

# HOW ISO 50001 HELPS TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Every year, more and more companies are using ISO 50001 to enhance their energy management.

## BENEFITS FOR COMPANIES

-  Save money
-  Conserve resources
-  Tackle climate change

ISO 50001 is just one of many ISO standards that will help ensure access to affordable, reliable and modern energy for all **by 2030**

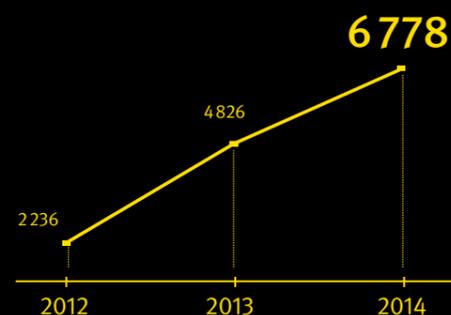
**95%** of users said the standard helped them identify the activities that consume the most energy

ISO 50001 helps reduce carbon emissions and limit the rise in Earth's temperature to below **2°C**

**89%** of organizations that have put in place an energy management system and obtained certification are satisfied

**9** out of **10** users strongly recommend ISO 50001

## INCREASE OF ISO 50001 CERTIFICATIONS



Watch our video on YouTube by scanning the QR code:



Efficiency is becoming critical for sustainability in an increasingly energy-intensive economy.

“It’s simple. It’s flexible. It brings results. ISO 50001 has worked well up until now because organizations know that they are not engaging in a cumbersome process.” Of course, this doesn’t mean it should not be revised, he says. “As we work to take this standard to the next level, we need to ensure that we only add new topics that cost-effectively deliver real results. This is the single factor that will keep organizations motivated to adopt the ISO standard.”

One of the changes Risser foresees in the new edition is better integration with ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. “That’s a trend we are seeing with various ISO management systems standards (MSS). It means less focus on procedures and a drive towards common tools, terms and processes across organizations,” he says. “But let’s not forget that ISO 50001 is unique among ISO MSSs in that continual improvement has a dual focus: the management system itself, as well as energy performance.”

For Risser, this is what makes ISO 50001 a powerful tool to help countries meet the commitments of the Paris Agreement. The standard continually challenges organizations to deliver greater energy savings, while ensuring these gains are sustained in the long term. Even organizations with mature energy efficiency programmes can still improve by 10% or more after using ISO 50001.

### Our world, our future

Another question that people will ask during the revision is how well it addresses the needs of developing countries. For Silveira, the biggest challenges these countries face are in terms of competitiveness and productivity. Energy efforts have to help meet these challenges. For a company that already sees the benefit of reducing energy, ISO 50001 can take it to the next level,

by harmonizing and driving efforts. But for those who haven’t taken the leap yet, it can be eye-opening. “For WEG, energy efficiency has actually become one of its great competitive advantages,” says Silveira.

Zhou Lu, Vice-President of certification body CTI-Cert in China, has helped many Chinese companies use ISO 50001. He says the standard has helped them to establish an energy-saving culture in the organization. “ISO 50001 helps you pay more attention to energy costs and investment, make savings and focus on energy meter and data management. They don’t even need to invest in complex solutions, but simply find more efficient ways to handle the every day. Just making sure to turn the light off when nobody is in the room makes an impact in the long term.”

According to Zhou Lu, there is a lot of interest from the Chinese government to push efficiency onto the agenda, as it is becoming critical for sustainability in an increasingly energy-intensive economy. But there are challenges. Results don’t happen overnight, which means some organizations may become impatient. He believes that increasing the value and recognition of certification can drive further adoption. “We want more people to learn about ISO 50001, and to use it, because this can really make an impact, not just to companies, but to our future,” he concludes.

For President Obama, the challenges presented by climate change affect us all. “To address this threat with the urgency it deserves, we have to do more together. Above all, we have to trust each other and push one another,” he urged in his video message. “There is only one way to solve a problem that threatens all of us and that is by working together. There’s nothing more important than the world we leave to our children.” ■