Transfer of ISO 14001 Certification between UKAS accredited Certification Bodies

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CIBSE Certification

Transfer of ISO 14001 Certification between UKAS accredited Certification Bodies

- CIBSE Certification as a Certification Body

- The Significance of UKAS Accreditation

- The Transfer Route

- So, why CIBSE Certification

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CIBSE Certification as a Certification Body

- CIBSE Certification is a wholly owned subsidiary of CIBSE. It was set up in 2007 to provide demonstrably independent assessment of competence of individuals to satisfy Government requirements for regulatory purposes. Examples of this include EPC and DEC Assessors.

- The business also operates non regulatory certification schemes such as the Low Carbon Consultants Registers and the Heat Networks Consultant Register.

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CIBSE Certification as a Certification Body

- The business has expanded as other Government initiatives requiring energy expertise have developed. The most recent being the ESOS Lead Assessor Register and LCC EnMS Register.

- These schemes are operated in conformity with ISO 17024 and the original registers are UKAS accredited as conforming with this Standard.

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ISO 17021 - Certification of Management Systems

- CIBSE Certification, building on their relationship with UKAS applied for ISO 17021 to Certify Energy Management Systems (ISO 50001) which was achieved in 2015.

- ISO 9001 was achieved in 2018 and ISO 14001 earlier this year.

- An ISO 45001 application has been made and we expect to have a decision on ISO 45001 in 2022.

- The aim is to be able to provide certification of integrated management systems, where organisations operating more than one system have integrated them for efficiency.
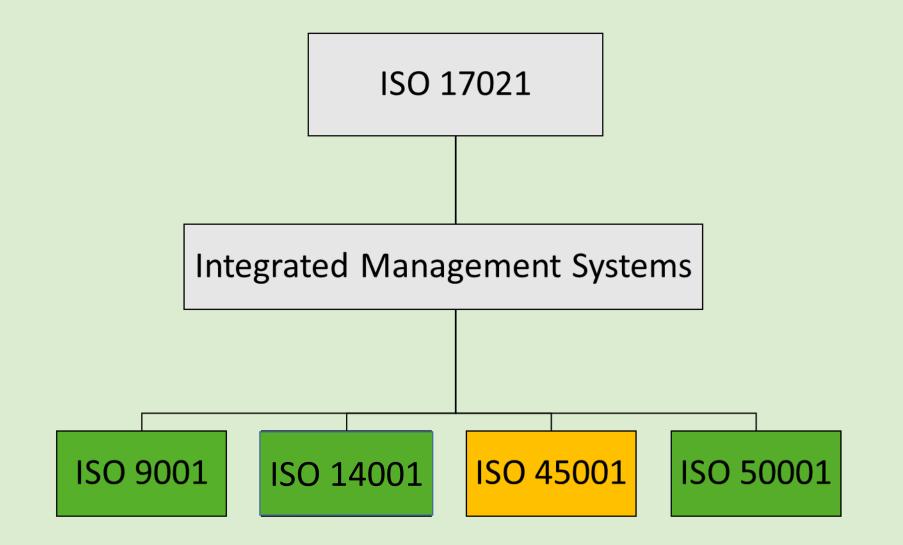
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Integrated Management System Structure

Why 14001?

- "Achieving a balance between the environment, society and the economy is considered essential to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs".

- This is taken from the introduction to the Standard but can be traced back to the introduction of the Brundtland Report published by the United Nations in 1987.

- Since then organisations have come under increasing pressure to acknowledge/become more aware of the need to respond to this challenge

- ISO 14001 sets out a management system broadly in line with this aim, written by an international team of experts. To paraphrase BSI, International Standards represent what good looks like

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BS EN ISO 14001:2015

BSI Standards Publication

Environmental management systems — Requirements with guidance for use

bsi.

...making excellence a habit.™

BS EN ISO 14001:2015

BSI Standards Publication

Environmental management systems — Requirements with guidance for use

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UKAS Accreditation

When operating a management system an organisation can communicate this to interested parties by:

- making an evaluation and self-declaration

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UKAS Accreditation

When operating a management system an organisation can communicate this to interested parties by:

- making an evaluation and self-declaration, or

- seeking confirmation of its conformance or self-declaration by interested parties, such as customers, or

- seeking certification/registration of its Management System by an external organisation, a Certification Body such as CIBSE Certification

UKAS Accreditation

- For the highest level of confidence, UKAS Accreditation is often required by suppliers and usually by Government agencies seeking certification/registration of a Management System by an external organisation that has in turn been accredited by UKAS, a Certification Body such as CIBSE Certification

- This accreditation reduces risk for business and its customers by assuring them that accredited Certification Bodies are competent to carry out the certification work they undertake within their scope of accreditation

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UKAS Accreditation

- In fact , the UK government guidance on accreditation and conformity assessment states that: *"the only 'authoritative statement' of competence, that has public authority status – providing the last level of control in the conformity assessment chain is from the UK's national accreditation body, UKAS."*

- Further detail on this can be found at: https://www.abcb.org.uk/accredited-and-non-accredited-certification/

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Non-accredited Certification?

