

EMB meets rigorous international standards for quality management systems, achieves ISO 9001:2015 certification

The Environmental Management Bureau-Central Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR) announced that it has earned International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015 certification for Quality Management System (QMS), after an extensive audit of the bureau's internal operations.

ISO 9001 is the world's most recognized QMS standard that aims to help organizations meet the clientele's needs more effectively. This is achieved by building a framework to ensure consistent quality in the provision of goods and/or services. The current version of ISO 9001 was released on September 2015.

EMB Director William P. Cunado said, "Being ISO 9001:2015 certified is well worth the effort and time that we put into it because this confirms our commitment to provide efficient, consistent, quality and improved service to our clientele.

"Achieving an ISO 9001:2015 accreditation ensures that we have the processes and systems in place to comply with EMB's policy and objectives. This standard demonstrates our desire to always perform at the highest levels of quality and efficiency and to consistently provide services that meet customer and regulatory requirements," Cunado added.

The successful completion of EMB's ISO 9001:2015 audit performed by TUV Rheinland Philippines included provisions on environmental governance services such as, executive services; policy, planning and program development; environmental quality management; solid waste management; climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Other scopes audited were the organization's environmental impact assessment and management; environmental education and information dissemination; environmental research and laboratory services; legal services; pollution adjudication; and administrative and finance services.

The audit team reviewed the conformity of the process flows with the requirements of the standard and the descriptions in the management documentation, as contained in the audit plan.

The audit, conducted on July 2020 and conferred certification in October 2020 was performed based on random samples, including interviews and examination of the appropriate documents.

In 2019, TUV Rheinland provided very satisfactory results in most Division Performance Commitment Review.

As concluded by the audit team, EMB has established and maintains an effective system to ensure compliance with its policy and objectives. It further confirms the organization's management system that complies with, adequately maintains and implements the requirements of the standard with the audit targets.

The TUV Rheinland awarded the ISO certification to EMB with zero non-conformances, the best result possible.

In 2004, EMB was awarded its first ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (EMS) and earned re-certification in 2014 and 2017. Recently, the organization was conferred the ISO 14001:2015 version.

ISO 14001 EMS is a systematic framework to manage the immediate and long-term environmental impacts of an organization's products, services and processes; minimize their environmental footprint; diminish the risk of pollution incidents and provide operational improvements.

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