SABRE

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SABRE Essentials
Working Towards SABRE In-Use Certification

A guide for owners, occupiers and facility and security managers who wish to establish a security risk management system at their facility and target SABRE In-Use certification.

SABRE allows users to measure, improve and communicate their security risk management performance…

SABRE (Security Assurance by the Building Research Establishment) is a security assessment and certification scheme for buildings and built infrastructure assets, offering users an independently assessed security risk management rating (SABRE Rating).

The scheme recognises and rewards good practice in security risk management during built asset planning and design, construction and operations. SABRE certification evidences that those responsible for security have adopted a systematic and risk based approach.

SABRE has been developed to help responsible persons deliver appropriate and proportionate security, obtain value for money in their investment decisions, improve transparency and communicate their security credentials to interested parties.

SABRE is owned by BRE Global Ltd (part of the BRE Group), the international provider of robust, independent, third party certification of fire, security and environmental products and services. SABRE is the result of fundamental scientific and market research funded by the BRE Trust.
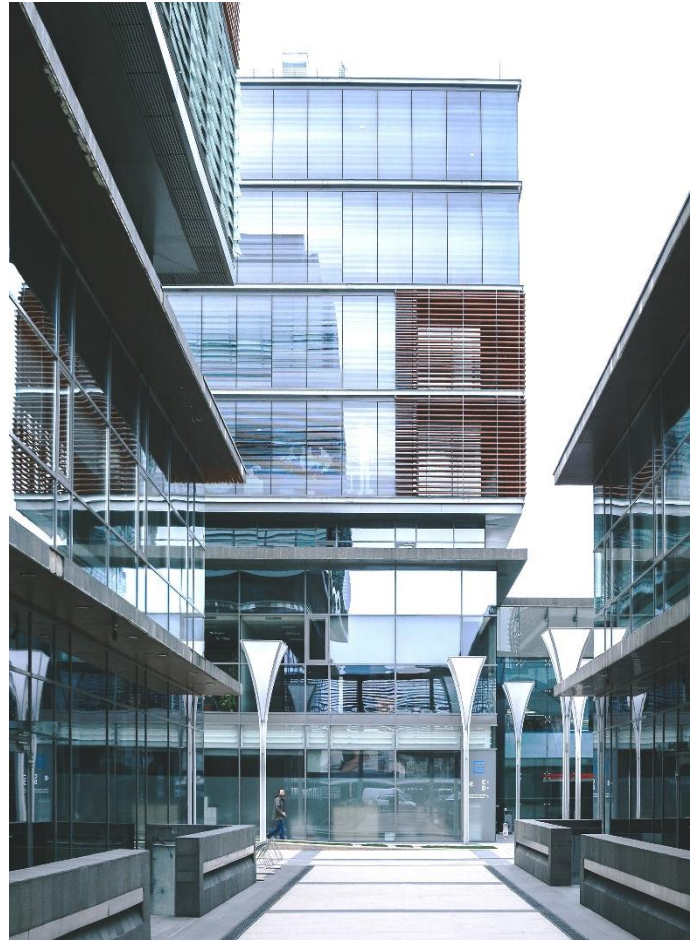
…and provides multiple benefits to a range of stakeholders

SABRE can benefit not only the owner and occupier of a certificated facility, but also a range of stakeholders, including those involved in the procurement and operation of facilities, and in the security supply chain.

This document provides those responsible for the security risk management of a building, infrastructure asset or managed space with guidance and templates to begin the process of documenting a security risk management system in accordance with SABRE.

Once a facility has a live security risk management system in place, the Responsible Person will be in a position to seek independent assessment by a SABRE Registered Assessor, against the SABRE standard and if successful, 3rd party certification from LPCB (operated by BRE Global Ltd).

Establishing a security risk management system at your facility

What is a management system?

