



**ISO 14001 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS  
AUDIT, CERTIFICATION & TRAINING SERVICES**

# HOW CAN YOU DEMONSTRATE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY?

## ISO 14001 AUDIT, CERTIFICATION & TRAINING SERVICES FROM SGS

Customers, consumers and shareholders are increasingly concerned over the environmental impact of the activities, products and services they consume. They expect companies to comply with environmental standards and demonstrate their commitment to reducing their environmental impacts in daily operations. That may be a challenge, but it is also an opportunity for you to demonstrate your environmental responsibility, stand out from the competition and show existing and potential customers the proof of your commitment.

### THE BENEFITS

How can being ISO 14001:2004 certified help tackle the challenge? The ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management Systems (EMS) standard sets a basis for how to manage the environmental aspects of your business activities more effectively, while taking into consideration environmental protection, pollution prevention and socio-economic needs.

Furthermore, it helps you ensure compliance with environmental legislation and reduces the risk of penalties and possible litigation. Demonstrating commitment to the environment can transform your organisation's culture, improve employee morale and open up new business opportunities with environmentally aware customers. Applying ISO 14001:2004 can help your organisation minimise energy use, thereby reducing operating costs and contributing to continual improvement

of your environmental performance.

Furthermore, an ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management Systems certificate demonstrates high levels of environmental compliance when bidding for international contracts or expanding locally to accommodate new business.

### HOW DOES THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS WORK?

The ISO 14001:2004 certification process consists of six steps:

- Step A – SGS provides you with a proposal based on the size and nature of your organisation. You can then proceed with the audit by accepting the proposal.
- Step B – You may ask SGS to perform a 'pre-audit' to give an indication of the readiness of your organisation for the audit. This stage is optional, yet it is often found useful in identifying any weaknesses in your systems and in building confidence before the formal audit.
- Step C – The first part of the formal audit is the 'Stage 1 – Readiness Review'. This lets us evaluate the compliance of your documented system with the requirements of the standard to better understand the nature of your organisation, to plan the rest of the audit as effectively as possible and to initially examine key elements of the system. You will receive a report after this stage identifying any concerns or observed non-compliances so that you can take immediate action if required.
- Step D – This is 'Stage 2' of the initial audit process. The audit includes interviews with you and your colleagues and examination of records. Observation of your working practices determines how compliant your actual processes are with the standard and with your own documentation

system. At the end of this stage, we will present the findings of the audit classified as either major or minor non-conformances along with other observations and opportunities for improvement. Once you have addressed the non-conformities, a technical review of the audit will then be conducted by an authorised SGS Certification Manager to confirm the issuance of a certificate.

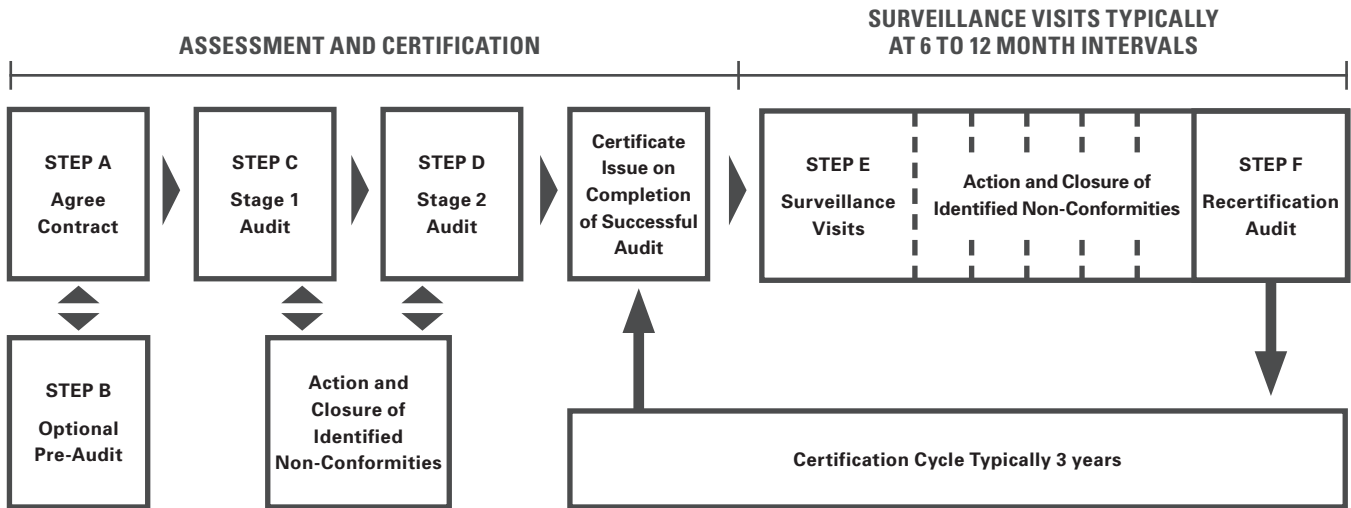
- Step E – Our surveillance visits will be scheduled at either six or twelve month intervals depending on the contract. During the visits, we review the implementation of the action plan addressing the past non-conformities and examine certain mandatory and other selected parts of the system in line with an audit plan that we provide you before each visit.
- Step F – Shortly before the third anniversary of the initial certification, our routine visit will be extended to enable a re-certification audit. Surveillance visits will then continue, as before, on a 3-year cycle.

