

# IMPACT

*An introduction to ISO certification...*

## Painting a Green Future

GK Systems Ltd, the leading powder coater of fenestrations in Ireland, chose IMSM to guide them through the ISO 14001 certification process because of their experience and particular expertise with this standard.

Jane Hopper, Managing Director said, "We decided to pursue ISO 14001 because of my own personal view of environmental issues and those associated with industry. The general public seems to affiliate industry with environmental damage and in general the opposite is actually true. In the UK, industry creates less pollution per head than the general public. IMSM were recommended to us and they made the whole process very clear, simple and easy to understand." Established in 1982, GK Systems Ltd

specialises in the environmentally friendly field of quality powder paint finishing to aluminium, galvanised and mild steel substrates for the construction industry. The company has built up an excellent reputation for offering extremely high levels of service to both large and small customers alike.

The company's policy is to provide quality and service to the highest standard at competitive prices, ensuring that the principles of "right first time" and "continuous improvements" are implemented within staff activities. The highly experienced team of employees has a personal integrity to maintain the quality and standard of work that has ensured GK Systems' status as the market leader in its field.

**"we have saved money by attaining ISO 14001"**

Working to ISO 14001 helps to ensure that the above aims are met in addition to preventing adverse effects to the surrounding environment. Jane continued, "I enjoy the knowledge and peace of mind that all my staff and employees work hard to ensure that we do everything possible to limit any environmental damage and, by best working practices, we have saved money by attaining ISO 14001. Like all small businesses, we did not have extra staff to wade through the standard and try to implement it ourselves. IMSM's expertise and knowledge saved the company time and money and I would recommend them to anyone wishing to pursue ISO certification."

[www.gksystems.co.uk](http://www.gksystems.co.uk)

## A Bug-Free System

Euroguard Services Ltd was formed in 1993 to provide a quality pest management service at much lower costs than its competitors. From pest control and prevention to washroom, hygiene and office cleaning services, the company's fully qualified service staff are strategically positioned to respond swiftly to emergencies and the requests of clients. Although headquartered in Gravesend, Kent, the company's service and surveying staff work from mobile units and are strategically located and tracked to ensure that all enquiries and emergency calls are dealt with swiftly and effectively.

The company is a member of the 'Guild of Master Craftsmen' and has been awarded a lifetime membership of the 'Guild of Master Technicians' as a pest control consultant. Already certified to ISO 9001, Euroguard decided to add to their impressive list of credentials by choosing IMSM to direct them through the ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) implementation process.

**"In addition to huge savings on paper, we have also saved on fuel by installing a tracking system into each vehicle"**

Declan Keegan, Director, explained that obtaining ISO 14001 certification was something they needed to do for their customers' benefit as well as their own. He said, "People are becoming

increasingly concerned about global warming and reducing carbon footprints, so we needed to demonstrate

to new and existing customers that we were committed to helping the environment. We chose IMSM because they weren't pushy saleswise and demonstrated a genuine interest in the company. Previously, another certification company pitched to us, but they just assumed that we would conduct business with them and were only interested in talking about themselves. IMSM, on the other hand, sat down with us and asked questions about our business."

Initially, Declan felt that obtaining ISO 14001 was rather pricey, but now says that it was worth every penny. "On paper we have saved

a significant amount. In pest control, for example, we used to print off a 200-page document every year for each client, but as part of ISO14001 we now put this on CD, which has impressed customers. In addition to huge savings on paper, we have also saved on fuel by installing a tracking system into each vehicle so that we are able to see the exact status of our fleet at any time."

In terms of the help that IMSM has offered the business, Declan said that when any problems arise IMSM deals with them immediately. "We are delighted with the excellent service that IMSM has provided and we have already had great pleasure in recommending them to others."



[www.euro-guard.co.uk](http://www.euro-guard.co.uk)  
[www.pestproducts.co.uk](http://www.pestproducts.co.uk)

## Bridging the Gap

Brogan Construction chose IMSM to take them through the ISO 14001 process because of their excellent reputation for providing a total cost and solution service. According to Nicky Park, QA/Health & Safety Manager, "IMSM then demonstrated their ability to provide us with this."

