

An introduction to ISO 14001 and BS 8901

BS EN ISO 14001:1996 - Environmental Management

ISO 14001 specifies the actual requirements for an environmental management system. It applies to those environmental aspects that an organisation has control of and over which it can be expected to have an influence.

ISO 14001 is often seen as the corner stone standard of the ISO 14000 series. However, it is not only the most well known, but is the only ISO 14000 standard against which it is currently possible to be certified by an external certification authority. Having stated this, it does not itself state specific environmental performance criteria.

This standard is applicable to any organization that wishes to:

- Implement, maintain and improve an environmental management system.
- Assure itself of its conformance with its own stated environmental policy.
- Demonstrate conformance.
- Ensure compliance with environmental laws and regulations.
- Seek certification of its environmental management system by an external third party organisation.
- Make a self-determination of conformance.

BS 8901:2007 - Sustainable Event Management

BS 8901 provides requirements for planning and managing sustainable events of all sizes and types.

BS 8901 encompasses the entire range of events ranging from large-scale conferences and unique events such as the 2012 Olympics to music festivals and air shows.

The standard is applicable throughout the sector supply chain encompassing venues, organising companies and industry contracting firms and is aimed at the following groups:

- Event organisers.
- Venues.
- Organisations and/or individuals in the supply chain.

BS 8901 provides guidance in the form of easy to understand practical information designed to assist the user to implement the requirements and those in event management to manage their environmental, financial and social risks and impacts spanning all aspects of event management.

BS 8901 will:

- Help companies to improve sustainable performance within available budgets.
- Reduce carbon emissions and waste, improving the resource efficiency of the entire event supply chain.
- Present opportunities for more efficient planning and encourage the re-use of equipment and infrastructure.
- Reduce environmental impacts such as carbon usage, waste management and effects on biodiversity.
- Improve social impacts such as community involvement and fair employment.
- Establish economic impacts such as local investment and long-term viability.

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