



Integrated Quality Certification Private Limited

ISO 14001 – Environmental Management System Requirements

Management System

A Management System is the framework of processes and procedures used to ensure that an organisation can fulfil all tasks required to achieve its policies and objectives. Documented information ensures that every one is not just "doing his or her thing", that there is a defined way to complete each of the business process organization has planned effectively and efficiently utilizing available resources. Management system ensures that all personnel are aware of their roles, responsibility and authorities for effective implementation of process including continual improvement.



ENVIRONMENT

Achieving a balance between the environment, society and the economy is considered essential to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainable development as a goal is achieved by balancing the three pillars of sustainability.

Societal expectations for sustainable development, transparency and accountability have evolved with increasingly stringent legislation, growing pressures on the environment from pollution, inefficient use of resources, improper waste management, and climate change, degradation of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity.

This has led organizations to adopt a systematic approach to environmental management by implementing environmental management systems with the aim of contributing to the environmental pillar of sustainability.

What is an EMS & Why you should want one?





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ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

ISO 14001 provides a framework for planned Environmental Management System (EMS) with a focus on achieving balance between the environment and society by providing comprehensive requirements for an organization to define and implement sustainable development as an environmental performance by ensuring compatibility with compliance obligation, interested party requirements and maintaining policy for environmental protection.

Sustainable development as a long term strategy to be achieved by being transparent and accountable through evolving stringent legislation, growing pressures on the environment from pollution, inefficient use of resources, improper waste management, climate change, degradation of eco-systems and loss of bio-diversity.

Thus, a planned Environmental Management System (EMS) provides comprehensive requirements for an organization to implement and improve performance compatible with the contractual, statutory and regulatory requirements applicable for the product and /or service.

The Implementation of Environmental Management System are assessed, certified and monitored by independent organizations through the process of Certification.



Prepared by Technical Committee (TC) 207, ISO 14000 series of environmental management system standards and guidelines have earned a global recognition as the basis for establishing environmental management systems. ISO 14001 is a generic environmental management system that specifies requirements to protect the environment and respond to changing environmental conditions in balance with socio-economic needs, and is applicable to all economic sectors.

Requirements serve as framework for establishing and maintaining Environmental Management System and performance improvement. ISO 14000 series is reviewed and revised to keep pace with management practices, technological development and user feedback.

The latest revision released in 2015, and all management system standards being aligned as per the HLS – High Level Structure, ISO 14001 – 2015 is now more compatible and easy for integration with other management system standards.



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ISO 14001:2015 specifies requirements for an environmental management system for any organization that

- Protecting the environment by preventing or mitigating adverse environmental impacts;
- Mitigating the potential adverse effect of environmental conditions on the organization;
- Assisting the organization in the fulfilment of compliance obligations;
- Enhancing environmental performance;
- Controlling or influencing the way the organization's products and services are designed, manufactured, distributed, consumed and disposed by using a life cycle perspective that can prevent environmental impacts from being unintentionally shifted elsewhere within the life cycle;
- Achieving financial and operational benefits that can result from implementing environmentally sound alternatives that strengthen the organization's market position;
- Communicating environmental information to relevant interested parties

Concept of Risk-based thinking enables an organization to determine the factors that could cause its processes and its environmental management system to deviate from the planned results, to put in place preventive controls to minimize negative effects and to make maximum use of opportunities as they arise.

Risk being the effect of uncertainty, thus (any uncertainty) results in having positive or negative effects. A positive deviation arising from a risk can provide an opportunity, but not all positive effects of risks results in opportunities.

As a culture and good practice, continuous review of environmental aspects and its associated impacts of products, activities, and services to be determined. Based on these environmental aspects and associated impacts, environmental objectives to be established that are consistent with environmental policy. EMS requires documenting and making an Environmental Policy available to the public and in general all interested parties as appropriate.

Context of the Organization, Leadership & Planning –

Environmental Policy, Environmental Aspects, Environmental objectives and compliance obligation

Support – resource, competence, awareness and communication

Operation – Planning & control and emergency preparedness

Performance Evaluation and Improvement – Evaluation of compliance, Audit results, Management review, non-conformity and corrective action, and continual improvement

When developed, implemented and certified to ISO 14001 requirements, organizations demonstrate their commitment to meet the requirements of all interested parties, statutory and regulatory requirements and the continual improvement of performance by conservation of natural resources, prevention of pollution, employee participation and enhance market image – market share – interested parties confidence



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Benefits of ISO 14001 Certification:



- Prevents pollution and reduces wastages
- Reduce liability and potential legal penalties
- Preferred supplier status to public institutions
- Potential savings from safer workplace conditions
- Reduction of monitoring and reporting requirements
- Easier to obtain operational permits and authorizations
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- Assist in conducting auditing objectively for certification purpose
- Minimization and safe disposition of hazardous and non-hazardous waste
- Effective operational integration with other management system standards
- Possible reduction in need for multiple on-site audits by regulatory agencies
- Provides organizations with an un-biased review of their programs, policies, etc.
- Greater employee involvement in business operations with a more motivated workforce
- Demonstrates commitment to expectations of all stake holders and continual improvement
- Natural resources conservation with resultant cost saving with reference to electricity, gas and water

ISO 14001 provides an opportunity for adoption of RBT in all their processes and improve organization environmental performance, enhance confidence of all stake-holders and demonstrate compliance obligations.

All businesses enterprises have been benefitted from implementation of ISO 14000 series Environmental Management Systems, which provides the basis for returns on investment in the long-run when effectively implemented and monitored.




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Any organization seeking to improve internal control and seek marketplace recognition, ISO 14001 is a valuable tool.

IQC's global network of auditors allows organisations to work experienced audit resources; to add value and mitigate the EMS risks and have an authenticated and credible IAF recognized Environmental Management System certification.

IQC  has the edge and thus provides advantage of using the wide-pool of resources and contacts for delivering cost effective and competent certification services through IQC which is an independent entity for providing accredited, value added, independent and impartial management system certification services.

IQC's group companies include the following,

- IQC Global Engineering LLC (IQC GE), registered in Abu Dhabi and accredited under EIAC for 17020, for offering Third party independent inspection, expedition and project services to oil & gas, power, engineering and industrial projects.
- IQC Global Engineering Private Ltd, registered in Bengaluru, Karnataka – INDIA, for Third party independent inspection, expedition and project QA-QC services to oil & gas, power, engineering and industrial projects.
- Neutrality for Inspection and Testing FAHHS with registered office in Amman, Jordan for offering Inspection, expediting and auditing services.