

Company: Hong Kong Housing Society

ISO 14001 Certification Date: May 2002

Certification Body: Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency

EMS Scope: Management of planning, design and construction of housing projects including corporate supporting services

Background

The Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) was established in 1948 and is a non-government organization, incorporated by Government Ordinance in 1951, addressing the housing needs of low-to-middle income families with different housing schemes, including Rental Estates, Rural Public Housing, Flat-for-Sales, Sandwich Class Housing, Urban Improvement and with Senior Citizen Residences Scheme in the pipeline.



As an important part of housing development, the HKHS places strong emphasis on environmental design, recreational facilities and landscaping for housing estates to improve the quality of life of the residents. This is evident in the different types of housing projects completed over the past years.

By implementing the ISO 14001 scheme in April 2002 the HKHS is the first ISO 14001 certified housing development organisation in Hong Kong.

Why Green Management?


Being one of the major housing providers in Hong Kong, the HKHS is committed to its social mission which embraces environment protection.

“The successful ISO 14001 certification raised two major benefits: the first one is significantly enhancing the environmental awareness of our colleagues and ensuring that they work systematically according to the environmental procedures; another is ensuring the housing development projects’ consultants and contractors perform their works in compliance with relevant environmental requirements and guidelines,” said Mr. Francis Law, Director (Property Development) and Environmental Management Representative of the HKHS.

In addition, Director (Corporate Services) Mrs. Margaret Chan remarked, “The HKHS has endeavoured to protect the environment, and the ISO 14001 certification will enable us to implement the environmental policies more systematically. This is in line with our core values of “Quality” and “Prudence”, and helps contribute to the well-being of the HKHS by saving resources.”



Environmental Commitment (ie Policy)

 To integrate environmental considerations in the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance provisions of buildings.

- To prevent pollution and to protect the environment by conserving natural resources and minimizing waste.
- To comply with all relevant environmental legislation.
- To instruct consultants and contractors to implement Environmental Management System.
- To seek continuous environmental improvements.



- To enhance environmental awareness via internal and external communication of this policy and education to staff, consultants, contractors, and other interested parties

Environmental Objectives

- To encourage Main Contractors to implement ISO 14001 EMS through shortlist of contractors.
- To reduce energy consumption by adoption of energy-saving lighting system / fittings for housing projects.
- To reduce electricity consumption
- To reduce paper consumption
- To enhance staff awareness on environmental protection

Environmental Achievement

- Six ISO 14001 certified contractors were invited to submit tender for a new contract in June 2002.

- General Specification was updated to include energy saving artificial lighting, and it has been adopted in the tender for new contract.
- Comparing with the average consumption of previous year, the overall saving of electricity in head office from April 2002 – February 2003 is approximately 5%.
- Paper consumption is reduced by about 8% from April 2002 – February 2003 compared to the average consumption in the previous year.
- Visits to WENT landfill at Nim Wan and Mai Po Marshes during the year with about a total of 100 staff participated.
- In addition to the environmental initiatives in property development, HKHS has also organised many events for the residents. These events include Tree Planting Day, Tree Tending Activity, Waste Recycling Campaign, "Waste Reduction Credit Scheme", Environmental Protection Ambassadors carnivals and exhibitions to promote green awareness.



Further information

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