

Environmental Management System Fact Sheet

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Environmental Management System Fact Sheet

Management systems are based on a simple premise – Plan, Do, Check, Act. This premise guarantees to analyse and bridge the gaps of organisations from their current business processes.

A growing number of businesses continue to develop their systems through ISO 14001: 2015, Environmental Management System (EMS). In fact, last 2017, over 300,000 companies and organisations in 171 countries were certified to ISO 14001:2015.

Sustainability and environmental concerns have dramatically increased over the years. While individuals continue to do their share on being environmentally friendly, a huge chunk of these problems stems from various organisations. Good thing that EMS is in place to provide a standard framework used to manage a company's environmental system and address the possible risks.

EMS and QMS

Quality Management System, together with EMS, ascertains the objectives of your organisation better. Hand in hand, your organisation's quality and environmental processes develop over time.

Because of these systems, businesses position themselves better, and they can meet the constantly changing demands through continuous improvement. Having both systems in place increases the management's control of a single and unified policy.

Key Changes to the Standard

The current standards give emphasis on incorporating a required high-level structure and using a mandatory definition. The 2015 revision highlights a couple of changes from its previous version such as:

Comprehensive Integration with Business Strategy

By adopting the new standard, businesses are required to integrate their strategies in relation to environmental aspects and issues. This integration makes it easier for organisations to combine their strategies with other management system standards set by the ISO.

Leadership

Assigning specific responsibilities for those in leadership roles enhances the promotion of environmental management within the organisation.

Environment protection and beyond

Before, EMS only covers “prevention from pollution”. The current standard has broadened the context to “protection of the environment,” encompassing pollution control, sustainable resource use and biodiversity conservation.

Understanding the risk-based approach

This clause highlights your responsibility as an organisation to identify the environmental risks and opportunities of your business.

Why does my Organisation need EMS?

As one of the leaders of your organisation, you'd think of how you can build your business without harming the environment.

Like many, your organisation may be challenged to demonstrate its commitment to the environment. The implementation of an EMS can help you mitigate this problem through the help of an expert ISO certification consultant.

How to Get ISO-certified?

ISO 14001:2015 is an internationally accepted standard that outlines effective environmental management. Designed to help businesses commercially without overlooking environmental impacts, EMS is a standard, necessary for any organisation.

Below are the steps that you need to take to be ISO ready:

Step 1: Address the environmental management system.

Sustainability is the forefront of any successful organisation. Knowing the approach toward sustainability is the first salient point of any organisation to fully transition and follow the standard EMS.

To be EMS certified, a business must acquire and accomplish all the necessary requirements and create documents that are geared to proper environmental management.

All ISO 140001:2015 certified companies have these documents in place:

- **Environmental Management System Manual** – explains the overall EMS and how the company adheres to the ISO 14001 requirements.
- **Objectives, Targets, and Programs** - outlines the plans set for environmental sustainability.
- **Control of Documents Procedure** – expounds the various stages for developing, approving, revising and maintaining company documentation.
- **Control of Records Procedure** – lists records to ensure that the organisation's compliance with EMS.
- **Control of Nonconformities Procedure** – outlines how products and/or services are nonconforming to the standard.
- **Corrective Action Procedure** – lists how problems are investigated and resolved by targeting the root cause.
- **Preventive Action Procedure** – anticipates how future sustainability problems are identified so they may be avoided.
- **Internal Audit Procedure** – describes the company's own audit process to meet the company's gap.
- **Register of Environmental Aspects and Impacts** - contains all products and services that interact and impact the environment.

- **Pollution Control** - layouts the plan of an organisation to manage land, water, air and other types of pollution.

Step 2: Carry out the environmental management system.

After addressing concerns and complying with the necessary documents, the EMS policy should be executed. The implementation of the EMS means that the requirements are adhered to by all members of the organisation. Setting clear-cut goals and priorities create a more comprehensive EMS.

Environmental targets provide short-term goals to improve an organisation's overall performance. Through reaching these targets, an organisation meets its environmental objective.

A company's environmental targets and objectives should be tailored to its environmental policy, initial review and aspect-impact evaluation.

Step 3: Establish the environmental management system.

The last step to prepare for an [ISO 14001 certification](#) is to make sure that the EMS in place is effective and efficient. To verify the system, an intensive internal audit should be done. This internal audit process helps the management understand and evaluate how effective the EMS is.

What are the benefits?

More than helping in the environmental struggle the world continues to face, the ISO 14001:2015 adds value to your business. [ISO certification consultants](#) can confirm that this certification does more for you, too. Responsible corporate stewardship reaps these benefits:

- Increased control over impact on the environment;
- Enhancement of corporate image, credibility and branding;
- Better customer satisfaction in the supply chain;
- Enriched legal and regulatory awareness;
- Lesser risks of noncompliance;
- Efficient and cost-saving measure for resources;
- Augmented protection against environmental mishaps;
- Focused strategic direction for business priorities and;

- Increased staff awareness and involvement.

Choose Better. Choose Quality.

Environmental management system encourages your company to build a strong relationship to its commitment to the environment. Working with seasoned and experienced consultants definitely gives you an advantage in being ISO certified.

With [ISO Brisbane](#), getting ISO certified is simpler than ever. As Australia's #1 ISO certification consultants, we understand that no two businesses are the same.

Are you looking for a team of expert ISO consultants to help you on your journey to be ISO certified? ISO Brisbane is your reliable partner.

Don't hesitate and call us on 0428 660 383 for quality consulting solutions tailored-fit for your unique business situation.