

Linas, September 30, 2026

Subject: Transition of your ISO 14001 certification to the 2026 version

Dear Client,

The new version of the environmental standard **ISO 14001:2026** was published on 21 April 2026.

The transition note was published on 15 September 2026.

The note provides for three-year transition to allow certified organizations to progressively adapt their environmental management system.

Key dates to remember:

- ✉ 21 April 2026 : Publication of ISO 14001 :2026
- ✉ 30 April 2027: End of the transition period for certification bodies to the new version
- ✉ 31 October 2027: End of issuance of initial certifications to ISO 14001:2015
- ✉ 30 April 2029: End of the transition period. All certifications must comply with ISO 14001:2026

Main changes to the standard

The changes introduced by ISO 14001:2026 are limited in scope but require an analysis of your environmental management system.

They include:

- ✉ Alignment with the latest Harmonized Structure for ISO standards;
- ✉ The addition of requirements relating to the planning of changes;
- ✉ Stronger expectations concerning management review;
- ✉ Clarifications concerning the context of the organization, risks and opportunities, the life-cycle perspective, and the integration of environmental issues into the company's processes;
- ✉ Updates to certain terms and definitions.

Our recommendations

To prepare for your transition, we recommend that you:

- ✦ Assess the impact of the new requirements on your system;
- ✦ Update the relevant procedures and documents;
- ✦ Inform the people involved in the management system;
- ✦ Incorporate the new requirements into your internal audit programme;
- ✦ Verify that your management review covers the new expectations;
- ✦ Prepare the evidence that will be examined during the transition audit.

How will the transition be carried out?

The transition may be carried out:

- ✦ During a surveillance audit;
- ✦ During a recertification audit;
- ✦ Or, if necessary, as part of a specific audit.

The auditors will verify, in particular:

- ✦ How the new requirements of ISO 14001:2026 have been considered;
- ✦ The changes made to your management system;
- ✦ How your organization has adapted to these new requirements;
- ✦ The effectiveness of the actions implemented.

Audit time

The transition will generally be carried out during a scheduled audit. A limited adjustment to the audit time may be considered depending on the adaptations required within your organization.

Impact on your certificate

Your ISO 14001:2015 certificate will remain valid until your transition audit has been completed, or until **April 30, 2029** at the latest.

By that date, all certificates must have been transitioned to ISO 14001:2026. Otherwise, certification can no longer be maintained.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Technical Center
Certification, Audits & Inspections