

EMS

# ISO 14001:2004

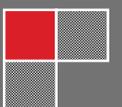
## Environmental Management System

The ISO 14001:2004 certification provides a framework for a strategic approach to a company's environmental policy, plans and actions. This provides the generic requirements for an environmental management system. Following are some of the essentials of our service.



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY & MANAGAMENT  
CERTIFICATION'S (ICMC)

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## Environmental Management System

Environmental Management involves the management of all components of the bio-physical environment, both living (biotic) and non-living (a biotic). This is due to the interconnected and network of relationships amongst all living species and their habitats. The environment also involves the relationships of the human environment such as the social, cultural and economic environment with the bio-physical environment. These standards exist to help organizations minimize the negative impact of their operations on the environment.

### **Following are the requirement of ISO 14001 organizations**

- ❖ Establish an appropriate environmental policy
- ❖ Identify the environmental aspects arising from the organization's past, existing or planned activities, products and services, in order to determine the environmental impact of significance.
- ❖ Identify applicable legal and other requirements, to which the organization subscribes
- ❖ Identify priorities and set appropriate environmental objectives and targets
- ❖ Establish a structure and programs to implement the policy and achieve objectives and meet targets
- ❖ Facilitate planning, control, monitoring, preventive and corrective actions, auditing and review activities to ensure both that the policy is complied with and that the environmental management system remains appropriate
- ❖ Be capable of adapting to changing circumstances

### **What is ISO 14001?**

ISO 14001 is the internationally recognized standard for the environmental management of businesses. It prescribes controls for those activities that have an effect on the environment. These include the use of natural resources, handling and treatment of waste and energy consumption.

## **The Benefits of implementing ISO 14001**

Implementing an Environmental Management System is a systematic way to discover and control the effects your company has on the environment. Cost savings can be made through improved efficiency and productivity. These are achieved by detecting ways to minimize waste and dispose of it more effectively and by learning how to use energy more efficiently. It verifies compliance with current legislation and makes insurance cover more accessible.

## **How do you start to implement ISO 14001?**

Firstly, you need to evaluate the effect your organization has on the environment. You then need to prioritize ways in which you might gain ISO 14001 certification by completing our form. Next, identify the boundaries of your management system and document your procedures for implementing the requirements of ISO 14001. You will need to ensure these procedures are implemented and then audited. If you have ISO 9000 systems in place, many of the requirements of ISO 14001 will already be covered, or can be easily incorporated into them. Once developed, internal audits are needed to ensure the system carries on working. The setting of targets for the environmental policy and continual measuring against it ensures the system is maintained.

## **Why seek ISO 14001 certification?**

Once you have an environmental management system in place, you may choose to have it externally audited. Following a successful audit by an accredited certification body, you will be issued with a certificate of registration to ISO 14001. This demonstrates that your organization is committed to environmental issues and is prepared to work towards improving the environment. It also gives a competitive edge to the company's marketing and enhances its image in the eyes of customers, employees and shareholders.

## **Assessment to ISO 14001**

Having chosen a third party accredited certification body for your assessment; it will review your documentation and carry out an initial audit of your site (often called 'stage 1'). This will look at the company's evaluation of environmental effects and ascertain if targets set for the management programme are measurable and achievable. This is followed at a later date by a full audit (stage 2) to ensure that records and working practices demonstrate that the company is following its procedures.

After a successful audit and the issue of a certificate, there will then be surveillance visits (usually once or twice a year) to ensure that the system continues to work.

This is covered in more detail in ICMC's [Audit Procedure](#) information sheet.

### **Why choose ICMC for your assessment?**

ICMC has an enviable record for customer satisfaction with its certification services. Our environmental audits focus on environmental issues, rather than written documentation. Customers are given support and guidance between the two stages of the audit. ICMC's annual registration fees are amongst the lowest in the industry. In addition, we will provide you with a fixed quotation, free from any additional expenses or disguised costs.

