

ISO 50001: ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EnMS)

ISO 50001 Energy Management System is an international standard created by the International Organization for Standardization). The standard specifies the requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and improving an energy management system, whose purpose is to enable an organization to follow a systematic approach in achieving continual improvement of energy performance, including energy efficiency, energy security, energy use and consumption. The standard aims to help organizations continually reduce their energy use, and therefore their energy costs and their greenhouse gas emissions. The system is modelled after the ISO 9001 and the ISO 14001 Environment Management System (EMS) and the 2018.

The structure of ISO 50001 is designed according to other ISO management system standards, in particular ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems) and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems). Since all three management systems standards are based on the PDCA cycle, and now share the same high level structure, ISO 50001 can be integrated easily to these systems. This is called Integrated Management System (IMS).

UKAS, the certification bodies' accreditation scheme in UK, accredits certification bodies to carry out certification of business energy management systems to ISO 50001. In July 2018, there were 15 UK bodies with the necessary accreditation to carry out independent audits and issue Energy Management Systems Certification to ISO 50001.

If energy is an organization's most significant environmental impact, ISO 50001 might be more appropriate than ISO 14001. Many organizations will manage energy successfully via ISO 14001, but especially in organizations where energy is a significant cost, ISO 50001 provides a more specific framework that enables organizations to apply a sharper focus to energy efficiency.

Some industries that may especially benefit from ISO 50001 certification are manufacturing, hotels, theater, and airports. In fact, the International Energy Agency has stated that the “manufacturing industry can improve its energy efficiency by an impressive 18 to 26%”.