
Eco-Smart Consultancy 'Think Green' Quarterly Newsletter May 2010

The 2nd Issue of 'Think Green', [Eco-Smart Consultancy](#) starts by looking at the different environmental challenges faced in today's ever changing world and how businesses are looking to adapt.

Why are companies looking to attain ISO 14001?



"Environmental balancing act."

As mentioned in the previous issue of 'Think Green', one of the fastest growing

sectors in the business world is the Environmental sector. Large and small organisations are looking to show their green credentials by attaining ISO 14001 but why?

There are four main drivers:-

- 1) Green/sustainability issues.
- 2) Tender approval process.
- 3) Customer perception.
- 4) Cost savings.

However organisations are turning the priorities around and green/sustainability issues are now at the bottom of the pile.

By implementing ISO 14001 to your business, Eco-Smart Consultancy look to solve all these issues by helping businesses not only gain accreditation and the obvious customer perception and tender process benefits but also deliver **significant savings** via [waste minimisation](#) and energy saving programmes.

We understand in the current economic climate **"It's a balancing act"** and organisations are looking to cut costs first and foremost. It has to be said; whatever the motives a by-product of ISO 14001 is that environmentally the world is a better place.

Free ISO 14001 Assessment.



If you are juggling your environmental issues.

Eco-Smart Consultancy now offers a [FREE 2 hour ISO 14001](#) assessment of your site and free training advice for companies. This

will include producing a quote outlining the true cost of implementing an **Environmental Management System**, and the cost(s) of training your staff.

Legislation updates.

- Environmental permits extended - If you have a water discharge consent, groundwater authorisation or radioactive substance authorisation this will become an environmental permit from 6 April 2010.
- Carbon Reduction Commitment – now in force April 2010.
- Revised waste exemptions from environmental permitting - expected to come into force April 2010.
- Handling transfer and transport of waste - expected to come into force April 2010 (in two stages).

Legislation Register Service.

If you require further information on any of the above or any other legislative issues then, Eco-Smart Consultancy now offers an [environmental register update service](#).

Due to time constraints clients are finding it increasingly difficult keeping up and understanding new and updated legislation and how it affects their business. Therefore Eco-Smart Consultancy can resolve these issues by constantly updating a client's legal register to make sure they stay legal and compliant for ISO 14001.

Extended regional coverage.

Eco-Smart Consultancy has now extended the areas to which it does business, to include the following:-

- Essex
- London
- Northamptonshire
- Oxfordshire

Environmental Facts.



- Less than 1% of the earth's water supply can be used

for drinking.

- Most of the world's people must walk at least three hours to fetch water.
- On average every person in the UK uses 150 litres of water each day.
- Water consumption usually drops 18-25% when a water meter is fitted.
- A five minute shower uses about a third of the water of a bath, saving up to 400 litres per week.
- A water saving device in your toilet cistern can save up to three litres per flush.

Landfill tax rise.

On 1st April 2010 landfill tax rose to £48 per tonne and will continue to rise by £8 per tonne until 2013. This is expected to continually rise, therefore we suggest that you look to reduce, reuse or recycle where possible.

Recycling symbols.

Different symbols are now appearing on packaging to advise consumers and promote environmental claims. There is considerable confusion about what each symbol means.

With this in mind, over the next few issues of 'Think Green', we have produced a guide to show the variety of commonly used recycling symbols that you might find on some of the everyday items you buy or produce.

General symbols:-



The **Recycle Now** icon is the recognised symbol for recycling and to motivate people into action. The curved arrow represents the action and sustainability of recycling. The heart signifies the feel-good nature of the recycling activity.



The **Mobius Loop** has no precise meaning. It is generally understood to be the international symbol for recycling, but the use of the symbol is entirely voluntary.



A % indicates that a certain quantity of recycled material has been used in the production of the packaging. This is commonly found on cardboard.

Metals:-



This symbol means the packaging is made from aluminium.



This symbol means the packaging is made from steel.

Compostable:-



This is a very new symbol, which means that the packaging is suitable for home composting.

In the July issue of 'Think Green' will be explaining the symbols for plastics and packaging.