

Risk Management as a Catalyst for Integrated Management Systems

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Abstract

The continual increase of the competition on the market leads to the need of organisations to achieve and maintain compliance to standards such ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 27001, ISO 22000 a.s.o. Having an effective and efficient management system is now more important than ever. That means improving information flow, and the level of knowledge in the organisation, with the same or even less administration effort. An organization can get a highest return on investment if will take advantage from the similarities between these standards, by integrating them into a single one system. There are very common processes involved so it is more reasonable to direct the effort towards developing one Integrated Management System, in order to facilitate the documentation and operation control and save money and time. More over, the Integrated Management System it is the first step to sustainable development of the organization, the future of business performance. One more reason to look in an integrated way the management systems is that these systems have a common goal: Risk Management. Risk Management, in general, is a process aiming at an efficient balance between realizing opportunities for gains while minimizing vulnerabilities and losses. It is an integral part of management practice. ISO 9001 helps management develop good products with minimal quality RISKS, ISO 14001 includes environmental RISK management and OHSAS is dealing with OH&S RISKS a.s.o. The nature of risks is different but the way to manage the risks is similar. The paper will examine the fields of risk management in relation with integrated management system and will try to answer to the following question: how risk management and integrated management system interferes each other, how risk management improves the integrated management system and vice-versa.

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