

Environmental Management System Audits



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AUDITS (4.5.4)

Environmental Management System Audits (cont.)



Section 4.5.4 of the standard contains the requirements for audits of the environmental management system.

Environmental Management System Audits (cont.)



The basic issue that needs to be addressed in the EMS audit section is

HOW DOES THE ORGANIZATION
CONDUCT ENVIRONMENTAL
AUDITS OF THE EMS?

Environmental Management System Audits (cont.)



Four specific issues must be addressed:

1. Organization must develop a program and procedures that define the audit plan, including frequency.
2. Procedures must define methodology and qualifications of auditors.
3. Requirement that audit reports be submitted to top management.

Environmental Management System Audits (cont.)



Four specific issues must be addressed: (cont.)

4. Audit reports must contain recommendations for correcting any nonconformance discovered.

Environmental Management System Audits (cont.)



Frequency of audits:

1. Mature systems -- once a year,
2. Implementation phase -- more frequent, and
3. Nonconformance areas -- more frequent.

Environmental Management System Audits (cont.)



Methodology requirements:

1. Determine conformance with requirements of ISO 14001, and
2. That the EMS has been managed as described in the Environmental Policy statement, the Environmental Objectives and Targets, and related work descriptions and procedures.