A management system is the way in which an organisation manages the parts of its business that support the achievement of certain objectives. Creating a safe and secure operating environment for your business is likely to be more difficult and costly if you do not have clearly defined objectives and if you are not systematic in your approach to achieving these objectives.

Management systems are deployed across a range of business objectives such as quality, environmental performance and health and safety. SABRE is the new global standard for facility security risk management.

Why should our business establish a management system for security?

Although security has often been approached differently to other business objectives, establishing a security risk management system can offer the same internal and external benefits.

Internally, setting objectives and performance targets will improve performance and will give confidence (and evidence) to stakeholders that investment in security is supporting business policy and objectives.

Externally, as a result of terrorist attacks, high profile cyber breaches and increasing levels of organised crime, many businesses and consumers are becoming increasingly security conscious. Obtaining independent certification of your security risk management system can provide assurance to regulators, investors, insurers and customers that you can manage such risks. For a number of sectors, survey results have shown that this can act as a differentiator and hence lead to a competitive advantage over organisations that not able to communicate their security credentials.

How can you establish a management system for security when so many factors influencing security are location specific?

The SABRE standard has been designed in recognition that location, tenure and a range of other factors specific to the built environment influence the security of a building, infrastructure asset or managed space. With many organisations operating out of multi-tenanted buildings and outsourcing facility management services, it is simply not possible to ignore these issues.

There needs to be clear definition of roles and responsibilities between landlord and tenants and agreement of security objectives at the facility. Therefore, before it is possible to assess whether the protective security measures at a given site are appropriate and proportionate, it is necessary to have clarity over such issues. Each location deserves a security risk management system and once established, this will facilitate a facility specific SABRE Rating and certification.

## How complicated is it to get started?

It really isn't that complicated to get started. If you recognise the value that good security brings to your business and are committed to achieving your objectives, establishing a management system should make it easier to achieve good results. As a systematic approach leads to the most operationally and cost effective solutions, the sooner this is initiated the better.

The level of complexity of your management system will depend on a range of factors, including the size and type of organisation and whether your organisation shares its facilities with other organisations. For some organisations, especially smaller ones, it may simply mean having strong leadership and clear definition of expectations. This does not necessitate extensive documentation. However, the higher the level of assurance desired, the more extensive the documentation required. A SABRE Registered Assessor can provide guidance on targeting specific SABRE Ratings.

Do I have to get certification?

No. A facility security risk management system offers benefits whether or not it has been 3rd party certificated. However, if you want to make claims of a certain standard of performance or benefit from external independent review, this requires certification.
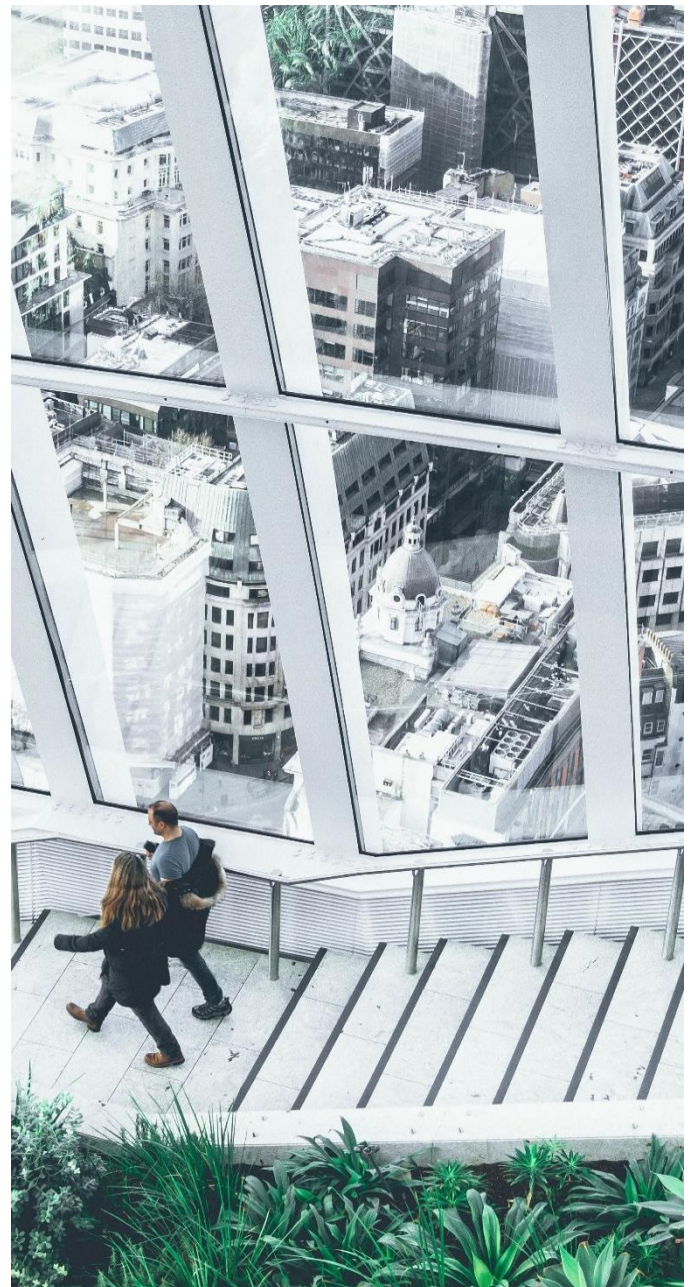
Getting Started

