

EHS MANAGEMENT

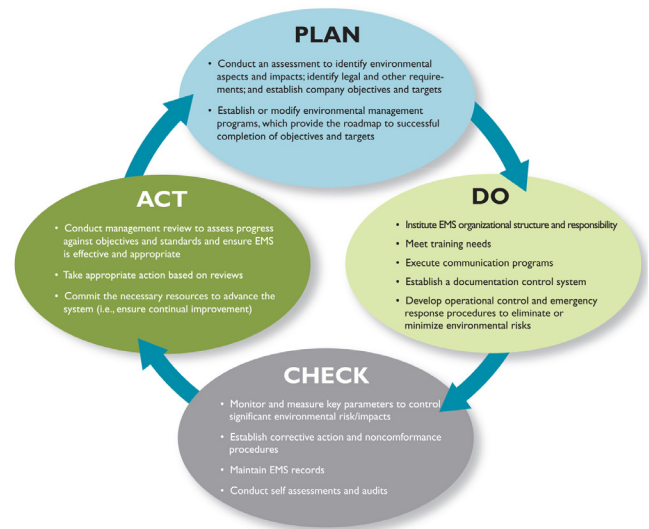
Environmental Management System Services



A Systematic Approach to Environmental Management

An environmental management system (EMS) is a set of systematic processes and practices that enable an organization to effectively manage its interactions with the environment. An EMS that is well conceived and implemented can provide many benefits to an organization, including:

- ▶ Enhancing compliance with regulatory requirements
- ▶ Minimizing environmental risks and liabilities
- ▶ Improving confidence among regulators
- ▶ Improving corporate image
- ▶ Meeting customer demands
- ▶ Achieving competitive advantages (resulting from reduced energy usage and raw material consumption, increased pollution prevention, decreased production losses, etc.)



There are several recognized EMS standards that an organization can use as a model when developing an EMS. Most standards follow the “Plan-Do-Check-Act Model.”

Common EMS Standards

The most widely recognized EMS standard is ISO 14001. ISO 14001, created by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is a standard designed to produce globally accepted systems for environmental management. Adherence to the ISO 14001 standard ensures that the EMS succeeds in identifying the facility’s impacts on the environment and minimizing these impacts when feasible. The standard contains specific requirements, but remains flexible enough that companies can integrate their own business goals. Companies may become certified to the requirements of ISO 14001 through a third-party registration process.

While the automotive industry was among the first in the U.S. to embrace ISO 14001 certification, companies involved in the manufacturing of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, wood products, semiconductors, and other products have also embraced ISO 14001 for its economic, environmental, and community relations benefits.

An outgrowth of the ISO 14001 program, the American Chemistry Council’s Responsible Care® 14001 (RC 14001) initiative merges elements of the Council’s Responsible Care® program with ISO 14001. Through RC 14001, companies can certify the quality of their EMS and related management systems covering health, safety, and security.



Another route by which an organization can certify the quality of its health and safety management system is to adhere to the OHSAS 18001 standard. The OHSAS 18001 standard has a structure similar to ISO 14001, but it is designed to manage health and safety risks as opposed to environmental aspects and impacts.

Facilities in the U.S. that implement an EMS may become recognized by EPA, by applying for membership in EPA's Performance Track. Performance Track requirements include implementation of a Plan-Do-Check-Act management system, along with meeting specific performance goals chosen by the facility.

In lieu of an external standard, companies may design their own EMS standard in order to focus on industry, organizational, and/or site-specific issues of concern such as compliance, integration with existing (non-environmental) systems or change management. Custom standards are often created at the corporate level and generally follow the Plan-Do-Check-Act model.

EMS Support

With significant expertise in relevant regulatory issues and effective management systems, Trinity assists industrial clients with the following future EMS implementation services.

Gap Analysis - A gap analysis compares an organization's existing systems with the requirements of the selected EMS standard in order to identify areas of nonconformance, or gaps. The work plan that results from the gap analysis can be used as a roadmap for EMS implementation efforts.

Management System Planning - During this critical stage, Trinity helps identify site environmental risks (aspects and impacts), develop a risk prioritization scheme for determining significance, and set site objectives and targets.

Document Development - Many companies elect to develop an EMS manual with associated procedures, work instructions, and forms to "institutionalize" the EMS and provide a guideline for consistent performance. Trinity is experienced in developing these documents and can provide templates that jump-start the process.

On-Site Custom Assistance - Trinity can provide a variety of customized services, including training, pre-registration readiness assessments for standards, and on-site assistance during registration audits. Our experience with many EMS projects enables us to advise on best practices that enhance system quality.

Follow-up Care - Trinity can perform internal audits of an EMS to evaluate the system against corporate objectives and can advise on system maintenance and improvements.

Compliance Auditing - Auditing to evaluate compliance with relevant regulations is an important component of an EMS due to potential liability issues. Trinity can develop a protocol for compliance auditing and assess site regulatory compliance.

Enterprise-Wide Assistance - Trinity can assist corporate staff in the unique challenges associated with planning and implementing an enterprise-wide EMS. Trinity assists with custom EMS standard development, best-in-class system roll-out and communication procedures, training, and the development of implementation toolkit and guidance materials.

Information Management Assistance - Organizations that implement an EMS often find it prudent to use an Environmental Management Information System (EMIS) to enhance the efficiency of managing environmental issues. Digital Solutions, a division of Trinity Consultants, has extensive experience in a wide-range of EMIS solutions including third-party software implementation, and custom solution development for collecting and managing field data. Digital Solutions staff work hand-in-hand with Trinity's EMS experts to determine the best approach for each client's unique information management needs.

Why Choose Trinity

For over 45 years, Trinity has assisted facilities nationwide with environmental compliance issues. This experience, combined with the knowledge of Trinity's management system experts, ensures a successful EMS implementation for our clients. Trinity's staff includes both ISO 14001 and RC 14001-trained auditors.

For more information about how Trinity can help your organization implement an effective EMS and/or prepare for certification with ISO 14001 or another management system standard, please contact Rich Pandullo, Trinity's Director of Sustainability and Environmental Management, at 919.544.7811.

ISO 9001:2015 certified at our corporate office in Dallas, Texas