

**ISO 14001 Environmental Certification: Step by Step, A.J. Edwards, Butterworth-Heinemann, 255 Wildwood Ave., Woburn, MA 01801-2041, 2001, 242pp., \$47.95 (book with CD-ROM).**

This book provides a concise descriptions of the ISO 14001 standards, its origin, step by step implementation guide and wealth of information of what you should know either you are seriously thinking about to obtain the certification or just interests to know what the standard about.

The author provides a very good links between ISO14001 and ISO 9000 standards. Actually, both standards structure are similar and some of the requirements are overlap Which allows the current ISO 9000 register holders an easy migration to obtain the ISO14001 certification. For example, the Environmental Management System (EMS) can mirror the approaches used in the Quality Management Systems (QMS), and cretin requirements are identical, such as Document Control, Training, Monitoring and Measurements can be applied to both.

Some major addition to ISO14001 standard is that there are some legal environmental requirements needed to be addressed as mandatory versus, ISO 9000 system which needs not to address any mandatory legal requirements. This book is written for British readers, so, all the relevant laws cited are applied to companies located at England. The US readers need to discover what the relevant environmental laws are applied, however, this should pose no obstacle for the US readers to understand what is required.

Edwards' opinion about the formal launch of the certification is rather unconventional, what he proposed is to launch when the bulks of procedures are written, training was conducted, and even the assessor was chosen ( see Figure5.3 p.20). This contrary to the hoopla of the official launch of the certification activity at the very beginning to provide an initial momentums for the company wide participation, which will otherwise will be difficult to entice devised interests groups within the company to pitch in the very beginning of the activity.

This book can be used as a reference book for ISO14001, any readers can jump in to searching the information about the standard without the need to read extensively before get the idea. The actual text of the book is just 60 pages out of 242 pages, and the rest are appendices to provide wealth of information about the standard. So it will be an easy reading for everybody.

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