

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD.

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Newsletter No. 1, Volume 4

February 2009



We are pleased to bring you our 2009 Winter Edition Newsletter, fresh off the press. IMS has grown this past year, adding two new members to our team, with a third returning from maternity leave. We are all looking forward to a busy and exciting year!



Announcements...



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!!!

On January 8th, 2009, IMS celebrated 10 years in business! IMS has built its reputation and success around our strong commitment to providing effective business solutions and exceptional service to our clients. We send many thanks to both present and past clients who have helped us achieve this milestone. We are looking forward to the next 10 years.

OUR NEWEST ADDITIONS TO THE IMS TEAM

A formal welcome to Kirsten Groody and Nigar Haciosmanoglu to the IMS team!

Kirsten joined IMS in January 2008. She holds a Master's degree in environmental engineering and a Bachelor's degree in civil and environmental engineering. Prior to joining IMS, Kirsten spent five years working in environmental engineering design and construction project management.

Nigar joined IMS in April 2008. She has a Bachelors' degree in geography and anthropology. Nigar also received a post-graduate certificate in Environmental Management and Assessment from Niagara College.

IT'S A BABY GIRL!

There's a new branch on the family tree! Jessica and Mike Campitelli welcomed Layla Rose into the world on February 8, 2008. Weighing in at 7lbs,



8oz and 21" Layla was truly a bundle of joy. The proud and happy parents have enjoyed the first year with their new addition and welcome all parenting advice as Layla becomes a bigger handful!

After a year on maternity leave, Jessica returned to work in January 2009.

Management System Trends

OHSAS 18001:2007

The *Occupational Health and Safety Management System Requirements* standard, which enables an organization to control its OH&S risk and improve its performance, was revised and released in July 2007, superseding the OHSAS 18001:1999 Specification.

There were some significant changes to the Standard since the first edition was published in 1999. The following are the key changes:

- greater emphasis on "health" rather than just "safety"
- significantly improved alignment to ISO 14001:2004

For companies that are registered to the Standard, the transition period ends on July 1, 2009.

ISO 9001:2008

The *Quality Management System Requirements* standard has undergone its fourth revision, with a focus on fine-tuning. The new edition (released on November 15, 2008) introduces clarifications to the existing ISO 9001:2000 requirements, based on user input over the past eight years; and changes for improving further compatibility with the ISO 14001:2004 standard.

Although the new edition does not introduce additional requirements, nor does it change the intent of the standard; companies still have to update their current documentation to reflect the changes. For companies that are registered to the Standard, the transition period ends on November 15, 2010.

CSA Z1600-08 - STANDARD ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS/OPERATIONAL CONTINUITY PROGRAMS

In October 2008, the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) released a new voluntary standard (CSA Z1600-08) to assist organizations in creating a comprehensive emergency management program. The standard is applicable to public, not-for-profit and private entities.

The standard, focused on continuous improvement, is comprised of the following elements: program management; planning; implementation; evaluation; and management review. These elements work

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with an organization's hazard identification, risk assessment and business impact analysis.

An emergency management and business/operational continuity program consists of plans, procedures and activities designed to prevent hazards from occurring or to mitigate the impacts of those hazards that cannot be prevented. This program prepares an organization for emergency situations, including natural disasters, human-induced disasters, and infrastructural and technology failure.

Focus on Key Projects

SPILL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Spill Prevention and Contingency Plans (SPCP) Regulation (Ontario Regulation 224/07) came into force on September 1, 2008. To meet the deadline, IMS worked diligently over the summer months, preparing SPCPs for clients who were subject to the MISA regulations under the Environmental Protection Act. SPCPs were prepared for a steel mini-mill and four fossil generating stations.

The plans were based on the results of spill risk assessments that we completed for the sites. The intent of the SPCPs is to prevent or reduce the risk of spills, and to prevent, eliminate or ameliorate any adverse effects that may result from actual spills.

ISO 14001 CERTIFIED!

Congratulations to two of our clients who passed their ISO 14001 registration audits in 2008.



IMS assisted a bauxite mine and alumina refinery in Jamaica in developing and implementing their EMS. We were actively involved in writing the core documentation, the environmental aspect identification process, training, and internal audits. Alpart successfully passed their ISO 14001 registration audit in October. This project required IMS staff to make 7 trips to Jamaica during 2008 (yes 3 of those trips were during the winter months).

IMS also worked with a steel mini-mill develop the core EMS documentation; provide general awareness training and ongoing consulting services towards implementing the EMS. After working on the project for almost 2 years, our efforts were rewarded with a successful ISO 14001 registration audit in December.

AUDITS, AUDITS, AUDITS!



IMS had an active year helping organizations improve their management systems and strengthen their commitment of complying with EH&S legislation through internal audits. In total, IMS staff participated in 19 EH&S compliance and/or management system audits in 2008.

A strong auditing program is a major element of an organization's commitment to continual improvement. Not only does it provide an opportunity to identify achievements and areas where the organization is performing well, but it also helps to identify areas of weakness that require attention.

Final Word

This year arrives with hope (the economy will eventually improve) and potential for improved safety and environmental performance as organizations work to strengthen their management systems.

The IMS team looks forward to working with you in 2009 to achieve these goals.

Tony Taraitano