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Miljöledningssystem – Allmän vägledning för tillämpning (ISO 14004:2016)

Environmental management systems – General guidelines on implementation (ISO 14004:2016)

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Denna standard ersätter SS-EN ISO 14004:2010, utgåva 1.

The European Standard EN ISO 14004:2016 has the status of a Swedish Standard. This document contains the official English version of EN ISO 14004:2016.

This standard supersedes the Swedish Standard SS-EN ISO 14004:2010, edition 1.

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN ISO 14004

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

March 2016

ICS 13.020.10

Supersedes EN ISO 14004:2010

English Version

Environmental management systems - General guidelines on implementation (ISO 14004:2016)

Systèmes de management environnemental - Lignes
directrices générales pour la mise en application (ISO
14004:2016)

Umweltmanagementsysteme - Allgemeiner Leitfadens
über Grundsätze, Systeme und unterstützende
Methoden (ISO 14004:2016)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 1 March 2016.

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COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
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European foreword

This document (EN ISO 14004:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207 "Environmental management".

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2016, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2016.

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For relationship with EU Directive(s), see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

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Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 14004:2016 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 14004:2016 without any modification.

Introduction

Achieving a balance between the environment, society and the economy is considered essential to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainable development is a goal achieved by balancing the three pillars of sustainability: the environment, society and the economy.

Organizations, whether public or private, large or small, in developed or in emerging economies, have an impact on the environment and can be affected by the environment in return. There is a growing understanding that human development and well-being are contingent on preserving and conserving our natural resources, upon which all human activity and productivity depend. Achieving sound environmental performance requires organizational commitment to a systematic approach and to continual improvement of an environmental management system.

Societal expectations are driving the need for improved management of the resources necessary to support human development, through greater efficiency, transparency and accountability for all organizations. There are growing pressures on the environment, from climate change, over-consumption of resources and the challenges created by degradation of ecosystems and the loss of biodiversity.

The aim of this International Standard is to provide organizations with guidance for a common framework, in order to establish, implement, maintain and continually improve a system to support better environmental management. This environmental management framework should contribute to the long-term success of the organization and to the overall goal of sustainable development. The framework of a robust, credible and reliable environmental management system is shown in [Figure 1](#). It includes:

- understanding the context in which the organization operates;
- determining and understanding the relevant needs and expectations of interested parties, as they relate to the environmental management system of the organization;
- establishing and implementing an environmental policy and environmental objectives;
- top management taking a leading role in improving environmental performance;
- identifying aspects of the organization's activities, products and services that can result in significant environmental impacts;
- identifying the environmental conditions, including events, that can affect the organization;
- considering the organization's risks and opportunities that need to be addressed in relation to its:
 - environmental aspects;
 - compliance obligations;
 - other issues (see [4.1](#)) and requirements (see [4.2](#));
- increasing awareness of the organization's interaction with the environment;
- establishing operational controls, as appropriate, to manage the organization's significant environmental aspects and compliance obligations, and risks and opportunities that need to be addressed;
- evaluating environmental performance and taking actions, as necessary, for its improvement.

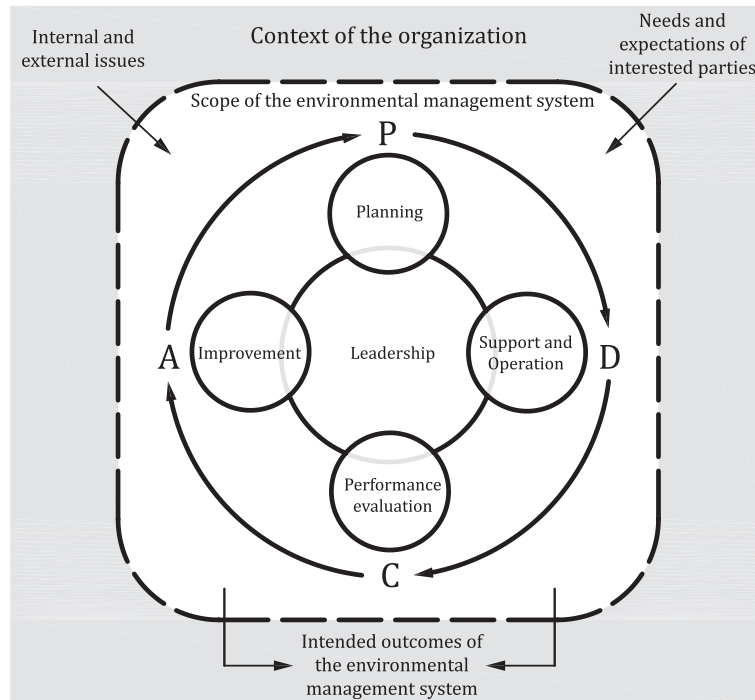


Figure 1 — Environmental management system model for this International Standard

The outcomes of a systematic approach to environmental management can provide top management with quantitative and qualitative data that enables informed business decisions that build long-term success and create options for contributing to sustainable development. The success of the environmental management system depends on commitment from all levels and functions of the organization, led by top management. The opportunities include:

- protecting the environment, including the prevention or reduction of adverse environmental impacts;
- controlling or influencing the way products and services are designed, manufactured, distributed, used and disposed;
- using a life cycle perspective to prevent environmental impacts from being unintentionally shifted elsewhere within the cycle;
- achieving financial and operational benefits that can result from implementing environmentally sound alternatives which strengthen the organization’s market position;
- communicating environmental information to relevant interested parties.

In addition to enhanced environmental performance, the potential benefits associated with an effective environmental management system include:

- assuring customers of the organization’s commitment to demonstrable environmental management;
- maintaining good public and community relations;
- satisfying investor criteria and improving access to capital;
- enhancing image and market share;
- improving cost control;
- preventing incidents that result in liability;