Integrating ISO 9001 and ISO 14001
Whitepaper

What are the benefits?

ISO 9001: A quick overview

As the world's most recognized quality management system standard, ISO 9001 is helping businesses of all sizes to save money, increase profits, win more business and meet customer expectations.

Designed to help organizations continually monitor and manage quality across all their operations, this internationally recognized standard sets the benchmark to achieve consistent performance and service. With ISO 9001 in place, organizations can:

- Become more consistent competitors in the marketplace
- Meet more customer needs
- Deploy more effective ways of working to save time, money and resources

- Motivate and engage staff with more efficient internal processes
- Offer better customer service and win more high level customers as a result
- Broaden business opportunities by complying with regulations

ISO 14001: A quick overview

Recognized around the globe, ISO 14001 helps organizations to reduce their environmental impact while growing their business – ultimately achieving sustainable success.

As an internationally accepted standard, ISO 14001 outlines the most effective ways to put a successful environmental management system in place. The standard was developed to help organizations remain commercially successful without overlooking their environmental responsibilities. Its high level framework allows businesses to meet increasingly demanding expectations from customers and other stakeholders, as well as regulatory requirements. With ISO 14001 in place, organizations can:

- Reduce their waste and energy use
- Cut the overall costs of running a business
- Demonstrate compliance to expand business opportunities
- Confidently prepare for the changing business landscape.

Aligning all management system standards of the future

Introducing Annex SL – the new high level structure designed to bring consistency amongst all future and revised management system standards.

ISO, the organization responsible for publishing international standards, reviews existing standards every five years to ensure they comply with an ever-changing world. After reviewing the current ISO 9001 and ISO 14001, the committees decided to revise both standards in response to important changes in the business world.

In order to aid integration, ISO has introduced a new high level framework – Annex SL – to ensure the structure of all new and future standards are consistent. In the past, management systems had very different structures despite sharing certain commonalities and this often complicated the integration process. With Annex SL in place, all management system standards will now have an identical structure as well as similar text, terms and definitions:

This common structure will ensure a smoother integration with multiple management systems, saving both time and money.

Clause 1:	Scope
Clause 2:	Normative references
Clause 3:	Terms and definitions
Clause 4:	Context of the organization
Clause 5:	Leadership
Clause 6:	Planning
Clause 7:	Support
Clause 8:	Operation
Clause 9:	Performance evaluation
Clause 10:	Improvement

Integrating ISO 9001 and ISO 14001

As discussed in previous sections of this paper, the benefits of having an effective quality/environmental management system in place are endless. For many organizations these two management systems go hand in hand and, with the new high level structure of the revised standards, integration makes more sense than ever.

With its common structure, text and terms and definitions, Annex SL enables the smoother integration of all new and revised management system standards – without investing a lot of extra time or money. Before the existence of this world-class framework, organizations had to find ways of managing multiple management systems at the same time, which often led to stretched resources, conflicting business needs and poor internal and external communication.

What is an integrated management system (IMS)?

Integrated in this sense means combined – therefore uniting all internal management systems, such as quality and environmental, to form one core business system to achieve intended objectives. This means anything that affects business results must be part of one management system, so that all processes and documents are fully integrated. This integration stretches beyond certain components merely sitting next to other components, or appearing in the same book of policies and procedures, or being managed by the same software package. All elements of an IMS are fixed to form one system.

Some organizations omit the word 'system' and focus on 'integrated management'. This concept involves the dispersion of functional management throughout an organization so that managers oversee a variety of functions. For example, a manufacturing manager could be responsible for planning, manufacturing, safety, personnel, quality and finance.

Why should organizations think about integration?

The business landscape is more competitive than ever and organizations face high expectations from internal and external customers to demonstrate good corporate social responsibility. This means implementing and maintaining robust quality, environmental and health and safety management systems. Operating these as stand-alone systems can be a heavy strain on time and resources. But with the high level structure of Annex SL in place, more organizations can benefit from merging separate management systems into one business management system that works in conjunction with business planning, HR, finance, procurement, administration, operations, audits, management reviews and other systems.

How can organizations integrate ISO 9001 and ISO 14001?

Companies have two options when considering integration. This first is conversion. If an organization already has a certified quality management system, they can expand on that by adding the necessary processes to cater for the requirements of an environmental management system standard. This means both systems will share similar processes for documented information, training, internal audits, management reviews and corrective action. In other words, integration is achieved by adding new practices to existing processes and revising documents to cover all management system requirements.

The second option is to merge systems. This involves merging two systems – such as quality and environmental management systems – followed by the integration of other systems once the formalization has started. This method allows organizations to merge all documentation where it supports the same process.

What are the benefits of integrating ISO 9001 and ISO 14001?

There are several advantages for organizations, including:

Improved business performance
Annex SL makes it easier to integrate multiple management system thereby gaining greater business benefits. It ensures all business processes for both quality and environmental performance are integrated and aligned with the business strategies of the organization, making it easier to continually improve all management systems

A holistic approach
Integrating multiple management systems standards provides a more holistic approach to business processes which increases efficiency, develops coordinated solutions to problems in different work areas and provides a complete view of the whole organization. This strategic focus will result in optimizing the performance of both management systems driving real value in the organization.

Bringing quality & environmental into the heart of the organization
The revised standards ensure that quality and environmental management are now completely integrated with the business strategies of the organization. Used as a business management tool, this will embed healthy performance improvement processes overtime and promote the importance of both quality and environmental requirements at the same time

Reduced documentation and duplication
By meeting all the standard requirements with one set of policies and procedures, integrating both ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 will highlight overlapping responsibilities or unnecessary duplication, resulting in less duplication in business processes which will be easier to manage and maintain.

Saving time and resources
With an integrated management system the audit process both internally and externally will be more effective resulting in decreased disruption, eliminating duplication of audit activity and saving time, money and other resources.

Improved risk & opportunity management
Using risk-based thinking throughout, the revised standards promote a proactive approach to identifying risks and taking opportunities, making continual improvement systematic. This will lead to improved governance and decision making across both quality and environmental management.

Why BSI?

At BSI we create excellence by driving the success of our clients through standards. We enable others to perform better, manage risk and achieve sustainable growth.

For over a century our experts have been challenging mediocrity and complacency to help embed excellence into the way people and products work.
We make excellence a habit.

Our products and services

We provide a unique combination of complementary products and services, managed through our three business streams: Knowledge, Assurance and Compliance.

Knowledge

BSI works with business experts, government bodies, trade associations and consumer groups to capture best practice and structure the knowledge all organizations need to succeed. The majority of the widely used and implemented international standards were originally shaped by BSI, for example ISO 9001 Quality Management and ISO/IEC 27001 for Information Security.

Assurance

Independent assessment of the conformity of a process or product to a particular standard ensures that our clients perform to a high level of excellence. We help our clients understand how they are performing, thereby identifying areas of improvement from within.

Compliance

To experience real, long-term benefits, our clients need to ensure ongoing compliance to a standard so that it becomes an embedded habit. We train our clients to understand standards and how to implement them, as well as provide added value and differentiated management tools to facilitate the process of ongoing compliance.

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