



EMAS'S SIMPLE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE FOR MULTISITE ORGANISATIONS

EMAS: The environmental management instrument for all economic sectors!

The Environmental Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) is the official EU environmental management instrument for businesses and other organisations. **EMAS allows you to evaluate, improve and report on your organisation's environmental performance in a transparent and structured way.** Since 2001, EMAS has been available for all sectors of the economy, for both **private companies** and **public service organisations**.

EMAS is 100% compatible with the international ISO 14001:2015 standard and even goes beyond it!

Which benefits for my organisation?

With EMAS, your organisation can reduce its environmental impacts, strengthen legal compliance and employee involvement, and save resources and money. In particular EMAS brings the following benefits to you organisation:

1. Enhanced credibility, transparency and reputation

- continuous improvement of environmental performance is verified
- independently validated reporting through environmental statement
- increased business opportunities in markets that prioritise green production processes
- better relations with customers, local and wider community, and regulators

2. Enhanced environmental risks and opportunities management

- guarantee of full regulatory compliance with environmental legislation
- reduced risk of fines related to environmental legislation
- regulatory relief
- access to public contracts

3. Enhanced environmental and financial performance

- high quality environmental management
- resource efficiency and cost savings

4. Enhanced employee empowerment and motivation

- improved workplace environment
- enhanced employee commitment and team-building capacity

My organisation is very large, with multiple sites. Will it be easy for us to register with EMAS?

In the past, it was necessary to have all sites audited and verified every three years, which could be time consuming and costly for large organisations. **The multisite registration procedure was introduced this year** to alleviate this burden while maintaining the reliability of the scheme. This means that large organisations can now have their sites audited on a sample basis. The procedure is described in the EMAS User's Guide, which can be accessed on EMAS Publications/Guidance page of the EMAS website (emas.eu).

EXAMPLE OF A BANK

Let's take an international bank with one headquarters and 50 branches located in the same Member State. Before the new registration procedure for multisite organisations, each of the 50 agencies had to be audited and verified. Now, thanks to the change, a representative sample of sites out of each group of similar sites will be selected for auditing.

Applying the sample methodology: how many sites have to be audited and verified?

- *The individual site where the headquarters are located*
- *A sample of the group of 50 agencies: $\sqrt{50} \times 2 = 15$ bank sites (rounded to the next higher number)*

A total of only 16 sites have to be audited instead of 51 sites initially!
The audited sites will be different every three years.

Why register multiple sites with EMAS?

By registering several of your sites at the same time, you can set up an ambitious environmental strategy for your organisation. You can maximise the benefits of EMAS by adopting clear measures at your different sites in order to improve their environmental performance and increase the credibility of your commitment to sustainability.



For more information's, please consult the user's guide, your national EMAS Competent Body (contact details are available on the EMAS website: emas.eu) or the EMAS Helpdesk emashelpdesk@adelphi.de.