



GrAinS

Certification ISO 14001:2015



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Benefits of the cascading model

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Introduction



- The certification standard specifies the requirements for an environmental management system that an organization can use to enhance its environmental performance. Achieving the intended outcomes can provide added value to the environment, the organization itself, and its stakeholders.
- The standard is applicable to any organization, regardless of size, type, or nature.
- claims of conformity to this standard are only valid if all its requirements are incorporated into the organization's environmental management system without exclusions.
- the standard supports the essential requirements of EU directives. The national standardization bodies of most of the countries are required to implement this European Standard.



The new version of the standard

published on September 15, 2015

High-level structure

Context analysis and risk-based approach

Gap analysis of individual needs

"Future Challenges for EMS Study Group"

analyzed eleven key themes and assessed risks and opportunities to achieve better integration of ISO 14001 and to monitor the environmental impact of the entire production chain, even in small companies.



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Long term success and sustainable development?

- Protecting the environment by preventing or mitigating adverse environmental impacts;
- Mitigating the potential negative effects of environmental conditions on the organization;
- Supporting the organization in fulfilling its compliance obligations;
- Improving environmental performance;
- Controlling or influencing how the organization's products and services are designed, manufactured, distributed, consumed, and disposed of, using a life cycle perspective to prevent shifting environmental impacts to another stage;
- Achieving financial and operational benefits by implementing environmentally sound alternatives that can enhance the organization's market position;
- Communicating environmental information to stakeholders.

Like other international standards, ISO 14001 is not intended to increase or modify an organization's legal obligations. Instead, it supports organizations in meeting existing legal requirements without adding new ones.



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Expanding Expectations for Environmental Protection

Organizations are now expected to take **proactive initiatives to protect the environment from harm and degradation**, in line with their specific contexts. While **the standard does not define "environmental protection,"** it suggests that the concept may include pollution prevention, sustainable resource use, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, and ecosystem protection.

**Advantages
for Agrifood
companies**

Continuous monitoring and verification of environmental legislative obligations;

Enhanced environmental performance, both in terms of impacts and costs;

Ongoing staff training and awareness of roles in environmental management;

Life cycle analysis of products and services;

Improved corporate image as a sustainable organization.



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Structure

The ISO
14001:2015
standard is
structured
around five
main
macro-
processes:

Context of the Organization

Leadership

Planning

Support

Operational Activities

Performance Evaluation

Improvement





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Stakeholder Engagement

The standard requires organizations to identify relevant stakeholders for the environmental management system, understand their needs and expectations, and determine which of these become compliance obligations.

Performance monitoring and continual improvement

- In terms of performance evaluation, the standard mandates that organizations monitor, measure, analyze, and evaluate their environmental performance.
- It also requires organizations to continuously improve the suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness of their environmental management system.



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The Cascading Management System

- It allows small business to demonstrate their commitment to the environment by managing only the ISO 14001 requirements applicable to their processes, while the strategic management of the system is handled by a consortium or “System House.”
- This cascading approach must be formalized through a specific contractual agreement between the “System House” and the organization, with clearly defined responsibilities.



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Conclusion



Advantages of Adopting an Environmental Management System for Agrifood Businesses

- Environmental protection through process optimization and improvement;
- Compliance with and monitoring of relevant environmental regulations;
- Cost reduction through optimized processes;
- Resource savings;
- Enhanced company image with the target market and stakeholders.



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Advantages of Adopting a Cascading System:

- Reduced certification costs for the Environmental Management System;
- Ongoing support from the “System House” in managing the system;
- Consistent application of the model in line with the company’s operational reality.





Thank you !

For more information

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