### ISO 14001:2004 RELATED TRAINING

We offer a wide variety of training courses for all levels of ability and awareness. Our ISO 14001:2004 training course portfolio is designed to meet the requirements of any organisation using ISO 14001:2004, and includes:

- ISO 14001:2004 Introduction Seminar;
- ISO 14001:2004 Aspects, Impacts & Pitfalls Seminar;
- ISO 14001:2004 Internal Auditor Course;
- ISO 14001:2004 Lead Auditor Course (IRCA Accredited);
- ISO 14001:2004/OHSAS18001:2007 Integrated Internal Auditor Course; and
- Process & Aspect Auditing Concepts Seminar.

# ISO 14001:2004 CERTIFICATION PROCESS



Please visit [www.uk.sgs.com/training](http://www.uk.sgs.com/training) to view the ISO 14001:2004 course schedules in your region.

## OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SGS is also known for its solutions against other needs related to environmental and quality management as well as continuous improvement:

- Gap assessment against the requirements of ISO 14001:2004: this is a good alternative in case your organisation is not yet ready to go through the full certification process;
- ISO 14064 Greenhouse Gas Accounting and Verification certification and training services;
- Integrated Management Systems: your environmental management systems can be audited and certified simultaneously with other management systems which you have implemented;
- Gap assessment or certification against the requirements of BS EN 16001:2009 (Energy Management Systems): this provides a comprehensive set of controls designed to help organisations establish the systems and processes necessary to improve energy efficiency;
- Audit solutions against additional, bespoke environmental performance criteria: SGS can help develop the performance criteria and the checklist or simply check performance against existing measures; and
- Sustainability Report Verification: SGS offers an independent verification

of environmental and social reports against international standards, such as GRI and AA1000. Our approach addresses needs that range from assuring the accuracy of the chosen reporting scope to establishing management systems for reporting as well as managing relationships with customers and stakeholders.

## WHY SGS?

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. Recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity, we employ over 67 000 people and operate a network of more than 1 250 offices and laboratories around the world. We are constantly looking beyond customers' and society's expectations in order to deliver market leading services wherever they are needed.

Partnering with SGS opens the door to better performing processes, increasingly skilful talent, consistent and compliant supply chains and more sustainable customer relationships delivering profitable competitive advantage. Work with the global leader and take your commitment to the next level.

We have a history of undertaking and successfully executing large-scale, complex international projects. With a presence in every single region around the globe, our people speak the language and understand the culture of the local market and operate globally in a consistent, reliable and effective manner. In addition, we are the global leader in ISO 14001:2004 certification and the most widely accredited

certification body.

**TO LEARN HOW SGS CAN HELP YOU EXCEED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS, VISIT [WWW.UK.SGS.COM/ENVIRONMENTAL-CERTIFICATION](http://WWW.UK.SGS.COM/ENVIRONMENTAL-CERTIFICATION) OR CONTACT [UK.NOWISTHETIME@SGS.COM](mailto:UK.NOWISTHETIME@SGS.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

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