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**Overview of the New ISO 14001 Standard  
and the Benefit of an IMS Program**

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# Why an Environmental Management System?

## Helps organizations

- Protect the environment.
- Respond to changing environmental conditions.
- Meet compliance obligations.
- Achieve environmental objectives.
- Enhance your environmental performance.
- Facilitate an support sustainable development.

## Your EMS

- Must meet every requirement in order for it to fully comply with the standard.
- Can vary depending on how you choose to meet the ISO requirements.

# New Structure for ISO Standards

## □ Before 2012, Management Systems were written in various ways.

- All future management system standards will use a new layout and share the same basic requirements which means they will have the same look and feel.
- This will be possible because basic concepts such as management, requirements, policy, planning, performance, objective, process, control, monitoring, measurement, auditing, decision making, corrective action, and nonconformity are common to all management system standards.
- This should make it easier for organizations to implement multiple standards because they will all share the same basic language and requirements.

## □ All ISO Management Systems Must Follow the new Annex SL

- Guideline for writing standards
- Provides framework to create a new ISO Management System Standard or to revise an existing one such as the ISO 14001.

# Annex SL Outline

1. **Scope**
2. **Normative References**
3. **Terms & Definitions**
4. **Context of the Organization**
5. **Leadership**
6. **Planning**
7. **Support**
8. **Operation**
9. **Performance Evaluation**
10. **Improvement**

# Section Details of New ISO 14001

## □ Context

- 4.1 Understand your organization and its particular context.
- 4.2 Clarify the needs and expectations of your interested parties.
- 4.3 Define the scope of your environmental management system.
- 4.4 Establish and maintain an environmental management system.

## □ Leadership

- 5.1 Provide leadership by accepting responsibility for the EMS.
- 5.2 Provide leadership by establishing an environmental policy.
- 5.3 Provide leadership by assigning EMS roles and responsibilities.

# Details of Sections (continued)

## □ Planning

- 6.1 Formulate actions to address your risks and opportunities.
  - Develop processes and prepare plans to establish EMS.
  - Identify significant environmental aspects and impacts.
  - Study environmental aspects and compliance obligations.
  - Address aspects, obligations, risks, and opportunities.
  
- 6.2 Set environmental objectives and make plans to achieve them.
  - Establish environmental objectives for all relevant areas.
  - Establish plans to achieve objectives and evaluate results.

# Details of Sections (continued)

## □ Support

- 7.1 Support your EMS by providing necessary resources.
- 7.2 Support your EMS by ensuring people are competent.
- 7.3 Support your EMS by making people aware of their duties.
- 7.4 Support your EMS by controlling your communications.
  - Create communications processes.
  - Facilitate internal communications.
  - Establish external communications.
- 7.5 Support your EMS by managing documented information.
  - Use all necessary EMS documents.
  - Manage the use of these documents.
  - Control the use of these documents.

# Details of Sections (continued)

## ☐ Operations

- 8.1 Establish your EMS processes and control how they operate.
- 8.2 Establish your emergency preparedness and response processes.

## ☐ Evaluation

- 9.1 Determine your environmental performance and compliance.
  - Investigate your organization's environmental performance.
  - Evaluate your organization's environmental compliance.
- 9.2 Audit your organization's EMS.
  - Conduct EMS conformance audits and document your results.
  - Establish internal audit methods, schedules, and requirements.
- 9.3 Review your organization's EMS.

# Details of Sections (continued)

## Improvement

- 10.1 Take action to improve your EMS and achieve intended outcomes.
- 10.2 Control nonconformities and take appropriate corrective action.
- 10.3 Enhance the suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness of your EMS.

