ISO 50001 Lead Auditor Certification Program

Energy Professionals International (EPI) Certification Scheme and International Exam help countries build workforce programs to qualify skilled ISO 50001 Lead Auditors

Overview

Certification of the ISO 50001 energy management systems (EnMS) standard is growing worldwide as companies, governments, and other organizations are recognizing its effectiveness in reducing energy use, increasing productivity, and contributing to corporate sustainability goals and international climate commitments. As these organizations use ISO 50001 to publicly declare progress toward these goals, the quality of ISO 50001 certifications will be scrutinized. To uphold the value of ISO 50001 certifications, conformity assessment bodies must ensure that their ISO 50001 audit teams possess the necessary technical skills and experience to conduct the audits effectively.

ISO 50001 has a dual focus on the use of a robust EnMS and sustained, data-driven improvements in energy performance. This dual focus requires skills in both business management systems and the technical aspects of energy performance—a skill set that can be hard to find in today’s marketplace.

In response to this need, six countries and UNIDO have worked through the Energy Management Working Group (EMWG) to define the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively audit organizations seeking certification to ISO 50001. The result is the consensus-based Energy Professionals International (EPI) Certification Scheme and International Exam, which are foundational resources to increase the technical reliability in ISO 50001 audits, increase the impact of ISO 50001, and demonstrate the value of EnMS in industrial, commercial, and public sector organizations.

Benefits

Jump-start workforce development efforts:

- Access a complete package of materials to support national implementation of an internationally relevant ISO 50001 Lead Auditor certification program.
- Save on costs to develop ISO 50001 Lead Auditor workforce programs. Access this complete package of materials to augment or launch ISO 50001 Lead Auditor training and personnel credentialing programs.

Increase the impact of ISO 50001:

- Strengthen effectiveness of ISO 50001 conformity assessments and assure consistency with international best practices on ISO 50001 auditing
- Increase confidence in ISO 50001 Lead Auditor competence and certification outcomes

Increase the impact of ISO 50001

The Energy Professionals International (EPI) certification for ISO 50001 Lead Auditor establishes a standard, high level of knowledge and skills for ISO 50001 auditors globally.

The certification program is suitable for adaptation to country-specific needs and meets the requirements for ISO/IEC 17024 accreditation.
EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditor Certification

The EPI developed a Certification Scheme and International Exam for ISO 50001 Lead Auditor. These products build on and are fully consistent with the requirements of the ISO 50003 standard, which sets the requirements for bodies that audit and certify energy management systems. The EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditor Certification Scheme consists of a job scope, job task analysis (JTA) defining knowledge and performance areas for testing competence, a blueprint of weighted topics from the JTA, education and experience requirements, and suggested prerequisites. Implementation principles provide guidance on using the certification program, help maintain technical consistency among ISO 50001 audits, and prepare personnel certification bodies to meet the requirements of ISO/IEC 17024 accreditation. The EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditor International Exam is based on the Certification Scheme.

Countries have flexibility in adopting the EPI Certification in their national programs. The EPI Certification Scheme for ISO 50001 Lead Auditor will be licensed to interested personnel certification bodies, with the option to license the International Exam as well.

How to Participate

A variety of national bodies can initiate the implementation of the EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditor Certification Scheme and International Exam.

- **Auditing professionals** with energy performance and/or management system experience can broaden their work opportunities by obtaining the ISO 50001 Lead Auditor international credential.
- **Governments** seeking to use ISO 50001 to meet national energy and climate goals can encourage personnel certification bodies and, where appropriate, accreditation bodies to adopt or promote workforce programs that support EPI certification.
- **Personnel Certification Bodies (PCB)** that would like to offer a high quality ISO 50001 Lead Auditor credential can license the EPI Certification Scheme and (optional) International Exam.
- **Accreditation Bodies** can promote EPI certification to PCBs as a new offering consistent with international standards and can help to better align government policies with international standards.
- **Certification Bodies** can signal the high quality of their ISO 50001 auditing services to their customers by using certified EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditors. The credential also enables easier identification of qualified auditors
- **Companies** seeking ISO 50001 certification can ask their certification bodies to use certified EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditors to demonstrate high quality of their ISO 50001 EnMS.

Currently, the Institute for Energy Management Professionals is licensed to offer the EPI ISO 50001 Lead Auditor exam to qualified candidates. Professionals interested in seeking the credential can apply for the exam on the IEnMP website at ienmp.org. IEnMP will also help candidates locate the nearest test center that offers the exam. To learn about the international collaboration through EPI, contact the EMWG Coordinator, Gerswynn Mckuur of UNIDO, G.MCKUUR@unido.org.

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Energy Professionals International

Members of the Energy Management Working Group (EMWG) formed the Energy Professionals International effort to develop the ISO 50001 Lead Auditor Certification Scheme and International Exam. The following EMWG members and partners collaborated through EPI to develop the credential:

- Canada (co-sponsor): Natural Resources Canada
- United States (co-sponsor): U.S. Department of Energy
- Chile: Agencia Chilena de Eficiencia Energética
- Mexico: Comisión Nacional para el Uso Eficiente de la Energía
- Republic of Korea: Korea Energy Management Corporation and Korea Auditor Registration
- South Africa: South African National Energy Development Institute and National Cleaner Production Centre
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (observer)

The EMWG is an initiative of the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) and International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC). Through the EMWG, government officials worldwide share best practices and leverage their collective knowledge and experience to create high-impact national programs that accelerate the use of energy management systems in industry and commercial buildings.

For more information, please visit cleanenergyministerial.org/initiative-clean-energy-ministerial/energy-management-working-group