

## ISO 14001:2015: Introduction to the Requirements

### Requirements of ISO 14001:2015

The ISO 14001 Standard is organized in seven sections or “Clauses”

Section 4: Context of the Organization

Section 5: Leadership

Section 6: Planning

Section 7: Support

Section 8: Operation

Section 9: Performance Evaluation

Section 10: Improvement

Today as “**We Go for ISO**” we are going to look at the requirements in **Clause 4: Context of the Organization**.



The reason we are starting at “4” is because the first three clauses do not have actual requirements; they are more of an introduction to the standard. The requirements are outlined in clauses 4 through 10.

### Clause 4: Context of the Organization

This first clause introduces two sub-clauses, 4.1 understanding the organization and its context and 4.2 understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties.

Together they require that we determine the issues and requirements that can impact on the planning of the (EMS) Environmental Management System.

In addition the scope of the EMS and the EMS processes along with their applicability and interactions need to be determined.

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To fully understand the organization and its context, our company determines the relevant external and internal issues that

affect our ability to achieve the intended results of the EMS.

To completely understand the needs and expectations of interested parties, our Company will identify the parties, such as customers, owners, suppliers, bankers, and all our employees, and determine and review their requirements that are relevant to the EMS.

To determine the scope of the system, we identify the boundaries of the EMS and consider the external and internal issues, the needs of interested parties, and our products and services.

*“Insert the scope of your EMS here”*

We will need to ensure that we have the ability to consistently operate our business while taking actions to address risks and opportunities, and meeting our compliance obligations. Documented information will support the operation of the processes and provide confidence that they are carried out as planned.

Each business process is looked at to make sure that it meets the requirements of the standard. Documented information is provided to make sure that the process is well planned and that everyone does the process in the same and correct way.

Procedures are used to train employees on using the approved methods so that we can improve our environmental performance.

Our procedure **P-400, Organizational context** addresses clause 4.

*Watch for our next newsletter for more introduction to ISO 14001:2015, what it will mean to you and your coworkers.*