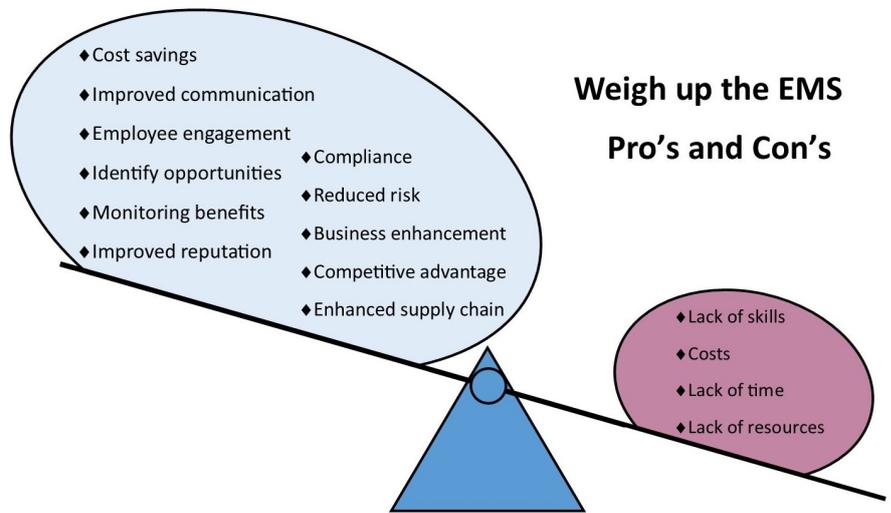


## Introduction

The ISO 14001:2015 standard is used to help organisations to integrate an Environmental Management System (EMS) within their business processes and operations. The standard applies to organisations of all sizes and sectors as it is bespoke to each individual organisation. An EMS provides a structured approach to managing environmental performance and planning to reduce your organisations impacts on the environment. Identification of cost savings and more efficient business operations are integral to a successful EMS.



An EMS is a process based approach looking at inputs, processes and outputs for the organisation. It will look at what your business needs to operate, what the business activities / operations are and what your final products and /or services are. An EMS does not have to be certified to ISO 14001 in order to be effective. A certification provides the 'badge' on your marketing materials that customers will identify and inherently means that yours is an environmentally responsible organisation.

## What are the business benefits?

- Cost savings — simple **no-cost** activities like switching-off lights/computers/heaters/chillers can have huge benefits to the bottom line
- Better **communication** and environmental awareness in all departments — getting employees talking to each other about initiatives and ideas can break down internal barriers
- Leadership involvement **engaging** and motivating other employees — have a suggestion box for cost saving / environmental initiatives to make employees feel involved
- Identification of **opportunities** for your organisation — an EMS makes you think strategically
- **Monitoring** of utilities and resource use allows for better use of organisation finances
- Improved organisation **reputation** giving confidence to stakeholders and customers
- Ensuring **compliance** with legislation and other requirements — reducing business risks
- Strategic business aims achieved through integration of environment into **core business management** — the EMS can encourage organisations to look at all their processes and make efficiency and quality improvements
- Providing a competitive and financial **advantage** — what are your competitors doing about environmental management?
- Encouraging a better environmental performance throughout your **supply chain** — be a green innovator and mentor other organisations to improve their operations

If you would like more information contact GEP Environmental and speak to one of our consultants