

ISO 14001: 2015

Context

Achieving a balance between environment, society and economy is considered essential to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Societal expectations for sustainable development, transparency and accountability have evolved. This leads organizations to adopt a systematic approach by implementing environmental management systems with the aim of contributing to the environmental pillar of sustainability. Long-term customer and stakeholder satisfaction ask for ongoing, systematic maintenance and permanent knowledge concerning the development of the context, of the needs and expectations of appropriate parties to promote in good time the identification of short- and long-term challenges. These issues are the basics of organisation's orientation and enterprise's processes for their improvement according aspired proficiency levels. A risk based management (including life cycle analyses of processes and products) supports favouring suitable measures to prevent threats as well as to comprehensively seek opportunities at the due time. In this context enterprises are challenged by the growing complex duty to strengthen assure availability, maintenance and development of competence and knowledge. These issues, supplemented by other denouements, contain the most important requirements of standard revision 14001:2015.

Target

ISO 14001 defines the requirements for implementing an environmental management system and provides organizations with a framework to protect the environment and respond to changing environmental conditions in balance with socio-economic needs. Opportunities can be realised in time and implemented by supporting diminution of risks. Reliable satisfaction of requirements may produce a development of confidence and an increased image with customers and stakeholders.

Target audience

All requirements ISO 14001 are generic and provided for all organisations, independent of sort and size or of performed products and services.

Recognition

The certificate ISO 14001 of ProCert is recognised nationally and internationally.

Benefits for certified customers

ISO 14001 specifies the requirements of an environmental management system because an organisation:

- leverages opportunities to prevent or mitigate adverse environmental impacts and enhance beneficial environmental impacts, and
- effectively addresses its risks and opportunities by integrating environmental management into the organization's business processes, strategic direction and decision making.

Validity of certificate

3 years

Audit

Annual audits by ProCert.

Possible combinations

With regard to the development of integrated management systems ISO 14001 can be used in combination with the standards ISO 9001 (quality management), OHSAS 18001 (management of occupational health and safety), ISO 50001 (energy management) or ISO 31000 (risk management). The new structure (High Level Structure, HLS) simplifies the integration of ISO 9001. In future all ISO standards shall be revised according to HLS.

Owner

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. The standard ISO 14001 has been published by sub-committee 1 (SC 1) of ISO technical committee 207 (TC 207). It is part of the standard series ISO 14001 (ISO 14001, ISO 14004 and many others). The first edition of standard 14001 was in 1996; since then it has been regularly revised. Its first revision is dating 2004, the actual 2015.

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