ISO 44001:2017 specifies requirements for the effective identification, development and management of collaborative business relationships within or between organizations.

ISO 44001 **TOP TIPS** FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Collaboration between organizations can take various forms from loose tactical approaches through to longer term alliances or joint ventures. ISO 44001 does not impose a rigid approach and recognizes that every relationship has its own unique structure.

The intent of ISO 44001 is not to create a single one-size solution but to establish a consistent framework with a common language and road map that can be adopted by organizations of all sizes. The process and applications within the standard highlight the key areas that all organizations should address.

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT
Obtain commitment from senior management to the project and engage the whole business with good internal communications.

CORRECT PARTNERS
Evaluate your current business relationships and select the correct partners that complement your objectives.

GAP ANALYSIS
By applying a gap analysis approach and obtaining partner feedback on current collaborative practices you will highlight the areas of ISO 44001 that need to be addressed.

UNDERSTANDING THE CRITERIA
Familiarize yourself with the standard to understand the criteria that have to be met, the structure of the standard and hence the structure of your Collaborative Relationship Management Plan and associated documentation.

CREATING A PLAN
Create a Collaborative Relationship Management Plan for ISO 44001 that is based on the systems you already have in place within your organization. Compare this to the requirements of the standard with the structure of your existing business relationships.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Establish working groups with clear roles, responsibilities and timescales and share the gained knowledge across the business and with stakeholders.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
Motivate staff involvement with training and develop the skills of the internal audit team, helping them to ensure they are prepared for the job.

REGULAR REVIEWS
Adapt the requirements of the standard to your business and regularly review the programme so it remains effective and delivers continuous improvement.

DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS
Build the requirements of ISO 44001 into your day-to-day operation of the business. This will allow you to recognize that implementing the standard in full for relationships may or may not always be appropriate.

AUDITS AND ASSESSMENTS
Internal auditing and external assessment will identify the extent to which the systems' policies and processes are meeting the requirements of the standard, and also that they are supporting and delivering the right outcomes.

SGS can support you in developing effective business relationships by assessing your compliance with ISO 44001. This will test your organization's collaborative capability with the standard but it is not necessary for your partners to be certified as well.

CONTACT SGS

To learn how SGS can work with you to continuously improve your collaborative business relationships, contact us for more information.

www.sgs.co.uk/iso44001　　uk.nowisthetime@sgs.com　　+44 (0)1276 697715　　www.sgs.com/facebook　　www.sgs.com/twitter　　www.sgs.com/linkedin

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

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