SUSTAINABILITY ESSENTIALS

No. 2 – ISO 14001 and ISO 50001

What are ISO standards?

ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) is an independent body whose members are experts in their field who want to share their knowledge and develop standards to help solve the world's challenges.

ISO are globally recognised standards, which set the benchmark for consistency and reliability across a range of different sectors.

What is ISO 14001?

ISO 14001 is the internationally recognised standard for environmental management. Becoming certified to ISO 14001 standard demonstrates that an organisation is continually working to reduce its impact upon the environment.

The University of Reading has been ISO 14001 certified since 2014, demonstrating our strong regulatory compliance, desire to continually improve and manage our resources as efficiently as possible.

What does ISO 50001 cover?

ISO 50001 is the internationally recognised standard for running an efficient energy management system. This shows that an organisation is taking a systematic approach to continually improve energy performance, use and consumption.

The University of Reading has been certified to ISO 50001 since 2015 and we operate a joint Energy and Environmental Management System (EEMS). We are regularly audited internally and externally to ensure compliance with the ISO standards. Sustainability Essentials 1 provides an overview of the auditing process.

How often are ISO standards reviewed?

Most ISO standards are reviewed every 5 years. The review cycle ensures that the standards remain relevant and useful. This process has seen the scope of ISO 14001 move from being risk orientated to now focusing on a more holistic approach embedding environmental management into an organisation's strategy.

Did you know?

ISO 14001 and 50001 certification can be essential for successful tendering and improves our sustainability credentials.

Visit Environmental and Energy Management System page to find out more about our EEMS.

Visit our Policies, Strategies and Reports page.

Certificate Number: 21871-EMS-001

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