



Dear Customers,

In February 2024, ISO published amendments to many of its existing and new management system standards. This amendment requires companies to consider the significance of climate change risks when analyzing the context of organizations and needs of the interested parties.

Intend of the amendments

The amendments arise from ISO's resolution in support of ISO's London Declaration on Climate Change with a focus on integrating climate considerations into management systems to improve their effectiveness in achieving intended outcomes.

This necessitates the addition of new texts to many standards, both existing and under development, to incorporate climate change awareness and action into organizations' core operational strategies. For some standards, climate change risks may not be what first come to mind. ISO's intention is not to impose a link, but to ensure that each organization includes climate change as part of its context analysis and, if deemed appropriate, takes it into account in the development and implementation of the management system.

The climate change amendment applies to all ISO Type A management system standards, i.e. those that specify requirements and under which companies can be certified. This includes the following standards: ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, ISO 50001, ISO 39001, ISO 22000, ISO/IEC 27001, ISO 22301, ISO 37001, etc.

What are the changes?

These amendments have been applied to clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of the current Annex SL standards:

- Clause 4.1 - "Understanding the organization and its context", a new requirement has been added: "The organization shall determine whether climate change is a significant issue."
- Clause 4.2 - "Understanding needs and expectations of interested parties", new note added: "Relevant interested parties can have requirements related to climate change."

What's next for organizations?

The new requirement states that organizations must carry out an analysis of whether climate change is a material issue for them and whether relevant interested parties have climate change-related requirements.

If climate change is found to be a significant issue, it must be taken into account in the development and implementation of the management system.

In the case of an existing management system already certified to an ISO standard, a context analysis should be carried out and updated in line with the findings of the analysis.

Climate change should always be a topic considered in the analysis and, if found to be relevant, be part of the management system.

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