

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
SANS/ISO 14001:2015**





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1. Introduction

Sustainable companies have recognised that proper management of an organisation's energy, natural resources and waste has a substantial effect on its economic and environmental performance. Over the years small and big companies have implemented SANS/ISO 14001 to increase their chances of thriving in the globally competitive market.

SANS/ISO 14001 is applicable to any organisation that wishes to establish, implement, maintain and improve an Environmental Management System (EMS), to assure itself of conformity with its stated environmental policy. SANS/ISO 14001 places the emphasis on prevention and continuous improvement, while aiming at balancing environmental protection and prevention of pollution with socio-economic needs.



2. What is SANS/ISO 14001 all about

An Environmental Management System helps organisations identify, manage, monitor and control their environmental issues in a “holistic” manner.

SANS/ISO 14001 can easily be combined with any management system and is suitable for organisations of all types and sizes, be they private, not-for-profit or governmental. It requires that an organisation considers all environmental issues relevant to its operations, such as air pollution, water and sewage issues, waste management, soil contamination, climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as resource use and efficiency.

SANS/ISO 14001 is an internationally accepted environmental management system that helps organisations to identify, manage, monitor and control their environmental issues. It helps organisations improve their environmental performance through more efficient use of resources and reduction of waste, gaining a competitive advantage and the trust of stakeholders.

A majority of organisations around the world have either directly or indirectly impacted the environment over the past decade of stakeholders.



3. The benefits of SANS/ISO 14001

SANS/ISO 14001 has recently been revised, with key improvements such as the increased prominence of environmental management within the organisation's strategic planning processes, greater input from leadership and a stronger commitment to proactive initiatives that boost environmental performance.

An Environmental Management System (EMS) assists companies to improve its business, reduce environmental risks and reduce the company's impact on the environment. In addition to this, an EMS:

- helps a company improve occupational health and safety by creating a healthy working environment
- can assure customers of a company's commitment to responsible environmental management and legal compliance
- helps a company to maintain good public and community relations
- enhances the image and market share of the company
- improves cost control
- demonstrates a responsible caring attitude
- conserves input material and energy
- helps in the development and sharing of environmental solutions
- helps improve relations between government and industry.



4. Why choose SABS for Certification

The South African Bureau of Standards has a proven track record, having worked with over 5 000 companies, from small and medium sized businesses to big companies and we have been in business for more than 70 years

Our diverse portfolio of highly skilled and technically competent auditors (SAATCA registered) including high standards of ethical conduct provides the basis of impartial and value add assessments.

SABS is accredited by the South African National Accreditation Scheme (SANAS) as a certification body by the Raad voor Accreditatie (RvA) for FSSC and OHSMS and is recognised as a leader in certification quality assurance services.

5. SABS Certification Process

The certification process for System Certification involves the following steps:

01

Enquiry received from prospective client

02

Certification application forms e-mailed to prospective client.

03

On return of completed application a certification quotation will be submitted to the prospective client

04

Acceptance of quotation agreement by the client.

05

Stage 1 assessment conducted to evaluate readiness for Stage 2

06

Stage 2 assessment (Stage 2 to be conducted within 9 months from Stage 1 assessment)

07

Clearance of findings (within 3 months of assessment) & finalising certification agreement in line with ISO 17021 requirements

08

Certification decision by the Approvals Board

09

Annual surveillance audit(s)

10

Re-certification every 3 years





6. Preparing for Certification

- Obtain SANS/ISO 14001 standard (standardsales@sabs.co.za)
- Understand the requirements of SANS/ISO 14001
- Involve executive management and make them understand the concepts and obtain their commitment
- Establish an environmental management steering committee
- Train management and employees that will be involved in the implementation and maintenance of SANS/ISO 14001
- Conduct an environmental compliance audit
- Communicate the certification implementation plan to all employees in the company
- Create self-assessment questions and identify any gaps
- Determine internal and external issues relevant to the context of the organisation
- Determine the needs and expectations of interested parties
- Identify the organisation's activities, products, services and key processes as well as the interactions these have with each other.
- Establish environmental objectives and action plans
- Establish environmental documented information and relevant procedures
- Establish an internal auditing programme
- Measure conformance and compliance with the documented information and requirements
- Plan actions to address risks and opportunities
- Conduct a management review
- Establish a comprehensive corrective action plan
- Review results and act appropriately

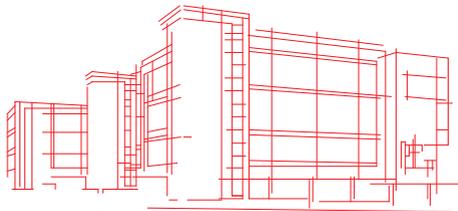
7. Training solutions

The SABS Training Academy continues to bring to your doorstep quality training and development to various management system standards. We actively train industry on creating overall organisational awareness and implementation of management systems (SANS/ISO 9001, SANS/ISO 14001, SANS/ISO 45001, FSSC, SANS/ISO 22001, etc.) Our training sessions are focussed on capacitating management, quality practitioners, internal audit teams and staff which underpins the successful implementation and entrenchment of management systems.

The Academy is accredited with SAATCA for the Lead auditor courses in QMS/EMS/OHSMS and ISO 22000. The Academy is also licensed as a training organisation with FSSC for all FSSC courses (Introduction, awareness, transition, implementation and auditing levels).

The series of courses offered within this quality faculty will enhance the understanding of the standards and their requirements, thus enabling learners to implement and maintain such systems in their respective organisational environments. The most recent information on our training schedule, applications and pricing is available on our website www.sabs.co.za.





Head office:

1 Dr Lategan Road
Groenkloof
Pretoria
0001

Postal address:

Private Bag X191
Pretoria
0001

Telephone number:

+ 27 12 428 7911 or
0861 277 227

Fax number:

+ 27 12 344 1568

E-mail address:

info@sabs.co.za

Website:

www.sabs.co.za



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