

Transition guideline and procedure (Plan) for QCS (From ISO 14001:2008 to ISO 14001:2015)



The purpose of this International Standard is to provide organizations with a framework to protect the environment and respond to changing environmental conditions in balance with socio-economic needs. It specifies requirements that enable an organization to achieve the intended outcomes it sets for its Environmental Management System.

Reference- ISO 14001:2015

AIM OF THE DOCUMENT

This aim of this Transition Guideline document is facilitating your meeting the requirements of the new international standard for Environmental Management System (EMS) ISO 14001:2015, which replaces the previous version ISO 14001:2004

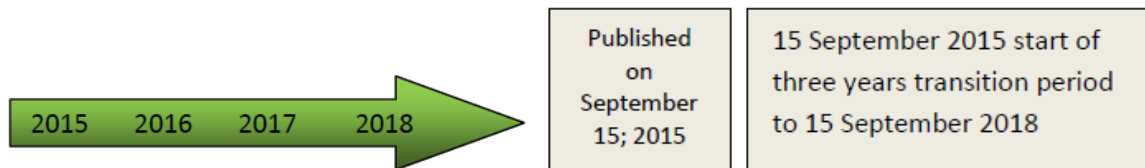
WHY THE CHANGE

As per ISO, All ISO standards are reviewed every five years to establish if a revision is required in order to keep it current and relevant for the marketplace. ISO 14001:2015 is designed to respond to latest trends and ensure it is compatible with other management system standards.

There are a number of objectives associated with this revision, but the following are considered most critical.

- Increased prominence of environmental management within the organization's strategic planning processes.
- Greater focus on leadership
- Addition of proactive initiatives to protect the environment from harm and degradation, such as sustainable resource use and climate change mitigation.
- Improving environmental performance added
- Lifecycle thinking when considering environmental aspects.
- Addition of a communications strategy.
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Transition Process:



Certified organizations using ISO 14001:2004 are recommended to take the following actions:-

- I. Identify the organizational gaps which needs to be addressed to meet new requirements
- II. Develop an implementation plan
- III. Provide appropriate training and awareness for all parties that have an impact on the effectiveness of the organization
- IV. Update the existing environmental management system to meet the revised requirements and provide verification of the effectiveness.

QCS will implement the transition in the phased manner as under:

For New Applicants:

QCS will not accept any new applications as per ISO 14001:2004 from 1st Jan 2017. All applications thereafter will be accepted only as ISO 14001:2015.

The validity of the certificates granted to organizations as per ISO 14001:2004 may be increased to make the certificate valid for a full three years after ascertaining the conformity to ISO 14001:2015.

For Existing Certified Organizations:

1. All the certificate for ISO 14001:2004 version issued after 15 September 2015 will have a expiry period up to 14th September 2018.
2. The audit required to review the transition to new standard, i.e ISO 14001:2015 can be combined with the scheduled Surveillance and Recertification Audit or it can be conducted as a special audit based on the clients preference & priority.
3. QCS Clients should inform about the tentative date for the audit to QCS head office at their earliest for making the audit planning. The organizations will have to implement the EMS as per ISO 14001:2015 for at least a period of six months prior to the transition audit.
4. The Transition audit will be an additional audit even though if it's a surveillance audit. During the audit the unclosed non conformances from previous audit will be reviewed and evaluated with reference to ISO 14001:2015.
5. QCS will spend audit duration equal to surveillance or recertification audit duration plus additional man-day as stated in the QCS Transition Plan if combined with surveillance and recertification audit.
6. During the Transition audit, the evaluation of the findings of the audit, closure of the non-conformances observed, evaluation of the corrective actions and compliance to ISO 14001:2015 will be checked prior to recommendation for approval to ISO 14001:2015 by QCS.
7. The complete process should be completed prior to the expiry of ISO 14001:2004 certificate i.e till 14th September 2018.
8. In case the Organization fails to conform to ISO 14001:2015 during the transition audit but conforms to ISO 14001:2004 then the certification to ISO 14001:2004 will continue till 14TH September 2018 and after that the certificates will be subsequently withdrawn from QCS as well as JAS-ANZ register.
9. All the certificates will be recall back which has been issued after 15th September 2015 with the expiry date of 31st August 2018 and will be replaced with new certificate with the validity period of 14th September 2018

For any further clarification please contact at:

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