



**Energy Management ..... 1**  
**Are Standards just for Large Organisations? ..... 1**  
**Update on Toy Safety..... 2**  
**New Standard for Protective Clothing..... 2**  
**Reduction in Red Tape in the UK..... 2**  
**National Measurement System..... 3**  
**Climate Change Impacts ..... 3**

**Energy Management**

Recent announcement from energy suppliers indicate that energy costs are set to increase and this will impact both households and organisations. You may well be taking actions at home to reduce your usage driven by both environmental and financial concerns, but what about energy use at work. All organisations use energy and rising prices means higher overheads. If you are looking for ways to reduce overheads then controlling energy use is an obvious target – and you will be helping the environment as well. The new standard for an Energy Management System may be able to help.

The ISO 50001 Energy Management Standard was published earlier this summer and according to ISO could have a positive impact on 60% of the world's energy use. It aims to provide organisations with management strategies to reduce costs and improve energy performance. The standard helps organisations focus on where energy is being used, predict future use and aims to help improve the use of energy.

Rob Steele, ISO Secretary-General said: "Energy is critical to organisational operations and can be a major cost to organisations, whatever their activities. An idea can be gained by considering the use of energy through the supply chain of a business, from raw materials through to recycling. Individual organisations cannot control energy prices, government policies or the global economy, but they can improve the way they manage energy in the here and now. Improved energy performance can provide rapid benefits for an organisation by maximizing the use of its energy sources and energy-related assets,

thus reducing both energy cost and consumption. The organisation will also make positive contributions towards reducing depletion of energy resources and mitigating worldwide effects of energy use, such as global warming.

The BSI have also highlighted the benefits that using the standard could bring:

- Cost reductions
- Carbon emission reductions
- Improved security of energy supply
- Better business improvement
- Greater top management engagement
- Assistance with legislative compliance
- Formal energy policy and objectives
- Driver for innovation

The standard is designed for easy integration with other management systems and you can obtain certification for it as with ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 etc. The assessment is similar to other management with an adequacy audit that looks at policy, documents and procedures in place to manage energy consumption followed by the main assessment that focuses on the effective implementation of the system.

For more information please visit [www.iso.ch](http://www.iso.ch) or [www.bsi-global.com](http://www.bsi-global.com)

**Are Standards just for Large Organisations?**

Small organisations often complain that they do not have the resources to implement and operate management systems that meet the ISO standards. There are plenty of benefits though and ISO have listed 10 good things that standard offer to SMEs.

- Standards help you compete on a level playing field with bigger enterprises
- Standards open up export markets for your products and services



- Standards help you discover best business practices
- Standards drive efficiency in your business operations
- Standards add credibility and confidence for your customers
- Standards open new business opportunities and sales
- Standards give you the competitive edge
- Standards make your brand name internationally recognised
- Standards help your company grow
- Standards enable a common "language" to be used across an industry sector

More information can be [downloaded](#) as a PDF free of charge from the ISO Website.

### Update on Toy Safety

For the first time in twenty years the European Directive on Toy Safety has been changed. For toys produced or marketed for the European market, an EC Declaration of Conformity has to be drawn up – this certifies compliance with the relevant Directive and the toys must now be compliant with the new Directive. There is a new BS standard BS EN 71 -1 that provides detail on the new Directive. For further information please visit [www.bsi-global.com](http://www.bsi-global.com)

### New Standard for Protective Clothing

The new standard *ISO 27065:2011, protective clothing – Performance requirements for protective clothing worn by operators applying liquid pesticides* should help garment manufacturers produce, certify and sell protective clothing that will keep farmers and agricultural workers applying pesticides safely.