# Updates to Context of the Organization

- New standard expects you to understand your organization's external context and its internal context before you establish an EMS.**
- You need to identify and understand both the external and internal issues and environmental conditions that could influence your organization's EMS and the results that it intends to achieve.**
- You need to identify the interested parties that are relevant to your EMS and identify their needs and expectations and then figure out which ones have become compliance obligations.**

# Updates to Risk Planning

- For the new standard, you must determine risks and opportunities related to your company's:**
  - Context
  - Interested parties
  - Compliance obligations
  - Environmental aspects
  
- Must define actions to address all risks /opportunities and make these actions a part of your EMS processes.**
  
- Must implement, control, evaluate, and review the effectiveness of these actions and processes.**
  
- Do not have to implement a formal risk management process.**

# Updates to Preventive Action

- **The new ISO 14001 standard no longer uses the term *preventive action*.**
  
- **Must use risk planning concepts and think of the entire EMS as a system of preventive action because one of the key purposes of an environmental management system is to act as a preventive tool.**
  
- **This concept of preventive action is now captured in**
  - 4.1 - Understanding the organization and its context.
  - 6.1 - Actions to address risks and opportunities.

# Updates to Documented Information

- New standard eliminates the distinction between documents and records. Both now referred to as “documented information”.**
- Documented information is information that must be controlled and maintained.**
- When new standard refers to *documented information* and it asks you to *maintain* this information, it is talking about what used to be referred to as *documents***
- When new standard refers to documented information and it asks you to *retain* this information, it is talking about what used to be called *records*.**

# Updates to Procedures

## Under old standard you had to establish a wide range of procedures:

- environmental aspects procedure
- legal requirements management procedure
- awareness procedure
- communications procedure
- documents procedure
- operational procedure
- emergency preparedness and response procedure
- monitoring and measurement procedure
- compliance evaluation procedure
- nonconformity management procedure
- record keeping procedure
- audit procedure

# Updates to Procedures (continued)

- The new standard only asks you to establish an emergency preparedness and response procedure.**
- Instead of asking you to write procedures, the new standard expects you to maintain and control a wide range of documents.**
- Since the new standard doesn't tell you what to call these documents, you can call them procedures if you like.**

# Additional Updates with the New Standard

- Old standard asked you to define and document the scope of your EMS but it didn't mention about how this should be done.**
- The new ISO standard clarifies how and asks you to consider your compliance obligations, corporate context, physical boundaries, products and services, activities and functions, and authorities and abilities when defining the scope of your EMS. It also asks you to include all products, services, and activities that have significant environmental aspects.**

## **Additional Updates with the New Standard (continued)**

- The new term "compliance obligation" has replaced the phrase "legal requirements and other requirements to which the organization subscribes". The meaning is still the same.**
  
- There are two kinds of compliance obligations:**
  - **Mandatory compliance obligations – laws & regulations**
  
  - **Voluntary compliance obligations - contractual commitments, community and industry standards, ethical codes of conduct, and good governance guidelines. A voluntary obligation becomes mandatory once you decide to comply with it.**

## **Additional Updates with the New Standard (continued)**

- The new standard no longer refers to environmental targets – it's now captured within the definition of “environmental objective”.**
  - You can still set targets and call them targets.
  - Only real difference is the new standard thinks of a target as a type of objective.
  
- Life cycle considerations were largely ignored by the old standard. Now they're central.**
  
- New standard expects you to use a life cycle perspective to “identify the environmental aspects and associated environmental impacts of its activities, products and services that it can control and those that it can influence” .**

## **Additional Updates with the New Standard (continued)**

- The term “management representative” has been officially dropped.**
- The management duties and responsibilities that were previously assigned to someone called a “management representative” may now be assigned to either one person or to multiple people.**

# Helpful Tips for Transitioning to New Standard

1. **Define the context of your organization**
2. **List all interested parties**
3. **Review the scope of the EMS**
4. **Review the environmental policy**
5. **Align your environmental objectives with the company's strategy**
6. **Assess risks and opportunities**
7. **Identify and evaluate environmental aspects**
8. **Determine compliance obligations**
9. **Control documented information**
10. **Review operational control**
11. **Review environmental performance**
12. **Review measurement and reporting**

## **Benefits of an IMS for Environmental, Safety, & Quality**

- Only one audit – not 3.**
- All departments work together to improve the performance of the entire company.**
- More efficient since it avoids duplication.**
- One system to effectively manage the company's objectives.**