

CASE STUDY



GREENCORE TEAM PASSES

AND BOOSTS INTERNAL AUDITING

SGS

Ten managers from convenience food producer Greencore have completed SGS United Kingdom Ltd's ISO 14001:2004 Lead Auditor and Auditor Conversion to OHSAS 18001:2007 courses.

These managers are now trained and qualified to carry out internal environmental and occupational health and safety (OHS) assessments, helping Greencore to continually improve its performance.

ABOUT GREENCORE

The UK's largest food producer, Premier Foods manufactures and distributes a wide range of branded and non-branded foods. Its well-known brands include Mr Kipling, Ambrosia, Batchelors, Hovis, Branston, Sharwood's, Hartley's, Quorn and Oxo. In 2009, 99.4% of British households bought at least one Premier Foods brand.

ISO 14001:2004 LEAD AUDITOR

In October 2010, 10 Greencore managers undertook SGS' ISO 14001:2004 Lead Auditor course. All passed the continual assessment and exam with flying colours.

SGS United Kingdom Ltd is part of the SGS Group, the world's leading inspection, verification, testing, certification and training organisation. It employs more than 64,000 people and operates over 1,250 offices and laboratories worldwide.

SGS' external, independent audits measure organisations' efficiency and

progress and act as building blocks in the process of continual improvement.

Accepted and respected worldwide, ISO 14001 certification helps an organisation to:

- manage its environmental impact
- minimise resource-use, waste and emissions
- comply with environmental legislation
- make continual improvement to its environmental performance

Geneva-based, ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 153 countries.

Accredited by the International Register of Certificated Auditors (IRCA), SGS' ISO 14001:2004 Lead Auditor course is aimed at staff involved in planning and implementing ISO 14001-based environmental management systems (EMS).

"Our ISO 14001 Lead Auditor course gives participants the knowledge, skills, confidence and mindset to carry out environmental audits anywhere in any organisation," says Daniel Curling of SGS.

CHALLENGING AND ENJOYABLE

At its client's request, SGS conducted the ISO 14001:2004 Lead Auditor course at Manton Wood in Nottinghamshire, one of Greencore's 13 manufacturing sites in the UK and the largest sandwich production plant in the world.

The five-day course comprised lectures, discussions, workshops, role-play exercises and a live environmental audit of Manton Wood's engineering facility.

Tom Chambers, Greencore Group Safety, Health & Environment Manager, says: *"We chose SGS' ISO 14001 Lead Auditor course because we knew it would stretch the participants and help to drive this standard across the company. From Greencore's point of view the course was good value too, and much better than the alternatives."*

"The course certainly stretched us to the limit, but I enjoyed every minute and it scored on every count. It was well taught, rigorous, interactive and practical. The live audit was especially useful, both for course participants and Manton Wood's engineering department, which performed well."

SGS Course Tutor 'Dharma' Dedi Dharmadasa says: *"There was plenty of commitment from, and interaction with, Greencore's high-level team. It was one of the most enjoyable and successful courses I've ever run."*

AUDITOR CONVERSION TO OHSAS 18001:2007

In October 2010, the same 10 Greencore managers undertook another IRCA-accredited course, SGS' Auditor Conversion to OHSAS 18001:2007.

Similar in concept to ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 is a simple, proactive and effective toolkit and driver for safeguarding and



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continually improving OHS. Internationally recognised and respected, OHSAS 18001 helps organisations to:

- establish structures, roles, responsibilities and priorities
- translate the results of risk assessments, incident investigations and internal and external audits into risk-minimisation action plans
- set rules and systemise procedures
- reduce accidents, illness and downtime
- increase staff wellbeing, awareness, training, participation and motivation
- comply with the law and cut legal and insurance costs
- facilitate reporting and quickly correct deficiencies
- monitor and constantly improve performance
- plan for emergencies
- demonstrate transparency, due diligence and social responsibility

As with ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 uses a cycle of target, plan, do, review and improve. It prescribes only what must happen next, leaving the organisation free to decide how this should be implemented.

OHSAS 18001 can be easily – and is increasingly – integrated with other management systems such as ISO 14001, saving time and cost.

SGS' Auditor Conversion to OHSAS 18001:2007 course provides delegates with the skills and knowledge to establish and maintain OHS management systems against the standards, requirements and principles of OHSAS 18001:2007.

The course took place at Manton Wood, again at Greencore's request, and comprised lectures, discussions, workshops, role-play exercises, a live OHS audit and an exam.

"It was tough but interesting and enjoyable," says Tom Chambers of Greencore. "Both instructors were good and the course caught my imagination."

By successfully completing this three-day course and the preceding five-day course, Greencore's 10 managers have achieved the training requirement to register with the IRCA as an OHSAS/EMS lead auditor.

GRENCORE AND SGS

Over the past three years Greencore has greatly increased its use of SGS, particularly for ISO 14001 EMS and OHSAS 18001 safety management systems (SMS) third-party audit and certification.

"I've used a number of certification bodies and SGS is not a run-of-the-mill organisation," says Tom Chambers. "I particularly like SGS's willingness to answer questions straight away – it's always easy to pick up the phone and ask. We have an honest, open relationship and this immediate clarification keeps everything moving along."

"The two courses have greatly increased our confidence in implementing management systems and carrying out internal audits ourselves. As a result we're now much more determined to move forward."

Most of Greencore's UK plants are certified to the ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 standards. The company is also considering certification for its overseas plants.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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