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How can BSOL streamline the use of standards for university staff and students?



The American University of Beirut (AUB) is one of the most respected universities in the Middle East, with over 9000 students and 1200 academic staff. Whether calibrating laboratory equipment or designing structures to meet safety requirements, students and staff within the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture rely heavily on access to standards. So, making this access more efficient by using BSOL can only be beneficial for the institution.

A switch from using paper hard-copy standards to accessing standards online has made the AUB Engineering and Architecture Library more efficient in providing faculty members with access to standards, without which research and lab work would be impossible.

We spoke to Khaled Noubani, Head of Engineering and Architecture Library, AUB, to find out how this change benefitted the university.

“Without access to standards to refer to it would be impossible to advance research. When we moved to online standards, we were very happy. Going online really made our life much simpler and the transition was very smooth. Online, you can find and download all the versions, all the amendments in one place and there is no limit to how many students can access standards simultaneously.”

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Client challenge

Staff and students of the Engineering and Architecture faculty rely on access to standards. A particular example is laboratory work, for which specialist equipment needs to be designed, built and calibrated in line with international standards. Before moving to online standards, staff and students had to search the library for the hard copy of any standard that they needed to refer to, and the university's librarians were required to find and replace pages in the physical copy of the standard each time an update was issued. Users had to be individually informed when changes had been made to standards that they were already using.

BSI solution

Switching to BSOL has given the library and its users instant access to the latest version of every standard they require. According to Noubani, "It really makes our life easy, very simple, very smooth."

Noubani appreciates BSI's reputation for trustworthiness, the professionalism of the experts who develop BSI standards and the ease of use that BSOL provides; "The standards are developed by professionals, in line with international standards, so it's a matter of trust. Especially in engineering, you have to use well known trusted sources, from well-known institutions that are specialized in the field."

The process of switching from paper to online standards was extremely easy, to the extent that the library staff felt no need to call upon BSOL for additional training or guidance on the use of the system.

Noubani notes that "The system required no training to get started, it was very straightforward and smooth."

And the process was just as easy for students as it was for the library's staff. Noubani says, "We have never had any negative feedback from students, using BSOL has always gone very smoothly with no problems at all." The experience of the students was that accessing online standards is so intuitive that they could begin using them straight away.

How can BSOL help your organization?

We've helped many businesses all over the world to manage their standards and deliver best practice with British Standards Online (BSOL).

BSOL is a simple online tool that acts as your standards management system. Access, view and download standards with multiple user access, across multiple sites, facilitating the distribution of the knowledge across your business.

BSOL contains British Standards and international and European standards that have been adopted as British Standards. It also includes ISO, IEC and ASTM standards that haven't been adopted as British Standards as well as PAS.

You can subscribe to our pre-built modules or build a personalized standards collection, saving your organization money, reducing risk by enabling access to the latest version of standards with bibliographical data and instilling trust with your clients partnering with BSI.



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