

## **Revision of ISO 50001**

On August 21<sup>st</sup> the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has published the revised standard ISO 50001:2018 for energy management systems (EnMS). The German version is expected to be published in a few weeks.

Following the publication of the revised standard, certifiers now have to be accredited for the new standard within 18 months by the accreditation bodies. After the end of this 18- month period, the certification bodies will no longer be permitted to perform audits to the "old" standard.

Conversion of existing ISO 50001 certificates generally occurs in connection with regular surveillance or recertification audits.

### **Essential modifications and new requirements**

- **Introduction of the "High Level Structure"**: Following ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001, ISO 50001 will now be changed over to the so-called "High Level Structure", which is reflected in standardised headings and numbering of the clauses of the standard as well as common core terms, definitions and notes. This means that it will be much easier to extend an existing management system by adding further standards in order to create an integrated management system (IMS).

- **Context of the organisation:**

The organisation must determine internal and external issues that are relevant to the EnMS and that can have a positive or negative impact on the organisation. Internal issues can be for example corporate strategy, sustainability aspects or financial resources. Examples of external impacts can be energy costs, carbon emissions or climate change.

- **Interested parties:**

An "interested party" (also known as a "stakeholder") is any person or organisation that can affect, be affected by, or perceive itself to be affected by an organisation's decision or activity. In future, the organisation shall determine the interested parties that are relevant for its EnMS along with their needs and expectations, and must specify which of these should become compliance obligations.

- **Risks and opportunities:**

Organisations shall consider existing and potential risks and opportunities related to their energy management system and plan their activities accordingly. The analysed risks and opportunities must be documented in writing and reconsidered on a regular basis (e.g. development of energy prices, security of energy supply, best available technique, changes in legislation).

- **Management responsibility:**

The top management will become more significant in relation to the development and operation of an energy management system. In future it will be obliged to ensure that the EnMS achieves the desired results, ensuring comprehensive integration of the EnMS requirements into operating procedures and business processes. At the same time, there is no longer any explicit requirement for an energy management representative. Instead, an energy management team should be jointly responsible for effective implementation of the EnMS. However, depending on the type and size of the organisation, a single individual can still take over the role of the team.

- **Energy data collection:**

There are stricter requirements regarding the methods used for monitoring, measurement and analysis of the energy performance. In particular, static factors such as long-term changes in the facility size or the product mix should be given greater consideration. The final draft version of the standard (ISO/FDIS 50001:2018) requests the organisation to carry out normalization of energy performance indicators and the corresponding energy baselines where relevant variables apparently affect energy performance. The ISO 50001 standard references several times to the ISO 50006 and ISO 50015 standards. However, these standards are not mandatory, but should be considered as practical help and support.