



A message from the Managing Director – Tony Cunningham

On behalf of my Team, I wish that you may achieve your 2017 goals, and that your year be wonderful. Happy New Year.

ISO 19011 the well-used audit guide provided by the International Organisation of Standardisation (ISO) is to be published in a 'facelift' version. ISO 19011 primarily guides those performing first and second party management system audits through the audit life - cycle, known as an audit programme.

It is now a well understood fact that management system standards are taking on a common structure, some common text and definitions. It is therefore not unexpected that the way audits are conducted can be adapted to better address these new requirements.

Our experience in delivering Registered Lead Auditor training courses, for those seeking to audit the 2015 versions of 9001 and 14001, has revealed that learners are experiencing increased challenges in conducting an effective audit.

We believe that the new Auditing Guideline will provide added value through clear guidance on how to audit concepts not previously addressed by management system standards, such as clauses 4 and 6.

While the standard for the audit process used by Certification Auditors, ISO 17021-1:2015 has been revised, even they will receive assistance from the content of the new ISO 19011.

So far the main points under discussion have focused on :

- Aligning terms and definitions with those held in Annex SL of the ISO directives;
- The inclusion of risk and opportunity (risk-based thinking);
- Conduct of remote audits;
- The application of ISO 19011 to small business and how this need would be addressed; and
- Competence of auditors.

Revisions are in their infant stages and no one can predict what the final product will contain. Closer to publication date, Risk ZA will update the market with the necessary information. So be sure to keep a watchful eye for subsequent news items.