

ISO 46001:2019

WATER EFFICIENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



INTRODUCTION

Amid escalating concerns regarding global water scarcity, the implementation of effective water management practices has become paramount for organizations worldwide. This white paper examines the pivotal role of an ISO 46001 compliant Water Efficiency Management System (WEMS) in achieving sustainable water usage and mitigating environmental risks. It elucidates the essential components and benefits of adopting ISO 46001, shedding light on the significance of adhering to its stringent requirements. Furthermore, it offers practical insights into how organizations can align their water management strategies with the standards outlined in ISO 46001 for a more sustainable future.



The introduction of ISO 46001 marks a significant step towards promoting responsible water usage and fostering sustainable practices within organizations. By aligning with the stringent requirements of ISO 46001, organizations can ensure the efficient and responsible management of this invaluable resource while contributing to global sustainability goals.

The Significance of ISO 46001 Compliance:

ISO 46001 compliance signifies an organization's commitment to implementing an effective Water Efficiency Management System in line with international standards. This ensures a systematic approach to water usage, waste reduction, and sustainability, fostering environmental stewardship and responsible resource management.

Key Components of an ISO 46001 Compliant Water Efficiency Management System:

An effective ISO 46001 compliant WEMS encompasses a comprehensive water management framework that includes detailed water auditing processes, the establishment of performance indicators, and the implementation of specific strategies to optimize water usage and meet the standard's stringent requirements. Integration of state-of-the-art technologies and continuous performance monitoring further ensures adherence to ISO 46001 guidelines.

ISO 46001:2019 SCOPE:

This international standard is applicable to any organization that wishes to:

- a) achieve the efficient use of water through the 'reduce, replace or reuse' approach;
- b) establish, implement and maintain water efficiency;
- c) continually improve water efficiency.

This international standard specifies requirements and contains guidance for its use regarding organizational water use. It includes monitoring, measurement, documentation, reporting, design and procurement practices for equipment, systems, processes and personnel training that contribute to water efficiency management.

...and the BENEFITS

Organizations that adopt an ISO 46001 compliant Water Efficiency Management System (WEMS) can reap numerous benefits, contributing to enhanced sustainability, operational efficiency, and environmental stewardship. Some of the key benefits include:

1. Enhanced Resource Efficiency and Cost Savings
2. Improved Environmental Performance and Stewardship
3. Increased Operational Resilience and Risk Mitigation
4. Enhanced Credibility and Global Recognition
5. Regulatory Compliance and Reduced Liabilities:
6. Stakeholder Trust and Customer Satisfaction
7. Innovation and Competitive Advantage

Adhering to ISO 46001 guidelines promotes responsible water usage and waste reduction, ultimately reducing the environmental footprint of organizations. By implementing sustainable water management practices, businesses can contribute to environmental conservation and demonstrate a strong commitment to environmental stewardship. The implementation of ISO 46001 compliant WEMS enables organizations to proactively identify and mitigate water-related risks, ensuring operational resilience in the face of potential water scarcity or disruptions. By establishing robust water management protocols, businesses can safeguard their operations and maintain continuity even during challenging circumstances. Achieving ISO 46001 certification enhances an organization's credibility and global recognition, demonstrating a commitment to meeting internationally recognized standards for water efficiency and sustainability. This can lead to improved business opportunities, partnerships, and access to global markets that prioritize sustainable and responsible business practices.

Adherence to ISO 46001 ensures compliance with relevant regulatory requirements and standards related to water management. By meeting these stringent guidelines, organizations can reduce the risk of legal liabilities and penalties, fostering a culture of responsible corporate governance and ethical business practices.

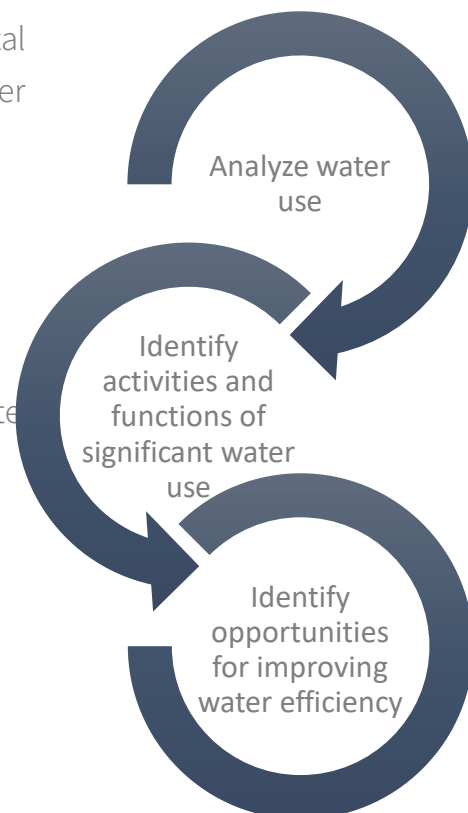
WATER EFFICIENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING



Planning Input

- Source of water
- Relevant Environmental Factors influencing water source
- Past and Present water use and water using activities or functions
- Relevant variables affecting significant water use
- Water efficiency performance

Water Use Review



Planning Outputs

- Business activity indicator(s)
- Baseline water efficiency indicator(s)
- Water efficiency indicator(s)
- Objectives
- Targets
- Action Plan

Business activity indicator(s)

Business activity indicator(s) is a measure of business activities that takes into account core business operations specific to the site such as quantum of product, floor area (e.g. gross floor area, lettable area, and construction floor area), number of employees or hotel rooms. Variations in the business activity indicator(s) will influence water use (including any water consumed) and will also determine the specific water efficiency indicator(s) such as water use per unit of product, water use per unit floor area, water use per guest room or water use per person.

