



ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS (4.3.3)

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



Environmental Objectives are essentially the “goals” that are established to meet the “vision” statement of the organization.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



The “vision” statement of the organization is its Environmental Policy statement.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



Once these “goals” have been established detailed workplans and schedules need to be established to arrive at the “goals”. The detailed workplans and schedules are known as the Environmental Targets.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



ISO 14001 requires that Environmental Objectives and Targets be quantitative rather than qualitative. In addition every level of the organization must be examined for inclusion in the Environmental Targets.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



ISO 14001 also requires that the Environmental Objectives and Targets be documented.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



There are four distinct content requirements for the development of the Environmental Objectives and Targets:

1. Organization must consider the material developed in the Legal and Other Requirements (4.3.2) section.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



four...content requirements... (cont.)

2. The organization must utilize the list of significant environmental aspects previously developed.

3. The organization must evaluate the prevention of pollution commitment include in the Environmental Policy statement.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



four...content requirements... (cont.)

4. The organization must ensure that the views of interested parties are considered in the process of developing the Environmental Objectives.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



Legal and Other Requirements

A reasonable approach here might be to develop an objective for all the applicable environmental laws and regulations and their corresponding requirements. Once compliance with a certain requirement is obtained the associated target could be set to a maintenance level of activity.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



Significant Environmental Aspects

The organization must evaluate every significant environmental aspect for inclusion as an Environmental Objective. If a significant environmental aspect is not carried forward into an objective the organization must provide a plausible and rational explanation.

Technology or Financial Limitations

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



Prevention of Pollution

An organization must evaluate the application of prevention of pollution techniques in the development of Environmental Targets. If the prevention of pollution approaches evaluated are not cost effective they do not need to be employed in a specific case.

Environmental Objectives and Targets (cont.)



Interested Parties

The organization will need to develop and maintain a process for accepting, evaluating and addressing outside comments.