

TRANSITION POLICY FOR ISO 14001: 2004 to ISO 14001: 2015

1. OBJECT AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

1.1 This document details the Vexil policy regarding the transition from ISO 14001:2004 to ISO 14001:2015. The policy is based on the accreditation board guidelines.

1.2 The policy shall apply to all clients holding accredited certificate to ISO 14001:2004 and applicants seeking certification of their Environmental Management System in accordance with ISO 14001:2015 by Vexil Business Process Services Pvt Ltd.

1.3 This policy shall remain current until 15 September 2018.

2. REFERENCES

2.1 ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management System - Requirements.

2.2 IAF ID 10:2015 Guidance for the transition from ISO 14001:2004 to ISO 14001:2015

3. BACKGROUD

3.1 ISO 14001:2015 was published on the 15 September 2015.

3.2 ISO (International Organization for Standardization) and the IAF (International Accreditation Forum) have agreed on an implementation plan to ensure a smooth migration of accredited certification to ISO 14001:2015, after consultation with international groupings representing quality system or auditor certification bodies, and industry users of ISO 14001 certification services.

3.3 The new version will follow a new, higher level structure to make it easier to use in conjunction with other management system standards,

4. TRANSITION POLICY & IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO) have agreed to a three year transition period from the publication date of ISO 14001:2015. During this period both ISO 14001:2004 and the revised version ISO 14001:2015 will co-exist.

4.2 Vexil BPS would be ready to carry out the assessments as per ISO 14001:2015 by 01 January 2016.

4.3 ISO 14001:2004 certifications will not be valid after three years from publication of ISO 14001:2015. This means that all the existing certificates to ISO 14001:2004 must be upgraded to ISO 14001:2015 by 15 September 2018.

4.4 The demonstration of conformity to ISO 14001:2015 may be through a special assessment, if needed.

4.5 All assessments, w.e.f. 16 September 2016 of certified clients shall be against ISO 14001:2015. This date would give more than a full year during which time all clients would undergo surveillance audits. However, any deviation from ISO 14001:2015 shall be given as Observations and not as nonconformities until 15 September 2017.

4.6 After 15 September 2017, all concerns against implementation of ISO 14001:2015 raised during the assessments, which have not been addressed by the client would be reviewed and classified as major / minor nonconformities and would be communicated to the clients for necessary action.

4.7 Any verification of corrective actions to nonconformities after 15 September 2017 may involve an on-site visit.

4.8 The expiry date of certifications to ISO 14001:2004 issued during the transition period shall be corresponding to the end of the three year transition period, that is, 15 September 2018.

4.9 All applications on or after 01 April 2017, would be accepted only as per ISO 14001:2015. Existing applications to ISO 14001:2004 shall stand closed or would have to be converted to ISO 14001:2015.

4.10 No fresh applications for Transfer of Certification from another certification body to ISO 14001:2004 shall be accepted by Vexil after 01 April 2017.

4.11 Two years after publication of ISO 14001:2015 (That is, effective 15 September 2017), all accredited certifications issued (new certifications or re-certifications) shall be to ISO 14001:2015.