



CERTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS UNDER ISO 14001



BACKGROUND

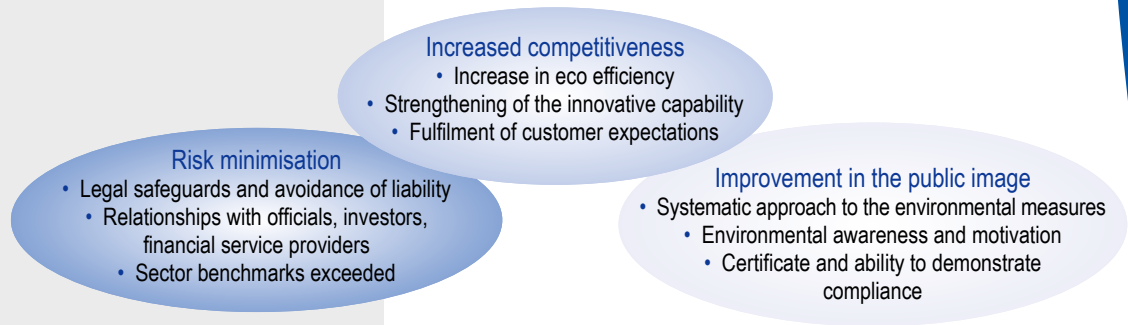
Why certify?

Environmental protection is playing an ever increasingly important role for every organisation. The diversity and intensification of the environmental pollution and the discussion of this subject in the public domain show that there is a need for action. Worldwide applicable criteria relating to environmental management (EMS) have been in existence since 1996 with the ISO 14001 standard. Organisations who demonstrate that they meet these requirements gain added confidence on the part of customers, suppliers, employees, officials, investors and society. The organisation is able to demonstrate that its environmentally caring approach has been integrated within its company processes, is based on self-initiative and personal commitment and leads to improved results.

AIMS

What are the intended aims?

A certified EMS and improvement in the environmental performances have the following effect:



TARGET GROUPS

Who are the intended target groups?

The intended target groups are all organisations, irrespective of size and to which sector they belong, from all sections of

- industry,
- the service industry,
- social welfare institutions and government departments.



PROCEDURE

What does it involve?

Installing ISO 14001 creates a systematic approach to the environmental activities and improvement in the processes, focusing on:

- strengthening personal responsibility for the environment,
- compliance with the statutory requirements,
- continual improvement in environmental protection i. e. systematic planning, implementation, monitoring, assessment and improvement in products and processes with regard to safeguarding resources, limiting emissions and risks,
- policy of open information on environmental protection.

The requirements of ISO 14001 can be appropriately integrated into the company processes and, with the help of ISO 9001, developed to create a comprehensive management system.

QUALITY CRITERIA

What are the requirements?

ISO 14001:1996 requires the following from companies:

- formulation of their environmental policy,
- environmental analysis, planning, targeting and programme production,
- implementation within the framework of the company processes,
- internal auditing and periodic assessment of the system by the senior management,
- information for the attention of the general public.

CERTIFICATE/RECOGNITION

ISO 14001 certificates

Thanks to the IQNet partner network the SQS certificates are recognised worldwide.

SQS offers the following services:

- informative discussions for reaching decisions,
- preliminary talks to evaluate interim steps,
- pre and certification audits (also combined with other management systems).

PROFILE

Who is SQS?

SQS is your competent contact partner for the certification of environmental management systems.

The Swiss Association for Quality and Management Systems

- is an independent, non-profit organisation,
- is accredited as a certification body by the SAS (Swiss Accreditation Service),
- in addition to environmental management systems also provides certification for a broad range of other management systems,
- has trained auditors with experience in the relevant sectors,
- at ISO plays an active role, through its experts, in the development of ISO 14001.

INFORMATION/REGISTRATION

I'd like to know more!

You will find further information on the installation and certification of environmental management systems on our Web site.

The SQS office in Zollikofen and our auditors will be happy to assist you with technical questions.

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