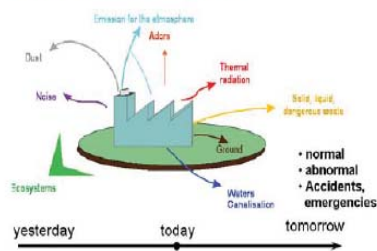




Managementsystems

Environmental Management Systems

Environmental impacts



Objective

Environmental management systems (EMS) are designed to improve environmental performance in companies. This improvement can be implemented in various areas:

Site-related environmental management in accordance with ISO 14001 and EMAS V, optimisation of environment-related operational processes (production processes, waste, energy and sewage management, ecological procurement, legal compliance); Product-related environmental management in accordance with ISO 14041, optimisation of product development activities (ecodesign, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), reduction of the environmental impacts of products).

Background

Intensive involvement of all departments and levels of the organisation boosts awareness of the importance of environmental management. It must become clear in which areas and to what extent the environmental management system is or can be relevant to business.

Projects over the past 8 years show that environmental aspects not taken into account can result in significant losses in business. Consider:

- The average material loss even in good processes (see also material flow cost accounting)
- The costs of a minor oil spill that could have been avoided
- The reaction of drivers to the Greenpeace campaign against Shell (30% drop in turnover in Germany) as a reaction to pre-sustainable environmental harmful actions.

Benefits

- Legal security
- Early detection of environmental problems
- Risk minimisation
- Control of processes
- Cost savings
- Image upgrading
- Reliability in the eyes of neighbours, local authorities and NGOs
- Transparency in the organisational structure, clear responsibilities
- Employee motivation
- Preventive employee protection
- Reduction in insurance premiums
- Meeting Best Available Technology standards

References

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- Wiener Lokalbahnen
- ÖBB Infrastruktur
- Sattler AG
- Josef Manner & Comp. AG
- EVN AG
- SCA Laakirchen
- Austrian Aerospace
- OMV Proterra
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- Steirerobst
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- Lenzing AG
- Borealis