"Gaining ISO 14001 has helped us to win new business, reduce costs, boost profits and enhance competitiveness"

The company, which has been in business for 26 years and employs 14 personnel at its Omagh base, specialises in the permanent reinstatement of masonry and concrete bridge structures, bridge strengthening, bridge pipe and culvert replacements, general civil works and the building of residential dwellings.

Nicky Park explained that their decision to pursue ISO 14001 was manifold: "We realised that environmental standards such as ISO

14001 represented a significant opportunity for our organisation to minimise our environmental impact and capitalise on greater operational efficiencies. We knew that gaining ISO 14001 would show that our organisation met environmental management standards and satisfied independent inspectors that it minimises the harmful environmental effects of its activities and continuously improves its environmental performance. We also wanted ISO

14001 to act as a framework that would inspire and focus all members of our company, making them active agents of change in promoting environmental protection, resource conservation and greater efficiency."

Nicky continued, "We feel that gaining ISO 14001 has led to a better public perception of the organisation and a competitive advantage, resulting in improved sale opportunities. We

have a better community awareness of the impact of our activities on the local residents; noise, smell, dust, vibration, etc.

"IMSM has helped our business in many ways. Gaining ISO 14001 has helped us to win new business, reduce costs, boost profits and enhance competitiveness, as well as enabling us to comply with legislation and maintain excellent relationships with clients, landowners and the public. Being ISO 14001 certified provides our customers with added confidence that we are able to manage environmental risks effectively. It is something that should be considered by all contractors."

In conclusion, Nicky said, "The service provided by IMSM has been tremendous. We have recommended them to other companies who are seeking to gain ISO 14001."

[www.broganconstruction.com](http://www.broganconstruction.com)

## Managing High Risk Activities

Preston-based Weldlag chose IMSM to guide them through the ISO 14001 certification process because of their ability to understand the way in which the company operated, their experience in this sector and value for money.

"IMSM recognised the importance to our industry of establishing a recognised environmental management system"

Established in 1981, Weldlag is one of the Northwest's leading companies in thermal insulation engineering and is licensed by the Health and Safety Executive for asbestos removal and disposal. The recent introduction of MDHS100 (surveying, sampling and assessment of asbestos containing materials) coupled with relevant changes in the legislation has resulted in the company's staff being trained to P402 by the British Institute of Occupational Hygienists to carry out surveys of properties.

Rob Ainsworth, Managing Director, explained why they decided to pursue ISO14001:

"IMSM recognised the importance to our industry of establishing a recognised environmental management system and were able to explain the process in a straightforward manner. This gave us the confidence to go ahead, with the added knowledge that it would cause as little disruption as possible to our daily working routine. We had already achieved ISO 9001, so ISO 14001 complemented this and further demonstrated our commitment to both our customers and the environment."

Weldlag's dedication to quality and high standards of workmanship, supported by the extensive expertise of its staff, has enabled the company to develop a strong customer base in the industrial sector, servicing clients locally, nationally and internationally.

Weldlag appears on the approved lists of public authorities, H.M. Government

Departments and Health Authorities, Licensed Retailers, Breweries, BNFL, major construction, heating and ventilation companies and contracting companies for work with asbestos-based materials.

Rob continued, "Because of the high-risk nature of some aspects of our business, being ISO 14001 certified instils a greater sense of confidence into both our customers and our employees. IMSM gave us the confidence to implement this system and they guided us effortlessly through every stage of the process. Achieving ISO 14001 has enhanced Weldlag's ability to attain and measure improvements in environmental performance and facilitate trade."

In conclusion, Rob said, "IMSM did exactly what they said they would do and it was a pleasure working with them. We would not hesitate in recommending their services to other organisations."

[www.weldlag.co.uk](http://www.weldlag.co.uk)

**UK Head Office:** The Gig House, Oxford Street, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9AX  
**Telephone:** +44 (0)1666 826065  
**Fax:** +44 (0)1666 826050  
**Email:** [enquiries@imsmsm.com](mailto:enquiries@imsmsm.com)  
**Web:** [www.imsmsm.com](http://www.imsmsm.com)



**Your Local Business Manager:**



International  
Management Systems  
Marketing