FAQs on the ISO 50001 revision

Our experts have answered frequently asked questions about the new ISO 50001. If you should have any question not addressed below, please contact us!

1. PUBLICATION OF ISO 50001:2018
The revised ISO 50001 was published in August 2018. From now on, companies will have three years to be certified according to the new version. Our experts will certify you according to ISO 50001:2011 for another 18 months, after which only audits according to the new standard will be offered.

2. WHAT ARE THE CHANGES WITH THE NEW ISO 50001?
The following chapters will in future be part of the ISO 50001 standard in the course of the conversion to the High Level Structure:
   a. High Level Structure (HLS)
   b. Content
      i. Interested parties
      ii. Risks and opportunities
      iii. More responsibility and accountability in top management

3. WHAT DOES HIGH LEVEL STRUCTURE MEAN?
The High Level Structure aims to unify the structure of the ISO management system standards with the defined main and subchapters to improve compatibility between the standards with common terms and definitions.

4. WHO ARE INTERESTED PARTIES?
Interested parties are persons or organizations who influence, are influenced by or can feel influenced by a decision regarding the EnMS, both internally and externally. This applies, for example, to customers, employees, legislators and authorities as well as external companies and suppliers.

5. WHAT IS MEANT BY RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES?
Companies should assess whether their activities and processes give rise to risks and opportunities that could have an impact on energy-related performance or the EnMS. Risks as well as opportunities (e.g. tax exemptions, tax assessments, exemptions from fines, etc.) can arise from legal requirements. Energy saving measures also provide attractive opportunities.
6. DO THESE CHANGES HAVE AN IMPACT ON MY EXISTING CERTIFICATION?
No, the changes have no direct influence on existing certification until the changeover. The transition period is 18 months after publication. After the deadline, all audits (certification, recertification and surveillance audits) will be carried out on the basis of the new standard.

7. DOES THE REVISION OF THE STANDARD RESULT IN A HIGHER AUDIT EFFORT?
Additional expenses can occur once during the changeover. The effort can vary individually depending on the organization and probably depends on the time of the changeover (RA, SA or special audits).

8. ARE THERE WAYS TO EVALUATE THE GAPS BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW ISO 50001 DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD?
Yes, with the help of our GAP analysis we can jointly clarify questions such as: Are there any necessary changes in the organization? Are training courses required? Do basic documents or management system documentation need to be adjusted?

9. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ISO 50003 AND THE REVISION OF ISO 50001?
A member of the same family of standards, the revision is intended to standardize definitions and texts between ISO 50003 and the revision of ISO 50001. In addition, an improvement in energy-related performance is explicitly required in both standards.