

ISO 14001:2015 Gap Analysis

Proactively improve environmental performance

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This assessor delivered activity enables you to focus on critical, high risk or weak areas of your environmental management system (EMS) prior to your formal assessment or transition visit.

Whether you are in the early stages of implementing your ISO 14001 management system or are looking for a 'dry run', you decide the scope.

What is a gap analysis?

An LRQA gap analysis assessment examines and reports on your EMS readiness for migration or assessment to ISO 14001:2015. It focuses on how your management system has addressed or plans to address, the changes introduced within of ISO 14001:2015.

Based upon the findings, your assessor will advise whether your organisation is ready for assessment or indicates areas requiring further attention.

The gap analysis assessment will provide an opportunity for you to discuss any concerns you may have regarding your environmental management system or the assessment process.

Our assessors will be open and helpful, and will follow a practical approach. We will add value to your assessment process beyond straightforward compliance.

What happens during the gap analysis?

During the gap analysis your assessor will ask you about your understanding of the ISO 14001 requirements and how you plan to implement them into your management system, to ensure your compliance.

It is helpful for your assessor to be accompanied by a representative from your organisation who understands your environmental management system.

Your representative can clarify any points raised and note any areas of weakness.

By identifying any weaknesses in your environmental management system, your assessor will estimate a realistic timescale for your assessment. You will receive documented commentary that will enable you to plan your next steps. Any gaps, especially where the response is 'partial' or 'unlikely', are clearly identified and your assessor will discuss how these gaps may be addressed in order to demonstrate compliance.

The gap analysis is not a full assessment against the standard requirements and does not contribute towards ISO 14001:2015 certification. A certificate will not be issued

Preparing for a gap analysis

In advance of the gap analysis visit, you should familiarise yourself with the new and changed requirements, including the definitions and appendices of ISO 14001:2015.

What are the benefits of ISO 14001 certification?

The standard follows the Annex SL structure, because of which organisations will need to adopt a strategic approach to ISO 14001:2015. Other benefits include:

- Environmental legislation compliance by providing a systematic approach for meeting current, and identifying future, legislation
- Increased credibility over non-certified businesses when invited to tender
- Environmental risk management and proof of continual improvement against specific targets
- Cost reduction through efficient use of raw materials and enhanced performance.

How we can help

At LRQA, we take time to understand the needs and unique circumstances of our clients and their businesses, to act with judgement, sensitivity and care.

Assessment

We specialise in management systems compliance including gap analysis, assessment and certification, all underpinned with expert advice designed to meet the needs of your industry. We explore every problem thoroughly with exact, analytical precision.

Certification/Transition

Certification is typically a two stage process and transition a single stage process, consisting of a system appraisal and an initial assessment, the duration of which is dependent on the size and nature of your organisation.

Training

We provide practical client training courses, led by trained and qualified tutors. Many of our courses are endorsed by relevant professional bodies and based on our experience of assessing management systems. We offer both public and in-house training services including customised training solutions.

Impartiality

We maintain our impartiality by proactively managing conflicts of interest across all LRQA businesses including those which may exist between consultancy and third-party certification services.

Why choose LRQA?

We're here to help negotiate a rapidly changing world, by working with you to manage and mitigate the risks you face. From compliance to data-driven supply chain transformation, it's our job to help you shape the future, rather than letting it shape you. We do this by delivering:

Strategic vision

Our technical know-how, sector expertise and innovative, forward-thinking approach will help you meet the challenges of today – and become a safer, more secure, and sustainable organisation tomorrow.

Technical expertise

Our people are sector experts. They bring with them a clear understanding of your specific challenges, standards and requirements – then deploy deep knowledge of certification, brand assurance, food safety, cybersecurity, inspection and training to help you meet them.

Global capability

Operating in more than 120 countries, recognised by over 30 accreditation bodies worldwide, and covering almost every sector, we can help you manage risk, drive improvement and build credibility with stakeholders around the globe.

Effective partnership

Every business is unique. That's why our experts work with you, to fully understand your needs and goals, and work out how we can best support them.

Fresh perspective

We have led the way in shaping our industry and continue to take every opportunity to collaborate with clients and pioneer new ideas, services and innovation.

Get in touch

Visit www.lrqa.com/uk for more information
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