Chair of the committee that developed the standard, Helmut Eichinger, said "ISO 27065:2011 will help pesticide users to be better protected and improve quality and performances of protective clothing, as well as put safer protective clothing on the

market. It will also contribute to reducing the risk to occupational health for operators and workers who use liquid pesticides". Further information can be obtained from [www.iso.ch](http://www.iso.ch)

### Reduction in Red Tape in the UK

The UK Business Secretary, Vince Cable, recently announced the first results from the 'Red Tape Challenge' to simplify and reduce the amount of legislation burdening firms. There are now plans to scrap or simplify more than 160 regulations.

Vince Cable said: "We have to roll back the number of rules and regulations that our businesses have to deal with if we are to create the right conditions for sustainable economic growth. We have heard these promises by successive Governments before, but these first proposals from the Red Tape Challenge show that we're serious about doing that and we are making real progress. But this is just the start. We still need the help of business and the public to make the rest of the Red Tape Challenge a success and free businesses to compete, create jobs and unleash a private sector-led recovery".

The UK Government have now announced the following proposals to:

- replace or simplify more than 12 pieces of overlapping, costly and confusing consumer rights law, with a single new piece of legislation;
- remove a number of burdens specifically identified by retailers including consolidating and simplifying the procedures for age verification or identification for the selling of age-restricted goods; simplify the ineffective and burdensome poisons licensing system for low risk products such as fly spray and toilet cleaner; remove the requirement on retailers to notify TV Licensing about TV sales; and removing and simplifying a range of rules on transport products such as tyres and catalytic converters;
- promote greater personal freedom and responsibility by getting rid of symbolic cases of heavy handed intervention, such as requiring a shop selling liqueur



- chocolates to have an alcohol licence, and by lowering the age for buying harmless Christmas crackers; and
- prevent business confusion, and cutting down the dead weight of the statute book, by removing redundant legislation, such as the antiquated Trading with the Enemy Act and its 98 linked regulations and rules around the safety of pencils, prams and hood cords where consumers are already protected by other legislation.

For further information, contact the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

### **National Measurement System**

The National Measure System: Strategy Document 2011 – 2015 was recently released. The UK Government supports this system that aims to meet the changing needs of business and society.

David Willetts, Minister for Universities and Science said:

“The National Measurement System strategy will pave the way for the continued development of our world leading measurement infrastructure by giving UK businesses confidence in the quality of measurement standards and stimulating innovation in new measurement techniques.

Measurement processes are at the heart of British science and engineering and the UK can be proud of the advances made over the centuries. This tradition continues today in our established measurement infrastructure that underpins economic growth, business enterprise, commercial transactions and consumer confidence.

Through the strategy, the national investment in measurement science will be exploited to the benefit of UK business to generate new knowledge, and promote growth and innovation.

The strategy will guide the Government’s measurement infrastructure, encompassing

the leadership of the National Measurement Office and the excellent research facilities at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), The Laboratory of the Government Chemist (LGC) and NEL.

The strategy is available on the National Measurement Office website [www.bis.gov.uk/nmo](http://www.bis.gov.uk/nmo).

### **Climate Change Impacts**

A recent report from the UK Government’s futures think tank, Foresight, highlighted how climate change impacts from abroad could affect the UK more than climate change at home. Risks identified include: increases in international instability caused by sea level rises, water shortages and extreme weather events. The extreme weather events could also disrupt communications networks and data centres. The financial and business sectors may be underestimating these risks and so assets may be insufficiently insured or protected.

The Government’s Chief Scientific Adviser, Professor Sir John Beddington, said: “Our world is getting warmer, and the UK’s extensive international economic, political and cultural ties mean that the UK is at increasing risk from impacts of climate change overseas. The UK must not respond by becoming insular but instead broaden its international reach to tackle climate change. This report is designed to help Government consider how these impacts will be felt here in the UK so we can better prepare and adapt for the future.”

The project is co-sponsored by DEFRA and DECC, and the FCO who will use the report to inform their wider international agenda on climate change.

The report can be downloaded from [www.bis.gov.uk/foresight](http://www.bis.gov.uk/foresight)