Commitment to Security

If you do not currently adopt a management system approach to security at your facility, you are about to introduce change and that change may be resisted at first. Whether resistance comes from your existing security services provider, tenants, fellow building occupiers or your own staff, if you are to successful, it is important to have commitment for your initiative from top management.

The Process of Implementation

You will require time and resources to deliver an effective management system and as such, you will need to make a clear case for investment and set clear expectations on the likely timeframe required for implementation.

A chart outlining the key stages of security risk management system implementation is available at www.bregroup.com/sabre.

Guidance & Templates

To make the process as straightforward as possible, we have produced a set of templates that organisations, new to security risk management systems, can use as guidance when planning their management system and documenting key components. The set of templates consists of the following:

01 - Security Risk Management System Manual Cover

02 - Introduction & Key Information

03 - Facility Security Policy

04 - Facility Security Requirements

05a - Facility Security Risks

05b - Facility Security Risk Register

06 - Facility Security Strategy

07 - Security Operations

08 - Technical Security Information

The templates:

- are not exhaustive and may need to be supplemented to achieve your target SABRE Rating.
- are for guidance only and will need to be customised to suit your organisation's branding and for compliance with any internal document control standards.
- will help an organisation build a security risk management system that is compliant with the minimum standards applicable for SABRE certification.

As a SABRE Registered Assessor will ultimately determine whether the evidence provided to them by an applicant is compliant with all of the technical requirements of the SABRE scheme, the use of these templates does not guarantee the award of a SABRE Rating or certification.

For further information on the scheme and how to apply, please refer to www.bregroup.com/sabre.

Competent Person(s)

Like health & safety and fire safety, certain activities that contribute to security risk management require the involvement of competent persons. A 'competent person' is someone who has sufficient training and experience or knowledge and other qualities to allow them to assist you properly. The level of competence required will depend on the complexity of the situation and the particular help you need.

For example, a threat assessment which helps an organisation understand the nature of the malevolent threats facing it, will influence all subsequent security decision making. If this is not conducted by a 'competent person', it may lead to investment in security measures that were not necessary or result in vulnerabilities that could have been mitigated cost effectively. It is therefore vital that if an organisation does not have 'competent persons' internally, that they seek external support.

Certain credits within the SABRE scheme require the SABRE Registered Assessor to look for evidence of the involvement of a competent person. If you require support in completing these parts of your management system, you can refer to www.redbooklive.com to find a list of SABRE Registered Professionals who can support you in completing these important tasks.