

KA/LP/NSI 016/15

25 August 2015

To: All NSI Gold Approved Companies and Applicants for Gold Approval Against BS EN ISO 9001 and BS EN ISO 14001

Dear Colleague

BS EN ISO 9001:2015 and BS EN ISO 14001: 2015 Update

Following my letter to you in May this year, it is time to provide you with an update about the forthcoming revisions of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001.

The Final *Draft* International Standards (FDIS) ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 were published on 9 July 2015 and 2 July 2015 respectively. This means it is highly likely the two revised standards will be published in September 2015 as anticipated, although this has still to be officially confirmed.

We have received a number of enquiries from NSI approved companies regarding transition arrangements to the revised standards; the most frequently asked are detailed below which I trust will be of help to you.

How long is the transition period?

Although it is anticipated the International Standards Organisation (ISO) will allow a three year transition period, we are encouraging approved companies to complete the transition within two years, to help you avoid deadline burden and to enable you to prepare in time.

How long will the transition take and will approved companies have to undergo audits in addition to their routine surveillance audits?

This is very much dependant on the size and complexity of your organisation and we will look at each approved company independently. It is likely that smaller organisations with a limited scope of approval may be able to undergo transition audits as part of their normal audit program. However, larger organisations and those with more complex scopes of approval are likely to need additional audit days in order to effect a transition to the new standards.

Will I be charged for additional audit days?

If additional audit days are required for the transition audit these will be charged at the normal daily rate for the scheme being audited.



When will the transition audits take place?

Transition audits can begin to take place from the date the final standards and our quality schedules are published. When you think you are ready to have the transition audit contact your NSI account administrator. Your auditor will then contact you to make the arrangements.

What happens if my organisation is due for a three-yearly recertification, but we are not ready to upgrade to the new standard?

NSI approved companies can be recertificated to the current standard, however, the expiry date of the new certificate cannot exceed the deadline date for transition to the revised standards (i.e. the transition deadline set by ISO). Any certificates of approval to ISO 9001:2008 or ISO 14001:2004 will cease to be valid after the deadline date for transition to the revised standard.

Will NSI be issuing an example quality manual?

The answer to this is simply 'no', as there is no requirement in the revised standard for a formal quality manual. We are however recommending you maintain your existing one, making the adjustments necessary where there have been changes to clause headings and additional clauses added. Having invested in the development of your existing manual we consider this remains the best way to manage and control your quality management system.

Will NSI be sending out any other guidance on what we need to do?

All of the NSI Quality Schedules will be revised once the standards have been published. We are currently working on a document which will highlight the ISO 9001 changes and provide you with some hints and tips on what you will need to focus on. This will be sent to you as soon as it is completed. We will be working on a similar document for ISO14001 after that.

ISO 9001:2015 'Transition' Seminars

To provide you with extra assistance, we are holding regular ISO 9001:2015 'Transition' seminars. We are keeping the cost of these to a minimum, offering you a preferential rate of £275+vat per person. Compared to the generalist certification bodies, please bear in mind the optional NSI seminars are delivered by industry experts who understand your business and incorporate a sector-specific context. Keep an eye on the training calendar on our website for dates and locations and to find out the latest availability please contact:

Maxine Dent, Training Executive, E: maxine.dent@nsi.org.uk T: 01628 764831

If you have any specific concerns in the meantime, please contact your auditor who will be happy to help you. When more information is available, we will be in touch.

Yours sincerely

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