

# Moving towards ISO14001:2015

(May 2013 update)

The document series 'Moving towards ISO14001:2015' has been established by Karza Pty Ltd to assist our internal consultants in considering potential change when developing clients' long-term integrated management system plans. The potential changes forecasted for ISO14001 (Environment) may (and most likely will) be reflected in future ISO9001 (Quality) and ISO18001 (Safety) management system revisions.

The ISO/TC 207 (International Organization for Standardization Technical Committee 207) have required the future revision of ISO14001 'Environmental Management Systems – Requirements with guidance for use' (currently *ISO 14001:2004 and to be replaced by ISO 14001:2015*) to follow the basic structure defined in Guide 83 '*High level structure and identical text for management system standards and common core management system terms and definitions*'. Guide 83 provides common text which will be incorporated into both new and reviewed management system standards. The intent appears to ensure clause titles, sequence of clauses, definitions and approximately 30% of the text of each standard will be similar or identical; leading to better management system integration.

## **IMPORTANT:**

### **ISO 14001:2015 WILL contain new requirements.**

On 8 March 2013, the Committee Draft of ISO 14001:2015 was published. The draft suggests a fundamental revision of the standard with significant implications for many organisations.

At the current time, Karza Pty. Ltd. expects the following significant changes may occur:

(a) The number of major clauses will most likely be ten:

- Clause 1, '*Scope*';
- Clause 2, '*Normative References*';
- Clause 3 '*Terms and Definitions*';
- Clause 4 '*Context of the Organisation*';
- Clause 5 '*Leadership*';
- Clause 6 '*Planning*';
- Clause 7 '*Support*';
- Clause 8 '*Operation*';
- Clause 9 '*Performance Evaluation*'; and
- Clause 10. '*Improvement*'.

(b) A requirement for the organisation to establish an understanding and context of the Environmental Management System with clearer linkage to the organisation's strategic business management. May including legal, technological, competition (international, national, regional) and environmental drivers and the effect these drivers may have on the organisation

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and its ability to meet its defined environmental objectives and the design of the organisation's Environmental Management System.

(c) An increase in top management's need to demonstrate leadership and commitment; ensuring the organisation's environmental management becomes strategically embedded.

(d) Strengthening the need for the organisation to gather information about interested parties environmental needs and expectations.

(e) A requirement for the evaluation and analysis of the organisation's environmental performance using key performance indicators (each objective may require Environmental Performance Indicators to be developed).

(f) The expansion of an organisation's environmental influence into the broader supply chain. May include criteria for:

- Specifying environmental requirements for procuring goods / services;
- Valuating the supply of goods / services from a life cycle perspective; and
- Communicating environmental requirements to suppliers and contractors.

(g) A requirement to consider product / service design issues by evaluating significant environmental aspects during the process of design, development or change of products and services (may require specific information for product / service regarding the potential significant environmental impacts which may be encountered during use and at the end of the product's life).

(h) Clarification of the 'evaluation of compliance' process.

### Related Articles

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<a href="#">"ISO 14001 Revision – Demonstrating Environmental Compliance Status"</a>	25/04/2013
<a href="#">"ISO 14001 Revision – Environmental Design as a Tool for Improvement"</a>	18/04/2013
<a href="#">"ISO 14001 Revision – Extending environmental influence into the value chain, with implications for procurement"</a>	11/04/2013
<a href="#">"ISO 14001 Revision – What commitments to make to sustainable development and social responsibility?"</a>	04/04/2013
<a href="#">"ISO 14001 Revision – How to Address Strategic Environmental Issues, the Interests of Stakeholders and the Direction of the Business"</a>	28/03/2013
<a href="#">"ISO 14001 Revision – Greater Expectations for Top Management's Leadership and Commitment"</a>	21/03/2013
<a href="#">Moving towards ISO9001:2015 Jan 2013 update</a>	01/01/2013

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