



Updated March 23, 2018

Attention Top Management

Please be advised that Responsible Care® 14001 (RC14001®):2013 has been revised, and the new RC14001®:2015 standard was officially published on September 15, 2015. All organizations currently registered to RC14001:2013 will be required to upgrade their certification to the 2015 standard by September 14, 2018, as the 2013 version will become obsolete on that date.

Our goal is to have all of our clients' transition audits completed by June 15, 2018 in order for any corrective actions to be completed, and for the certifications to be processed, well before the September 15, 2018 deadline.

As a leader of your organization, the new standard will require your involvement to further enhance the policies of your organization, and to provide a framework and guidance to the personnel assigned to manage your responsible care management system.

RC14001 certification provides a set of uniform requirements for a responsible care management system, which include principles such as a strong customer focus, support of top management, the process approach and continual improvement form the basis for the standard.

Changes to the Standard

The RC14001:2015 responds to the latest market developments and is more compatible with other management systems, such as ISO 14001, thanks to an updated, higher-level structure. The new standard is less prescriptive than the previous version; instead focusing on performance through a combination of risk-based thinking and a process approach, as well as employment of the “plan-do-check-act” cycle at all levels in the organization.

Other updates include:

- Increased importance of risk
- More emphasis on leadership and top management direction
- Greater significance of communication and awareness

These updates, along with changes to other management system standards, also include implementing similar terminology across all standards and matching sub-clauses to the top-level structure, ensuring fully integrated systems.

RC14001:2015 Transition

NSF-ISR is committed to ensuring that your organization understands the updated requirements and what steps your organization may need to take to achieve conformance. We have a number of resources available to help you through the transition:

- Readiness Assessment Tool (Coming Q2 2018)
- [Transition Guide](#)
- [On-Demand Webinars](#)
- [RC14001:2015 Upgrade Planner and Delta Checklist](#)
- Tool Box for ISO 14001:2015 – the basis for RC14001:2015 (log into your [NSF Online](#) account)
- [Top Reasons Not to Wait to Transition](#)



NSF International Strategic Registrations

More information can be found on our [standards updates page](#) or by contacting us at information@nsf-isr.org.