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ЗНАЧЕННЯ СИСТЕМИ ЕКОЛОГІЧНОГО МЕНЕДЖМЕНТУ ДЛЯ ПІДПРИЄМСТВА

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THE IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR ENTERPRISE

Environmental management system, also known as ISO 14001 is an international standard that specifies requirements for effective environmental management. Environmental Management System (EMS) is also defined as the part of the overall management system that includes organizational structure, planning, activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing and maintaining the environmental policy (ISO 14001, 2004). The importance of environmental management system include:

1. Environmental management system can be used as a tool by enterprises to improve company performance. Most companies use it to enhance company image. A lot of customers look for companies whose activities don't impact the environment negatively.

2. An enterprise can have competitive advantage if it has adopted EMS into its system. The advantage could be external recognition that is registration. It could attract investors and give it access to international markets.

3. Environmental management system enhances regulatory compliance. This avoids legal problems and it gives customers and investors' confidence in patronizing the enterprise's service since it means the company followed the safest way in bringing out a product.

4. It improves cooperation, environmental awareness and competence among employees. It improves employee morale which in turn improved work performance. This is because EMS provides the employees with the methods of how to dispose of for example, waste the proper way without harming the environment. The more aware the employees are, the better they will help impact the environment positively.

5. Without environmental management system, there will be increase and abuse in aspect (cause) but no tackling of the impact (effect) it has on the environment. An example is when an enterprise uses paper printing for the majority of the work all day. Without an environmental management system, there will be an increase in solid waste production with no proper way of getting rid of it.

6. An enterprise can use it for possible regulatory flexibility. This involves fewer inspections, reduced fines and expedited permitting. When regulatory agencies realize that an enterprise has integrated EMS into their system, they are not as strict on them as they are on companies that haven't adopted the system. This can also save time and money.

7. Environmental management system reduces cost expenditure. For example, if a mining company can benefit from EMS as it will reduce its cost in waste disposal. The proper procedure will be followed to get rid of the waste. Illegal ways of getting rid of toxic waste actually cost more in the long run.

EMS has been designed to introduce environmental improvement into every aspect of a company's operations, offers an organized approach to manage environmental issues and it has now become an administrative tool towards corporate environmental management. Environmental management system benefits both the environment and the company as there is less environmental risk at the same time allowing companies to run their businesses.

Reference

1. Environmental Management System Demonstration Project: Final report by Craig P. Diamond.