



European Commission

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EMAS and the revised ISO 14001

EMAS. performance – credibility – transparency.

THE BACKGROUND

On September 15th 2015 the new ISO 14001 was officially published. Since the standard was first issued in 1996, it has been revised twice. **One fundamental innovation of the new revision is the so called “High Level Structure” (HLS), which will be implemented in all ISO Management System Standards.** The HLS is intended to facilitate the integration of requirements derived from various Management System Standards (e. g. ISO 9001 regarding Quality Management) into an Integrated Management System.

Two main reasons drove the revision of ISO 14001. First, the standard was adapted to the High Level Structure for ISO standards. Second, the revision aimed to enhance the standard by integrating 21 previously identified topics for improvement. **The revision’s main purpose is to strengthen the integration of the organisation’s environmental management system into its core business, thereby shifting the system from the environmental expert level to that of the line manager.** With the revision of the standard, ISO is aiming to provide a set of common and stable requirements for at least the next 10 years.



ISO 14001

REVISED

+ HIGH LEVEL STRUCTURE

1ST QUARTER 2016

In collaboration with Member States, EC drafts the affected annexes

2ND QUARTER 2016

Final drafts presented to the Member States

3RD QUARTER 2016

Feedback of the Member States and adaptation management

4TH QUARTER 2016 —

1ST QUARTER 2017

Adoption process & publication

The impact on EMAS

Since 2001, the EMAS Regulation’s Annex II has also incorporated the requirements of an environmental management system according to ISO 14001. **The European Commission is now planning to integrate the revised ISO 14001 into Annex II.** Currently, the Commission services are working closely with Member States to determine the need for changes to the EMAS Regulation. They will consider new requirements derived from the revised ISO 14001 and possible modifications to further Annexes of the EMAS Regulation. Those amended annexes are expected to be published in early 2017. The table on the next page presents an overview of the revisions relevant to EMAS. **Following the publication of the amendment, a transition period is foreseen in which EMAS registered organisations will have time to adapt.**



TIMELINE FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE EMAS REGULATION

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Revisions Relevant to EMAS

ISO 14001 : 2015 (Revisions in red)

4.1 Understanding the organisation and its context

4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties

- 4.3 Determining the scope of the environmental management system
- 4.4 Environmental management system

5.1 Leadership and commitment

5.2 Environmental policy

- 5.3 Organisational roles, responsibilities and authorities

6.1.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities

6.1.2 Environmental aspects

6.1.3 Compliance obligations

- 6.1.4 Planning action
- 6.1.5 Environmental objectives and planning to achieve them
- 6.2.1 Environmental objectives
- 6.2.2 Planning actions to achieve environmental objectives

7.1 Resources

7.2 Competence

7.3 Awareness

7.4.1 Communication

7.4.2 Internal communication

7.4.3 External communication

7.5.1 Documented information

7.5.2 Creating and updating

8.1 Operational planning and control

8.2 Emergency preparedness and response

9.1.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation

9.1.2 Evaluation of compliance

9.2.1 Internal audit

9.2.2 Internal audit programme

9.3 Management review

10.1 Improvement

10.2 Nonconformity and corrective action

10.3 Continual improvement

REVISIONS RELEVANT TO EMAS

4.1 Understanding the organisation and its context

4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties

5.1 Leadership and commitment

6.1.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities

6.1.2 Environmental aspects

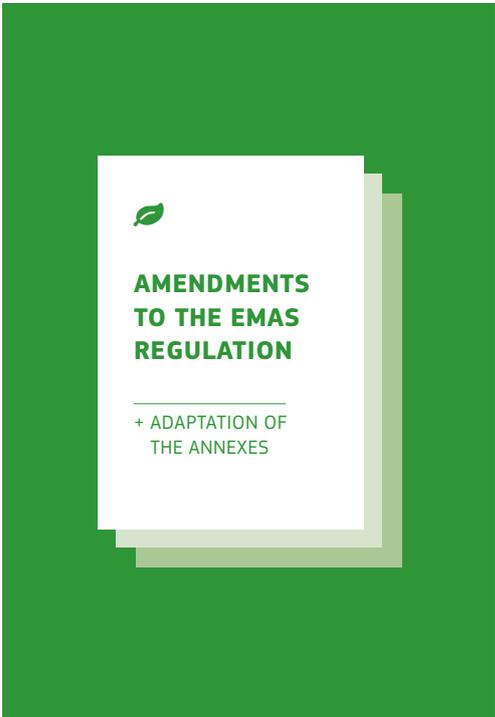


The revised ISO 14001 leads to few formal adaptations for EMAS registered organisations



EMAS still remains the premium tool for environmental management

EMAS and the revised ISO 14001



What adaptations will be required from EMAS registered organisations ?