Water efficiency indicator(s)

Water efficiency indicator(s) may be a simple parameter, a simple ratio or a complex model. Examples of water efficiency indicator(s) may include water use per unit of product, water use per unit floor area, and multi-variable models. The organization may choose water efficiency indicator(s) that indicate the water efficiency of their operation and may update the water efficiency indicator(s) when changes occur in business activities or baseline, affecting the relevance of the water efficiency indicator(s) to the organization, as applicable.

A suitable data period should account for legal requirements or other requirements or variables that affect the organization's water use. Variables may include weather, business activity cycles and other conditions.

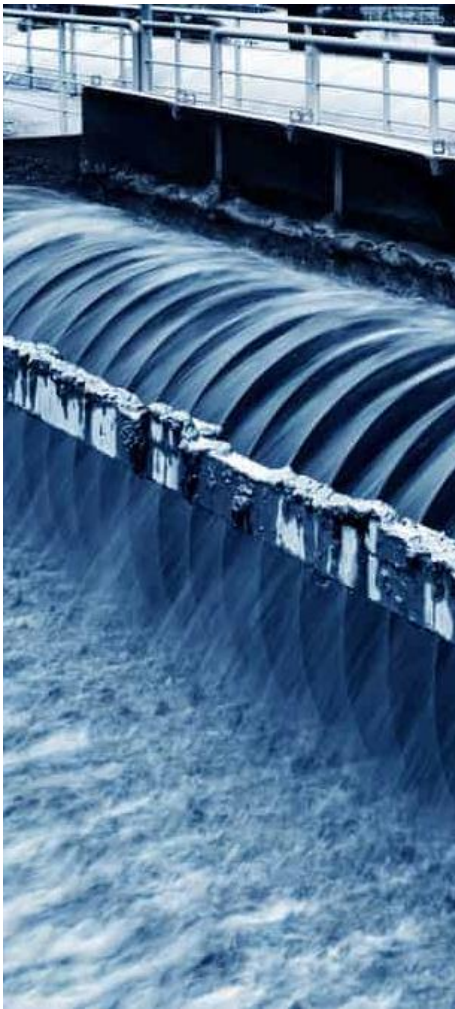
Baseline water efficiency indicator(s)

The baseline water efficiency indicator(s) is maintained constant, and recorded as a means for the organization to determine the documented information's maintenance period. The adjustments to the baseline(s) are also considered maintenance and the requirements are defined in ISO 46001 international standard.

MONITORING, MEASUREMENT, ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

An early step to improving water efficiency is to install separate water meters in dedicated areas to quantify key water-using activities and functions and to monitor water use on a regular basis. Measurement may range from only water meters up to complete monitoring and measurement systems connected to a software application capable of consolidating data and delivering automatic analysis.

WATER IS USED WIDELY IN MOST BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.



Samples of Areas in which water can be monitored

Industries:

- a) Process
- b) Cooling tower
- c) Boiler
- d) Scrubber
- e) Cooking area or kitchen
- f) Toilet

Hotels:

- a) Guestroom
- b) Cooling tower
- c) Food and beverage outlet
- d) Production kitchen
- e) Laundry
- f) Cold water inlet to hot water supply or boiler
- g) Swimming pool

Hospitals

- a) Cooling tower
- b) Toilets, wards and operating theatres for each block
- c) Kitchen
- d) Cold water inlet to hot water supply or boiler

Sports and recreational facilities and tourist attractions

- a) Cooling tower
- b) Exhibit or enclosure
- c) Washing area
- d) Toilet
- e) Food and beverage outlet
- f) Irrigation
- g) Swimming pool



OUR VALUES

Adopting best practices to achieve and maintain ISO 46001 compliance involves thorough documentation, regular audits, and continuous improvement initiatives. We can help you to prioritize comprehensive staff training, effective data management, and stakeholder engagement to ensure seamless integration and long-term sustainability of the compliant Water Efficiency Management System. Please get in touch if you have any questions. Keep updated with the changes at www.wecert.net Please get in touch if you have any questions.



ISO 46001:2019 **WATER EFFICIENCY** **MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Implementing the Water Efficiency Management System (WEMS) and adhering to the ISO 46001 standard offers various advantages, including cost savings and improved resource efficiency. This approach promotes environmental stewardship, operational resilience, and mitigates risks associated with water scarcity. Moreover, it enhances credibility and global recognition, ensures regulatory compliance, and reduces liabilities. The commitment to ISO 46001 fosters stakeholder trust, customer satisfaction, and drives innovation, providing organizations with a competitive edge in the market.

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NO. 416, BUSINESS AVENUE, SHEIKH RASHID RD., DUBAI, UAE

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