to support people's health, safety and wellbeing and also protect the environment. I also see it as a growing profession, which has enabled me to take up opportunities to work across different industries in other countries.

Tell us about why you joined IIRSM and how it has helped you

I joined IIRSM in January 2020 as I saw it as one of the most respected professional bodies. As a result of joining, I have been able to draw on professional support throughout my career and IIRSM membership has enabled me to connect with other risk and safety management professionals globally.

IIRSM membership has definitely enhanced my professional reputation. I've improved my knowledge and skills further as a result of joining the membership body and this in turn has helped me to improve my

performance as a risk and safety management professional.

How can IIRSM membership help risk and safety management professionals?

Other risk and safety management professionals should definitely join IIRSM because it provides a great platform to connect with similar individuals internationally. This is important because it can help you to update your own professional knowledge. I would add that being a member will give you access to professional support throughout your career.

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