

# Environmental Management Systems—ISO 14001

ISO 14000 is a series of *voluntary* standards and guidelines (not regulations) formulated by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to harmonize environmental disciplines for industries all over the world. While ISO 14000 is similar in scope to ISO 9000, it is also distinctly different.

## What Is ISO 14001?

The heart of the ISO series is *ISO 14001: Environmental Management Systems* (EMS). This is the standard organizations must meet to be registered. While registration to the ISO 14001 standards is *voluntary*, the increasing popularity of the standard is being driven by government interests, customer/supplier requirements, spiraling waste disposal costs, and the general interest of the public to know what companies are doing about environmental issues.

## How Do I Benefit From ISO 14001?

Benefits include providing a structured approach to environmental management that can help companies achieve cost savings, regulatory compliance, increased market shares, and international recognition.

Additionally, establishment of a system approach to environmental management can give a company an integrated monitoring and record keeping model that compliments an environmental strategy.

## Taking a Proactive Approach

ISO 14001 provides a proactive approach to environmental management that shifts a company away from the present “command-and-control”

method and moves companies beyond regulatory compliance and into an “environmental leadership” role. An EMS provides public recognition and an enhanced performance image for company stakeholders. Through the EMS documentation and communication system all components of a facility work together to achieve company wide environmental excellence.

## Technical Assistance Available

WMRC will provide literature, awareness training, on-site consultation, implementation tools, team approaches, training of internal auditors, identification of environmental aspects and impacts, design of environmental policy, preregistration auditing, and post-registration assistance.

## How Much Will This Service Cost?

WMRC will assist companies to achieve ISO 14001 EMS registration for \$5,000.

## For Further Information Contact:

WMRC—Champaign  
One East Hazelwood Drive  
Champaign, IL 61820  
217-333-8940  
217-333-8944 (FAX)

or

WMRC—Chicago  
1010 Jorie Blvd., Suite 12  
Oak Brook, IL 60523  
630-472-5028  
630-472-5023 (FAX)