MAURITIAN STANDARD

MS ISO 14031:2013

Second edition
2013-12-21

PREVIEW

Environmental management — Environmental performance evaluation - Guidelines

ICS 13.020.10

Mauritius Standards Bureau
Moka

Gr 16

© MSB 2013

National foreword

This Mauritian Standard is identical with the International Standard **ISO 14031:2013** *Environmental management- Environmental performance evaluation - Guidelines*. It was adopted by the Mauritius Standards Bureau in 2013 on the recommendation of the **Environmental Management Standards Committee** and approval of the **Standards Council** on 30 October 2013. It was notified in the Government Gazette on **21 December 2013**.*

For the purposes of this standard the following change should be made:

the words 'International Standard' should be read as 'Mauritian Standard'.

This Mauritian Standard cancels and replaces the Mauritian Standard MS ISO 14031:1999 which has been technically revised.

*** General Notice No. 2939 of 2013**

PREVIEW

COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© MSB 2013

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, or posting on the internet or an intranet without permission in writing from Mauritius Standards Bureau at the address below

Mauritius Standards Bureau
Villa Road
Moka
Mauritius

Telephone *+ (230) 433 3648*
Fax *+ (230) 433 5051/ 433 5150*
E-mail *msb@intnet.mu*
Website *http://msb.intnet.mu*

 © MSB 2013 – All rights reserved

Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **iv**
Introduction ..... **v**
1 Scope **1**
2 Normative references **1**
3 Terms and definitions **1**
4 Environmental performance evaluation **3**
4.1 General overview 3
4.2 Planning EPE (Plan) 8
4.3 Using data and information (Do) 15
4.4 Reviewing and improving EPE (Act) 20
Annex A (informative) **Supplemental guidance on EPE** **22**
Bibliography **37**

PREVIEW

© ISO 2013 – All rights reserved

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. www.iso.org/directives

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received. www.iso.org/patents

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC4, *Environmental performance evaluation*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14031:1999), which has been technically revised.

PREVIEW

 © ISO 2013 – All rights reserved

Introduction

Many organizations seek ways to understand, demonstrate and improve their environmental performance. This can be achieved by effectively managing those elements of their activities, products and services that can significantly impact the environment.

This International Standard sets out a process called environmental performance evaluation (EPE) (see 3.10) which enables organizations to measure, evaluate and communicate their environmental performance using key performance indicators (KPIs), based on reliable and verifiable information.

EPE is equally applicable to small and large enterprises and can be used to support an environmental management system (EMS) (see 3.7), or used independently. An organization with an EMS in place can assess its environmental performance against its environmental policy, objectives, targets and other environmental performance objectives.

Data and information generated by EPE can be used by an organization to implement other environmental management tools and techniques in a coherent, transparent and cost effective way, e.g. other standards developed by ISO/TC 207 such as those relating to environmental management systems (ISO 14001, ISO 14004, ISO 14005, ISO 14006), to environmental declarations (ISO 14025), to environmental labelling (ISO 14024) and to life cycle assessment (ISO 14040, ISO 14044). A full list is given in the Bibliography. This International Standard can also be used independently.

Environmental performance evaluation and environmental audits are complementary tools that can be used to assess environmental performance and identify areas for improvement. The key aspects (and differences) of these tools are the following:

— EPE is an ongoing process of collection and assessment of data and information to provide a current evaluation of performance, as well as performance trends over time;

— environmental audits can be used to gather such data and information, either as part of EPE, or as part of an environmental management system, to verify whether objectives and targets are being met;

— environmental management system audits are conducted periodically to verify conformity with specifications and compliance with legal and other requirements (guidance on auditing an EMS is provided in ISO 19011).

PREVIEW

© ISO 2013 – All rights reserved

PREVIEW

Environmental management — Environmental performance evaluation — Guidelines

1 Scope

This International Standard gives guidance on the design and use of environmental performance evaluation (EPE) within an organization. It is applicable to all organizations, regardless of type, size, location and complexity.

This International Standard does not establish environmental performance levels.

The guidance in this International Standard can be used to support an organization's own approach to EPE, including its commitments to compliance with legal and other requirements, the prevention of pollution, and continual improvement.

NOTE This International Standard is a generic standard and does not include guidance on specific methods for valuing or weighting different kinds of impacts in different kinds of sectors, disciplines, etc. Depending on the nature of the organization's activities, it is often necessary to refer to other sources for additional information and guidance on sector-specific topics, different subject matters, or different scientific disciplines.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1
benchmark
reference point against which comparisons can be made

Note 1 to entry: Benchmarking is the process for making a comparison.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 29155-1:2011, 2.1, modified]

3.2
combined indicator
indicator which includes information on more than one aspect

Note 1 to entry: A combined indicator may also be referred to as a composite indicator.

3.3
environment
surroundings in which an organization operates, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans, and their interrelation

Note 1 to entry: Surroundings in this context extend from within an organization to the global system.

[SOURCE: ISO 14001:2004, 3.5]

3.4
environmental aspect
element of an organization's activities or products or services that can interact with the environment

Note 1 to entry: A significant environmental aspect has or can have a significant environmental impact.

PREVIEW

© ISO 2013 – All rights reserved