As Annex II, the new ISO 14001 is going to remain part of EMAS. **EMAS registered organisations will need to make only a few formal adaptations as a result of the revised ISO 14001** (see table on pages 3, 4 and 5). The most significant changes will affect the environmental review, which will likely undergo restructuring and an extension of content. As is also the case currently, none of the requirements of the ISO 14001:2015 standard will go beyond the EMAS requirements. **After the integration of ISO 14001:2015 into Annex II, EMAS will still maintain its following unique features:**

- Demonstrated legal compliance
- Commitment to continuous improvement of environmental performance
- Compulsory communication with the public
- Employee participation

Overview of significant anticipated adaptations

The table below depicts the new requirements in ISO 14001:2015 that are additional to the requirements outlined in the 2009 EMAS Regulation. These elements will likely be incorporated in EMAS through modification of the Annexes (primarily Annex I and II). In addition, further modifications are possible. **For users, the legally binding version of the EMAS Regulation is the one most recently published in the Official Journal of the European Union.** During the transition period after the adoption of the new EMAS Regulation when the 2009 version is still in effect, environmental verifiers will also accept an implemented ISO 14001:2015 as fulfilling the requirements of Annex II of the Regulation.



↓ OVERVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT ANTICIPATED ADAPTATIONS

NEW ISO 14001 ELEMENT	EXTENSION OF EMAS
<p>4.1 Understanding the organization and its context <i>(New chapter)</i></p> <p>The organization shall determine external and internal issues that are relevant to its purpose and that affect its ability to achieve the intended outcomes of its environmental management system. Such issues shall include environmental conditions being affected by or capable of affecting the organization.</p>	<p>○</p> <p>To a large extent already included in EMAS through the environmental review, with the exception of a few additional items. These include particularly internal and external issues, which can be relevant to the context of the organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → environmental conditions [...], that can affect the organisation's purpose [...] such as climate, air quality, water quality, natural resources availability and biodiversity; → the external cultural, social, political, legal, regulatory, financial, technological, economic, natural and competitive circumstances, whether international, national, regional or local; → the internal characteristics or conditions of the organisation, such as [...] strategic direction, culture and capabilities.

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☰ ↓ OVERVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT ANTICIPATED ADAPTATIONS

NEW ISO 14001 ELEMENT	EXTENSION OF EMAS
<p>4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties <i>(New chapter)</i></p> <p>The organization shall determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → the interested parties that are relevant to the environmental management system; → the relevant needs and expectations (i.e. requirements) of these interested parties; → which of these needs and expectations become its compliance obligations. 	<p>○</p> <p>Extension of the environmental review to take into account the expectations of interested parties and to determine which of these expectations become compliance obligations for the organisation.</p>
<p>5.1 Leadership and commitment <i>(New chapter)</i></p> <p>Top management shall demonstrate leadership and commitment with respect to the environmental management system by:</p> <p>a) taking accountability for the effectiveness of the environmental management system;</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>○</p> <p>In general, the responsibility for the Environmental Management System rests with the organisation's top management. It determines how roles and responsibilities are delegated.</p> <p>In contrast to the previous version of ISO 14001, there is a stronger involvement of the organisation's line management.</p>
<p>6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities <i>(New chapter)</i></p> <p>[...]</p> <p>When planning for the environmental management system, the organization shall [...] determine the risks and opportunities, related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → environmental aspects (see 6.1.2); → compliance obligations (see 6.1.3) and other issues and requirements, identified in 4.1 und 4.2 that need to be addressed to: → give assurance that the environmental management system can achieve its intended outcomes; 	<p>○</p> <p>The organisation has to implement and document risk-based thinking within the Environmental Management System (EMS). This will assist in achieving the intended objectives of the EMS.</p> <p>Risks and opportunities can be linked with compliance obligations, amongst others. Within the new ISO 14001 standard, this linkage does not apply solely to legally required compliance obligations, but also to other requirements the organisation chooses to comply with. The organization shall determine risks and opportunities associated with its environmental aspects, compliance obligations and other issues identified in Annex I and mentioned in the points 4.1 and 4.2 above. These risks and opportunities may be incorporated into the environmental review.</p>

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☰ ↓ OVERVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT ANTICIPATED ADAPTATIONS

NEW ISO 14001 ELEMENT	EXTENSION OF EMAS
<p>→ prevent, or reduce, undesired effects, including the potential for external environmental conditions to affect the organization;</p> <p>→ achieve continual improvement.</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>The organization shall maintain documented information of its:</p> <p>→ risks and opportunities that need to be addressed;</p> <p>[...]</p>	
<p>6.1.2 Environmental aspects <i>(Formerly: 4.3.1)</i></p>	
<p>Within the defined scope of the environmental management system, the organization shall determine the environmental aspects of its activities, products and services that it can control and those that it can influence, and their associated environmental impacts, considering a life cycle perspective.</p> <p>[...]</p>	<p>○</p> <p>The organisation has to integrate a life cycle perspective more strongly during the determination of environmental aspects and while defining processes and procedures with regard to its activities, products and services. This may include stages such as raw material acquisition, design, production, transportation/ delivery, use, end-of-life treatment and final disposal, but will vary depending on the organisation activity. Additionally, the aspect of benefit to the environment and to biodiversity when evaluating the significance of the environmental aspects should be strengthened.</p> <p>However, no life-cycle analysis (LCA) needs to be carried out. This new requirement thus only marginally exceeds the EMAS Regulation's current requirements.</p>



SOURCE: DIN EN ISO 14001-2015: DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR NORMUNG (DIN) - BEUTH VERLAG:
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