ICMC's only employs auditors that possess a friendly and down-to-earth style to audits. This approachable image has led to ICMC's continual growth through referrals from contented clients and management consultants. Our auditors are also carefully allocated by their experience in the industry they are assessing. This results in a practical, meaningful audit, carried out in an air of mutual understanding.

### **What is the cost of assessment to ISO 14001?**

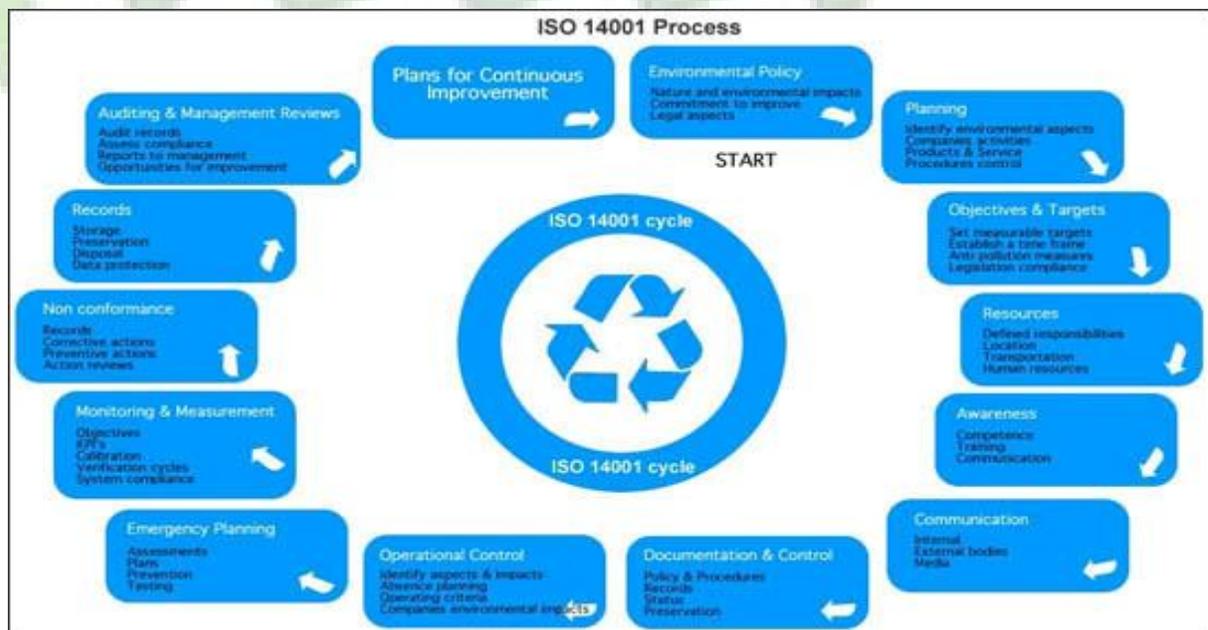
ICMC's has produced a guidance price list for organizations seeking registration to ISO 14001. It is contained within our information pack (please for a copy. However, there are many variables, such as an organization's type and size, and the possible resultant effect it has on the environment. Consequently, we ask you to to help us learn about your organization. If you prefer, we will happily take these details over the telephone. . From this, we can provide you with a fixed, written quotation of the fees involved. Organizations that are ISO 9001 registered with ICMC;s may benefit from reduced annual registration fees for ISO 14001 certification. This is because there are some common elements to the auditing process.

### **Joint ISO 14001 and ISO 9000 systems**

There are several common elements between the two standards, such as management review, document control, corrective action and the requirement for trained personnel. These can be combined into a single, joint system (together with Health & Safety if desired). Assessment of joint systems is available and may be the most suitable and cost effective approach for some companies.

## Advantages of ISO 14001:2004 Certification

- ✓ Process improvement
- ✓ Environmental cost reduction
- ✓ Better relationships with regulators
- ✓ Better relationships with insurers, investors, and financial markets
- ✓ Product improvement
- ✓ Marketing advantages
- ✓ Better control of liabilities
- ✓ Reduced regulatory burden
- ✓ Protection of company image and name
- ✓ Demonstration of responsible management



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