

ISO 14001

Environmental Management



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ISO 14001

ISO 14001 lays down requirements for an effective Environmental Management System to monitor and follow up on a business's activities, focusing on pollution prevention and ensuring compliance with all legislation and other socio-economic needs.

It is an international standard that demonstrates a company's commitment to protecting the environment - and particularly to reducing and containing any damage - by managing the environmental risks associated with the certified organization's activities.

Thanks to the definition of a series of environmental management processes, it enables, among other things, a reduction in the use of resources and a smaller volume of discharges and/or waste to be treated. ISO 14001 doesn't just improve an organization's image; its commitment to the environment can transform your company's values.



ISO 14001 REQUIREMENTS

ISO 14001 adopts the process approach, with a view to continuous improvement, and incorporates the PDCA cycle (PLAN, DO, CHECK, ACT). This methodology can be used by any organization, regardless of its size and sector of activity. It integrates risk-based thinking and the entire life cycle of a product into company management.

1. General requirements: commitment to compliance, documentation, implementation and continuous improvement of its Environmental Management System.
2. Environmental policy: establishment of the organization's environmental strategy.
3. Planning: systematization of procedures for identifying environmental impacts resulting from production activities.
4. Implementation and operations: defining and documenting internal processes and responsibilities within the scope of the Environmental Management System.
5. Monitoring: monitoring of liquid and atmospheric effluents and solid waste, and analysis of potential impact minimization measures.



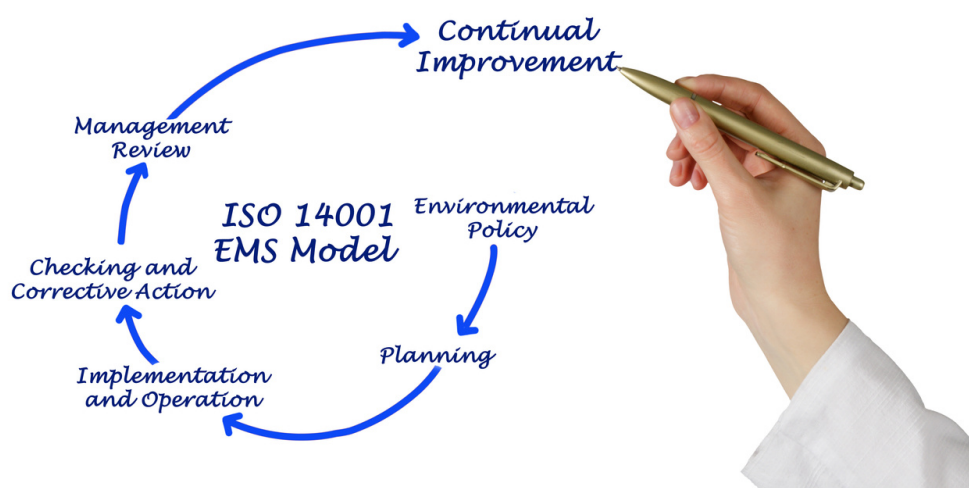
BENEFITS

Successful implementation and certification will help your company gain valuable competitive advantages.

The main benefits of ISO 14001 implementation and certification are:

- Improved reliability of internal operations in satisfying stakeholders;
- Involvement of all members and employees of the organization in environmental management - improved working environment, ethics and employee motivation;
- Reducing the likelihood of environmental risks occurring - such as unplanned emissions, accidental spills, fires, etc;
- Cost reduction by streamlining processes (minimizing waste and effluent treatment) and rational use of energy and resources;

Improving the organization's image and its standing in the market.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Initial discussion and definition of objectives

When companies apply for certification according to ISO 14001 in the DQS, they go through a multi-stage certification process. If a certified management system has already been established, the process can be shortened.

In the first step, the targets to be associated with the certification of the management system according to ISO 14001 are defined. Based on this, a detailed and transparent offer will be made, tailored to individual needs.

- Certification Audit, Phase 1 and 2

The certification audit begins with an analysis of the system (Phase 1) and assessment of its documentation, objectives, the results of its management review and internal audits. In doing so, we determine whether the management system is sufficiently developed and ready for certification. In the next stage (2nd Phase Audit or system audit), the auditor assesses the effectiveness of all management system processes on site, based on observations, interviews and reviews. The results of the audit are presented at a final meeting. If necessary, action plans are agreed.

- System evaluation

On the basis of the certification audit, an evaluation of the environmental management system is carried out, resulting in a report. If the company has met all the requirements of the standard, it will receive the ISO 14001 certificate.

- Follow-up audits

To ensure that the company continues to meet all the important criteria of ISO 14001:2015 after the certification audit, follow-up audits are carried out annually. This ensures competent support for the continuous improvement of the management system and business processes.

- Recertification

A certificate according to ISO 14001 is valid for three years. Before it expires, recertification is carried out in good time. This ensures that all the requirements of the standard are met on an ongoing basis. If all the requirements continue to be met, a new certificate is issued.