

Integration of Quality, Health & Safety, Environment and Social accountability under a single Management System

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to integrate quality, health & safety, environmental and social accountability standards under a comprehensive management system. To attain a specific function these compliance standards have been expanded separately at different occasions. Handling with these individual management systems and confirming their in-line position with organizational business objective are always found difficult. The current situation has accelerated the demand for integrating individual management standards in conjunction with business objectives of the organizations. A holistic TQM approach can effectively consolidate the existing quality, health & safety, social accountability and environmental operations into an indivisible and cross-functional management system. To some extent, the current management standards are treated as a subgroup of TQM. The benefits of such fusion exceed the sum of fractional benefits of individually handled management systems. The synthesis does not intend combining a few management standards conjointly, rather it means projecting the several disciplines in unique management standard based on their cross- functional interconnections. Actually, it is analytical in nature on the basis of the compliance criteria of OHSAS 18001, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 AND SA 8000. The main finding of this study concludes that, integration is feasible based on their philosophical analogies between TQM and other management standards. This paper will contribute in the way that, it establishes a model of integrated management system accompanying its implementation instructions in connection with TQM.

Keywords

TQM, QM, organizational change, continuous improvement.