

Warehousing & Distribution

Rising energy prices and environmentally driven legislation affect the logistics sector more than most. An increasing number of businesses are applying for ISO 14001 certification in order to: control environmental impact – manage energy costs – comply with legislation.

Warehousing and distribution have a significant impact on the environment due to:

- ◆ High fuel consumption for transporting goods
- ◆ High energy demands of lighting, heating and cooling warehouses
- ◆ High levels of waste packaging
- ◆ Potential to cause serious environmental damage in the event of an accident.

ISO 14001 is an internationally accepted environmental standard against which organisations can be assessed. An ISO 14001 Environment Management System provides a framework for companies to control the environmental impact of its many activities, products and services.

Reduce fuel consumption

Distribution companies can dramatically reduce fuel costs by training drivers in fuel-efficient driving. Driving 55 mph instead of 65 mph can save up to 20% in fuel. Companies may monitor driver performance using vehicle tracking systems or offer incentives to promote reduction of fuel consumption. Speed limiters and tyre pressure gauges can also be fitted.

Increase energy efficiency

Many innovative low-energy lighting, heating and cooling solutions are available for warehouses. Simple measures can be taken without the need for large capital expenditure, however, which nevertheless reduce energy demands: installing presence detectors for low-use areas; using natural light; optimising heat controls; or fitting roller shutters and curtains to prevent ingress of cold air.



Minimise landfill charges

Year-on-year increases in landfill taxes and packaging regulations have led many logistics companies to optimise their waste policies. The implementation of simple procedures to recycle and recover packaging can lead to a dramatic reduction in waste. Returnable “eco-pallets” are also growing in popularity.

PAVY Ltd can guide you through all stages of ISO 14001 certification:

- ◆ Environmental policy
- ◆ Environmental manual and procedures
- ◆ Register of environmental impacts
- ◆ Register of legal and other requirements
- ◆ Setting environmental objectives
- ◆ Training on Environmental Awareness.

*For advice on Health & Safety, please consult our **Warehouse Safety** bulletin.*

For more information, call us
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