

## **New Environmental Communication Standard Published**

The International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) has published a new standard on environmental communication, as part of its hugely successful ISO 14000 series of environmental management standards.

**ISO 14063 – Environmental Communication: Guidelines and examples** sets out how organisations should structure their environmental communication processes and provides organisations with guidance on the use of different environmental communication tools when communicating about their environmental performance.

Martin Baxter, Technical Director of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, chaired the BSI committee that provided the UK's input to the standard and represented the UK as national expert to the ISO working group which drafted the guidelines. Commenting on the publication of the standard, he said:

“Communicating about your environmental performance is a key part of any effective environmental management activity. If we want to make progress towards environmental sustainability, we need to be effective in engaging people in environmental issues. This standard will help organisations become more effective in communicating with key stakeholders about their environmental performance.”

ISO 14063:2006 gives guidance to an organisation on general principles, policy, strategy and activities relating to both internal and external environmental communication. It provides examples and suggestions for effective environmental communication. This includes references to existing voluntary guidelines and approaches that are available to help improve the quality of environmental reports and communications.

ISO 14063:2006 is applicable to all organizations regardless of their size, type, location, structure, activities, products and services, and whether or not they have an environmental management system in place.

It is intended for use by both organizations with or without an ISO 14001 environmental management system (EMS), and it is not intended for certification purposes.

**Ends**

**Notes**

1. **The Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)** is an independent membership body which provides recognition and support to environmental professionals, combining the disciplines of environmental management, auditing and assessment, encompassing both public and private sectors.
2. With over 10,000 members, the IEMA is a leading UK membership organisation dedicated to the promotion of the goal of sustainable development and to the professional development of individuals involved in environmental management and assessment. The IEMA is licensed by the Society for the Environment to award the Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) professional qualification.
3. The International Standards Organisation (ISO) is the world's leading developer of International Standards. ISO standards specify the state-of-the-art products, services, processes, materials and systems, and for good conformity assessment, managerial and organizational practice. ISO standards are designed to be implemented worldwide. [www.iso.ch](http://www.iso.ch)
4. BSI works with manufacturing and service industries, businesses, governments and consumers to facilitate the production of British, European and international standards. As the UK's National Standards Body, BSI represents UK interests across all of the European and international standards organizations and through their committees. [www.bsi-global.com](http://www.bsi-global.com)
5. Copies of **ISO 14063:2006, Environmental management – Environmental communication – Guidelines and examples** are available for purchase, at a discount, from the IEMA website– [www.iema.net/shop](http://www.iema.net/shop) or by emailing [info@iema.net](mailto:info@iema.net)
6. For details of the IEMA workshop series: Only Connect: Environmental Communications for Environmental Professionals – visit [www.iema.net/training/iema\\_workshops](http://www.iema.net/training/iema_workshops)

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