



# Meeting Environmental Management Systems Challenges



This series of factsheets highlights our expertise in Environment, Health, and Safety Management and covers the following topics:

- FaultrEASE™ Software
- EHS Assurance—Auditing
- Safety and Risk Management
- EHS Learning Institute
- High-Performance EHS Business Model
- Integrating EHS Management Systems
- **Meeting Environmental Management Systems Challenges**
- Environmental Due Diligence
- Safety Performance Improvement
- Facility and Operational Reliability Safety Reviews
- Ergonomics

Environmental Management Systems (EMS) can help you identify and implement environmental, health, and safety (EHS) activities to create value for your organization. Worldwide interest has resulted in a set of international consensus standards and guidelines defining the core elements of an EMS. The ISO 14000 series (developed by the International Organization for Standardization) comprises a set of voluntary standards for environmental management tools and systems. Other EHS standards include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Code of Environmental Management Principles (CEMP), the National Environmental Performance Track Program, the European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme, the International Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series 18001, and the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration's Voluntary Protection Program.

ICF Consulting helps private- and public-sector organizations use an EMS to capture opportunities to improve environmental performance and meet environmental challenges.

## ICF Consulting's Approach

A primary function of a good EMS is risk management. These risks include threats to the environment, local community, or employees; liabilities and costs of non-compliance; delays in implementing projects or organizational mission; low performance ratings or public image; and damage to stakeholder relationships. ICF Consulting helps organizations manage these risks.

ICF Consulting develops EMS programs unique to each organization based on its characteristics, approaches, considerations, and existing environmental management processes. Implementing a formal EMS model requires a customized and unique approach. Good management is our first focus. Satisfying formal models is a secondary result of good EMS programs.

Our EMS experience with public- and private-sector clients has taught us to emphasize improved performance, program efficiency, and effectiveness beyond "standards" by integrating functional systems with good management and business processes. ICF Consulting has followed this approach in assisting our clients with their EMS in relation to internal models and international standards, such as ISO 14001.

### Strategic Environmental Management

Strategic Environmental Management (SEM) requires evaluation of environmental issues in a business management context and the design, development, and implementation of formal managerial processes and information technology systems to both support and capture the full array of benefits provided by EHS excellence. Our SEM services can help you:

- Tie environmental impacts and management functions to mission and core business processes.
- Define significant EHS risks and liabilities.
- Identify opportunities to create value (e.g., cost avoidance, decreased time to project completion).
- Establish an integrated EHS vision statement and policy.
- Develop an organizational strategy to attain the vision.
- Evaluate the existing EHS management structure and organizational capabilities.
- Identify required competencies and estimating staffing needs.

## Environmental Management Systems

ICF Consulting is a leader in assessing organizational capabilities relative to emerging expectations and in charting and conducting a course of defined development and improvement activities. Our EMS services can help you:

- Evaluate current systems against management system standards.
- Design, develop, and implement comprehensive management systems to address EHS impacts.
- Assess and improve stakeholder management activities.
- Develop and populate EHS system and performance indicators.
- Conduct life-cycle analyses.
- Develop environmental accounting principles and practices.
- Design and develop internal auditing programs.
- Streamline compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other public stewardship requirements.

## Compliance Management Support

In a management systems context, compliance activities range from providing guidance that promotes understanding of environmental requirements across all levels of the organization to helping build processes to better manage compliance related activities. ICF Consulting can help you:

- Identify weaknesses in the current compliance management structure or process.
- Identify opportunities for improving an understanding of compliance and other environmental improvement issues throughout the organization.
- Examine and enhance internal communications.
- Develop and conduct standard and customized training.
- Develop and disseminate guidance to the non-EHS professional.
- Conduct pollution prevention opportunity assessments.

## Featured Projects

### EMS and ISO 14000 at Kodak

ICF Consulting played an ongoing mission support role in assisting Kodak in designing and implementing an ISO 14001-based EMS. ICF Consulting acted as developer and facilitator during the EMS implementation process to the point of client registration to the standard. We also provided training and objective validation of all elements of the EMS before the registration audit.

### EHS Information System at Mobil

ICF Consulting developed an integrated EHS management system for Mobil Chemical Company's Films Division. The system allows evaluation of a plant's EHS performance against corporate goals and the Division's worldwide standards. Additionally, the system aids in developing performance plans as well as creating and storing documents and records.

### EMS at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

ICF Consulting developed an EMS that has been pilot tested, with agency-wide EMS implementation expected to begin in 2002. This system is designed expressly to comply with the principles and performance objectives of CEMP, as well as the ISO 14001 Standard.

## About Our Staff

At ICF Consulting, we provide innovative EHS solutions based on our staff's expertise. We maintain a cadre of seasoned professionals that allows us to assemble the best team for each project, including experts in:

- Business Strategy and Finance
- Chemical, Civil, and Environmental Engineering
- Environmental and Analytical Chemistry
- Environmental and Safety Management
- Hydrogeology, Geology, and Ecology
- Industrial Hygiene and Environmental Health
- Toxicology and Epidemiology
- Transportation and Process Safety

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## About ICF Consulting

ICF Consulting is a leading management, technology, and policy consulting firm. Drawing upon extensive industry knowledge, distinguished professionals, and innovative analytics, the firm develops solutions to complex energy, environment, emergency management, community development, and transportation issues. ICF Consulting's approach to these issues is strengthened by its expertise in information technology, organizational improvement, program management, and communications. Since 1969, ICF Consulting has been serving major corporations, government at all levels, and multinational institutions. More than 1,000 employees serve these clients from key business centers in the Americas, Europe, and Asia Pacific.

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