

ISO 14001

ISO 14001 is the most recognized international standard for environmental management systems. It specifies requirements for an organisation to proactively identify and understand the environmental aspects of its activities, products and services and associated environmental impacts.



ISO 14001 can be applied to the complete range of business sectors, scopes and activities. The standard provides your organisation with a systematic approach to planning, implementing and managing an environmental management system.

Certification is increasingly a requirement to do business with customers or for suppliers. For any company, implementation and certification of an environmental management system provides your organisation with a systematic approach to planning, implementing and managing an environmental management system.

Certification of your environmental management system demonstrates increased awareness of sustainable development and gives environmentally credible companies a competitive edge in national and international markets. These are tangible business benefits that play an important part in building resilience and a sustainable performance.

The standard

ISO 14001 provides a framework through which your organization can deliver environmental performance improvement and other intended results in line with the policy commitments. It specifies requirements for how to:

- Identify and understand the external and internal influencing factors affecting your organisation and the needs and expectations of interested parties.
- Identify and understand the environmental aspects of activities, products and services and associated environmental impacts considering a life cycle perspective.
- Understand how significant aspects and other risks and opportunities can be managed, implement necessary controls and set clear objectives to improve environmental performance.
- Manage your obligation to comply with applicable legal and requirements and other stakeholder obligations, and to



regularly check the compliance status.

- Establish the environmental policy and objectives in line with your strategic direction.
- Continually improve the management system to enhance your environmental performance.

ISO 14001 is compatible and harmonised with other recognised management system standards, including ISO 9001. It is therefore ideal for integration into existing management systems and processes.

The latest version is built on ISO's common High-Level Structure (HLS), enabling a smooth integration with other system disciplines.

The certification process

Certification by an independent third party assesses your environmental management systems' performance against the ISO 14001 requirements. It identifies what works well and improves the ability to manage and mitigate risks. This in turn provides confidence in your performance internally and trust externally that you are ready to meet customer and legislative requirements, needs and expectations. The certificate issued by the certification body proves that your environmental management system has been found compliant with ISO 14001 requirements.

DNV's certification audits apply our proprietary Risk Based Certification™ methodology. In addition to measuring performance against the selected standard(s), we assess your risks in identified focus areas essential to your business. By understanding how well the management system supports the focus areas, you can provide targeted and structured information to top management on the organization's ability to meet long-term objectives.

Preparing for certification

Any organization seeking certification must be committed and set clear targets for implementation, assessments and maintenance. The certification journey starts with understanding the standard, building internal competence and awareness, and implementing a compliant management system.

It is essential that you identify internal and external factors influencing your organization. This includes legal requirements and demands from other interested parties. This understanding determines the related process required from your management system. By identifying risks and opportunities to be

managed, you can implement needed controls, objectives and performance indicators to ensure continual improvement. Before the certification audit, you should have performed internal audits and management reviews. This is part of the environmental management system implementation but also essential to identify any gaps.

Why partner with us

As a global certification body, we in DNV partner with our customers for their certification needs everywhere, every day. From IRCA approved awareness and auditor training to gap analysis, self-assessment tools and the certification itself, our trainers and auditors provide a focussed path for you to reach your business objectives and build stakeholder trust.

To support your entire certification journey, a suite of digital services and tools is integrated for every customer. This includes your certificates secured on the blockchain, instant certification mark download (eCertMark), a company certification and audit management platform (eAdvantage) and a performance benchmarking dashboard (LuminaTM).

About DNV

DNV is an independent assurance and risk management provider, operating in more than 100 countries. Through its broad experience and deep expertise DNV advances safety and sustainable performance, sets industry standards, and inspires and invents solutions.

DNV is one of the world's leading certification, assurance and risk management providers. Whether certifying a company's management system or products, providing training, or assessing supply chains, and digital assets, we enable customers and stakeholders to make critical decisions with confidence. We are committed to support our customers to transition and realize their long-term strategic goals sustainably, collectively contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

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