News on ISO9001 and ISO14001 Revisions

ISO 9001, the popular Quality Management System standard is undergoing a revision and has now reached the Committee Draft Stage. At this time, the ISO member countries that are taking part in the development have a few months to review it and make their comments known. Once these comments have been considered by the committee, a Draft International Standard is published and at this point there is an opportunity for the public to provide feedback. This Draft for public comment is likely to be available in 2014. The new version of ISO 9001 is expected to be published towards the end of 2015 and then there will be a transition period before the 2008 version is finally out of date.

ISO 14001, the Environmental Management System standard is also undergoing a revision and the Committee Draft Stage of this standard was announced in April 2013. The new version is likely to be published in early 2015, though some changes have already been announced.

- A revised structure that includes a 'high level' structure that aims to create common definitions, headings and key text across management system standards
- A stronger link between top management decision making and environmental management
- Greater recognition of life cycle think and the value chain
- A broadening of the scope to include the impact of the environment on the organisation as well as the organisation's impact on the environment.

As with the ISO 9001 standard, there will be a transition period before the 2004 version is withdrawn.

If you would like to keep up dated you can follow BSI on Twitter @bsisustain

Consumer Product Safety Standard

The International Standards Organisation have released a new standard that aims to improve consumer product safety. *ISO 10377:2013 Consumer product safety – Guidelines for suppliers,* provides useful guidelines on how to assess and manage risk and so supply safe products to the consumer. It is applicable to all suppliers, regardless of their role in the supply chain and all their products wherever they are from. All products should be traceable and suppliers should insist that products bought should be well identified and know where they come from. The standard provides practical guidelines on risk assessment and management for safer consumer products. It stresses the need for a product safety culture and explains how to build such a safety culture. For example, it provides a simple five step approach for an SME to start their product safety management plan

1. check management's commitment to product safety
2. develop a product safety policy
3. appoint a product safety officer
4. integrate safety related tasks at design, production and marketing stages
5. set up a communication protocol across the organisation

The standard is presented in four main sections
1. General Principles
2. Safety Aspects of design
3. Safety in Production
4. Safety in the Market place.

For further information, please visit www.iso.org

Consumer Product Recall

Even with the best quality systems, mistakes can happen and this may require a product recall. The International Standards Organisation has just published a standard that aims to assist organisations cope with product recall situations.

ISO 10393:2013 Consumer product recall – Guidelines for suppliers offers guidance to suppliers on consumer product recalls as well as other aspects such as refunds, retrofits, repairs, replacements, disposals and notifying the public about the product.

The standard provides tools and information to help suppliers develop a product recall programme to:
- Implement timely and cost effective recalls
- Minimise legal and reputation risks
- Reduce health and safety risks to consumers

According to ISO, there are four key features that underline its practicality and effectiveness:
- It applies to all consumer products except foodstuffs, drugs and cars, and respects local jurisdiction to avoid any conflict with local laws and standards
- Together with ISO 10377, *Consumer product safety – Guidelines for suppliers,* it offers manufacturers a road map to follow from design to disposal, or from pre-market to post-market
- It unifies related standards existing in many countries into a single set of global standards guidelines
- It brings together current global best practices to provide the leading and most up-to-date guidelines

For further information, please visit www.iso.org

Food Safety

According to the ISO Survey of Management System Standard Certifications there is a growing demand for certification against the ISO 22000 Food Safety Management System standard. This is being driven by the increasing concerns of consumers and retailers about food safety. SMEs often find implementing such systems rather daunting but help is now at hand in the form of a new handbook published by ISO. *How to use ISO 22000* is full of practical information on developing, implementing and running a food safety management system that meets the requirements of ISO 22000:2005. It explains the aims of each section of the standard and comes with information on the practical tasks that need to be undertaken to fulfil the requirements.

For further information, please visit www.iso.org

Are you a member of the CQI?

The Chartered Quality Institute (CQI) now offers its members access to many professional journals, magazines and reports. They have recently launched an on-line knowledge hub **the CQI e-library.** To access the e-library you need to be a CQI member and to log on via the 'My CQI' area on their website.

The CQI is the chartered body for quality management professionals and offers up to date information on the world of quality and the latest tools and techniques, on the web-site and through its publication "Quality World".

You can also keep in touch electronically – follow CQI on Twitter www.twitter.com/Qualityworld watch videos on YouTube www.youtube.com/user/CQIWebmanager and read the CQI blog at www.thecqi.info

Six Sigma

There has been some interesting debate on one of the internet forums about whether Six Sigma stifles creativity. A former executive at 3M feels that it does and you can read his views at the start of the debate. However, some follow up comments feel that perhaps it is the way it is understood and used within a company that is the issue. You can follow the debate and add your views at http://www.zdnet.com/six-sigma-killed-innovation-in-3m-7000012593/

Alternatively, you might like to contact Geoff at geoff@qmt.co.uk with your take on Six Sigma – he is offering a £30 QMT voucher for the best comment!

If you would like more information on Six Sigma and the use of tools and techniques used in implementing a programme, then take a look at the QMT courses http://www.qmt.co.uk/training/quality and book http://www.qmt.co.uk/books/book-six-sigma

How to Quantify Greenhouse Gases

Another document has been added to the ISO 14000 series of standards; *BS ISO TR 14069* provides advice on how to quantify Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions within the boundaries of an organisation. It was developed to support the ISO 14064 standard on the quantification and reporting of GHG. It aims to assist an organisation in identifying direct and indirect energy emissions and then for each category of emission, it provides guidance in the methodology for quantification and removal.

It aims to help organisations develop methods of calculating emissions that are easy to understand and are suitable for the organisation.

For further information, please visit www.bsi-global.com

European Green Market

The European Commission have recognised that there is a confusing range of green initiatives and methods found across the member states that are being used to prove a product's green credentials. This is turning into a barrier for green products in the Single Market. They have launched a Single market for Green Products Initiative that aims to overcome the problems. The proposed set of actions is:

- establish two methods to measure environmental performance throughout the lifecycle, the Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) and the Organisation Environmental Footprint (OEF);
- recommend the use of these methods to Member States, companies, private organisations and the financial community through a Commission Recommendation;
- announce a three-year testing period to develop product- and sector-specific rules through a multi-stakeholder process;
- provide principles for communicating environmental performance, such as transparency, reliability, completeness, comparability and clarity;
- support international efforts towards more coordination in methodological development and data availability.

A three year testing period is underway and there is an open call for volunteers on the Product Environmental Footprint and the Organisation Environmental Footprint sites, inviting companies and other stakeholder organisations to take part in the development of the rules. The deadline for applications is 26th July 2013. If you would like further information, please visit http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/smgp/index.htm?utm_source=PM-STAN-NEWS-SUST-0-VOL-1306&utm_medium=et_mail&utm_content=546340&utm_campaign=PM-STAN-NEWS-SUST-0-VOL-1306&utm_term=Single+Market+for+Green+Products

Outdoor Safety

The beautiful summer weather we experienced in July is encouraging more and more people to exercise outdoors. There is now a Publically Available Specification for Publically accessible outdoor exercise equipment – PAS 888. If you manufacture, install or maintain outdoor exercise equipment then you should find this useful. It covers topics such as materials used in manufacturing, design, test methods, installation requirements and inspection. It should allow you to be further assured that your users can exercise safely. For further information, please visit www.bsi-global.com