- On first inspection, non-accredited Certification Bodies offer the same service as an accredited Certification Body but without the added confidence that UKAS oversight provides.

- In practice, unchecked by a third party, many non-accredited Certification Bodies help their customers to implement systems, providing all of the necessary documentation for the client to customise before issuing a certificate of conformity.

- This is fine as it helps the organisation to implement a system in much the same way as a consultant would. The difference is that the consultant would not then certify their own work.

- This is the risk associated with non - accredited Certification Bodies, diminished confidence in the Certification System.

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Non – accredited Certification?

- How do you tell whether you are dealing with a UKAS backed Body?
- Check on the UKAS website - https://www.ukas.com/

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Non – accredited Certification?

- How do you tell whether you are dealing with a UKAS backed Body?

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Non – accredited Certification?

- How do you tell whether you are dealing with a UKAS backed Body?

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- The UKAS logo has a distinctive tick. Several Non – accredited certification bodies have a logo that includes a tick

Non – accredited Certification?

- How do you tell whether you are dealing with a UKAS backed Body?

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- If you are asked for number of employees you are probably dealing with a UKAS backed Body, if you are asked for turnover you are not

Transfer Route

- This is **only** available to holders of a UKAS accredited Certificate, (or other IAF affiliated National Accreditation Body).

- The transfer of certification is defined as the recognition of an existing and valid management system certificate, granted by one accredited certification body, by another accredited certification body for the purpose of issuing its own certification.

- If you hold a non-UKAS accredited certificate you can apply to a UKAS accredited Certification Body for certification, but your current certificate will have no bearing on your application. You will be considered a new client.

- This acknowledges the confidence that is achieved through UKAS accredited certification.

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Transfer Route

- The guidance on transfer is published by the International Accreditation Forum, Mandatory Document MD2 2017

- A pre-transfer review of the transferring client will be conducted by the accepting certification body. This review will involve a documentation review and where identified as needed by this review, for example there are outstanding major nonconformities, there will be a pre-transfer visit to the transferring client to confirm the validity of the certification. This visit is not an audit.

Transfer Route

- The review will cover the following aspects as a minimum;

  - confirmation that the client's certification falls within the accredited scope of the issuing and accepting certification body and that the issuing certification body's accredited scope falls within its accreditation body's scope;

  - the reasons for seeking a transfer;

  - that the site or sites wishing to transfer certification hold a valid accredited certification;

  - the initial certification or most recent recertification audit reports, and the latest surveillance report; the status of all outstanding nonconformities that may arise from them and any other available, relevant documentation regarding the certification process. (If these audit reports are not made available or if the surveillance audit or recertification audit has not been completed as required by the issuing certification body's audit programme, then the organisation shall be treated as a new client);

  - complaints received and action taken;

  - considerations relevant to establishing an audit plan and an audit programme. The audit programme established by the issuing certification body should be reviewed if available;

  - any current engagement by the transferring client with regulatory bodies relevant to the scope of the certification in respect of legal compliance.

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Transfer Route

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Transfer Route

- If no problems are identified by the pre-transfer review, the certification cycle shall be based on the previous certification cycle and the accepting certification body shall establish the audit programme for the remainder of the certification cycle.

- The accepting certification body can quote the organisation's initial certification date on the certification documents with the indication that the organisation was certified by a different certification body before a certain date.

- Where the accepting certification body has had to treat the client as a new client as a result of the pre-transfer review, the certification cycle shall begin with the certification decision.

So – Why CIBSE Certification?

- The initial reason for obtaining ISO 9001 and then ISO 14001 accreditation was as part of the plan to be able to offer Integrated Management System Certification for customers that came to us in the first instance for ISO 50001 Certification

- However, a certain serendipity became apparent when talking to other companies about our plans. I have become aware of a sentiment expressed, along the following lines…..

- "ISO 9001/14001 audits are a problem as auditors often don't understand the building services engineering industry".

- So – You have a 9001 certificate from a UKAS accredited Certification Body but you wish they knew your industry better. If only there was a UKAS accredited Certification Body operating in the Building Services Engineering Sector……

- Download your application form from https://www.cibsecertification.co.uk/Certification/Management-Systems-Certification/Transfer-Your-Certification

So to summarise – To Transfer Certification

- There are no up front costs
- There are no additional audits
- On acceptance of our quotation we issue a new certificate
- We take over the existing audit cycle

- And, importantly – You can do this at any time in the certification cycle.

- Download your application form from https://www.cibsecertification.co.uk/Certification/Management-Systems-Certification/Transfer-Your-Certification

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Any Questions?

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