

director's briefing

UPDATE 12 | JUNE 2017

Energy Management Systems

The BS EN ISO 50001:2011 standard was introduced in July 2011. It is intended to be the recognised international standard for energy management systems (EnMSs) and is designed to make the most from energy technology. The standard helps management to reduce energy consumption, whilst boosting overall energy conservation. This makes possible reduced energy costs and carbon emissions, and a more secure supply of energy.

The structure of the standard is similar to the environmental management standard ISO 14001 but focuses on the single impact of energy use instead of the range of environmental impacts.



Recommendations

Senior management should be in full support of the EnMS, and assign resources, time and budget to the project.

Consider the in-house expertise. Is there a member of staff that will be able to lead implementation? Will they need specialised support such as from a consultancy, local business support or trade association?

A timescale for implementation can also be useful; this will vary according to the size and nature of the organisation, resources given to the project, internal skills and if there is an existing management system. Liaison with certifiers (who should be accredited to UKAS) should start early in the process.

Identification and Review of Energy Aspects

You will need to identify:

- Past and present energy consumption based on measurement and other data
- Areas of energy consumption, in particular changes in energy-use during the past period
- An estimate of the expected energy consumption
- Opportunities for improving energy performance
- All persons working for, and on behalf of, the organisation whose actions may lead to changes in energy consumption
- Any changes to the energy management programme following assessment of results.

The review must be documented. A register of opportunities for saving energy or reducing costs or carbon emissions must include:

- The energy aspect to which it relates
- Its value in financial or carbon terms
- Action required
- Estimated or actual cost
- Tasks involved including responsibilities and due dates
- For completed items, date completed and actual outcome.

Energy Agreements

The company needs to identify national, international and local governmental legal requirements. Energy agreements to which the organisation may subscribe include:

- Emissions trading
- Those with customers, voluntary and community groups, trade associations
- Non-regulatory guidelines
- Public commitments and corporate/company requirements.

Facts

An EnMS is a tool to help manage and improve energy performance. It establishes energy management programmes to ensure objectives and targets are achieved.

Core documents underpin the EnMS - the energy policy, energy review, legal requirements, objectives and targets and a commitment to continually improve energy performance.

The standard does not establish absolute requirements for energy performance beyond those in the energy policy of the organisation and its obligation to comply with relevant legislation.

Implementation can be in-house using a recognised standard, such as ISO 14001, as a model. Alternatively the EnMS may be externally certified.

Certification means that a third party has audited the EnMS and it conforms to the standard. Accreditation means the third party's certification method has been audited by the UK Accreditation Service (UKAS).

If you require any further information or advice please contact 4see on 01327 811166, enquiry@4see.co.uk, www.4see.co.uk