

## **RCMS and RC 14001 News and**

### **Special Edition**

Eagle Group has successfully developed and supported both Responsible Care® Management System (RCMS) & Responsible Care® 14001 Management System (RC 14001) requirements for both ACC and affiliate member companies. With the impending deadline for ACC members, we can help you facilitate a cost effective and efficient approach to applying these requirements within your organization.

Here is a brief summary of RCMS & Responsible Care® 14001 and the reasons to consider Eagle Group to support you.

#### **Responsible Care® Management System and RC 14001**

Responsible Care® Management System and RC 14001 are Management Systems for the American Chemistry Council's membership (ACC) and their partners. These management systems address the management of the environment, security and health & safety within the organizations headquarters and member facilities.

A number of strategies are available to fulfill the ACC's membership obligations for Responsible Care®, we briefly discuss these obligations below:

**RCMS** – The requirements are called out in the Responsible Care® Management System Technical Specification. This Technical Specification contains the minimum requirements that headquarters and all the facilities must implement to remain a member of ACC or to be an ACC Partner. The RCMS is based upon the popular “Plan – Do – Check – Act model” and consists of five main sections:

1. Policy & Leadership,
2. Planning,

3. Implementation, Operation and Accountability,
4. Performance Measurement, Corrective and Preventive Action, and
5. Management Review and Reporting.

The RCMS uses third party auditors to verify the member organization meets all the requirements through audits of the headquarters and the member facilities.

**Responsible Care® 14001** – The RC 14001 Technical Specification is based on the popular ISO 14001 Standard and is intended to address all the requirements of ISO 14001 and the RCMS described above. The Technical Specification uses the same numbering and structural format as used in ISO 14001 and includes the additional requirements in a boxed area following each ISO requirement, where applicable (think ISO 14001 on steroids).

RC 14001 is not required; the member organization needs to decide on whether RCMS or RC 14001 makes sense for its needs. Typically your customers can help or influence this process. An example would be the requirements placed on facilities supplying the automotive industry vehicle assembly facilities; these suppliers are required to meet the requirements of ISO 14001 which the RCMS Technical Specification does not meet. Therefore, it may be appropriate for an organizations headquarters and member facilities to implement RC 14001 thus meeting both ACC and customer requirements. (Two for the price of one).

The RC 14001 third party auditor scheme is basically the same as the ISO 14001 process with registrars that have been approved for RC 14001 audits. Registrars perform surveillance audits on an annual or semiannual basis.

**Timing of RCMS or RC 14001** – Certification of headquarters must be accomplished by December of 2005 with all member facilities completed by December of 2007. The certifications will need to be renewed every three years.

Eagle Group USA, Inc. can help you in this process. We offer a full range of training and consulting support services for both RCMS and RC 14001. We have successfully developed and supported both RCMS and RC14001 management system requirements. Our RCMS & RC 14001 Consulting and Training Services include:

- Executive RCMS/RC14001 Overviews
- Internal Auditor Training Workshops
- Implementation Workshops
- Initial System (GAP) analysis
- Documentation Development & Technical Writing
- Final System Evaluation (Dress Rehearsal of member RCMS/RC 14001 system)
- Implementation & Guidance assistance

- Auditing Maintenance Support – Contract Internal Auditing to support on-going RCMS &/or RC-14001 System audits.

With the impending ACC deadline, we can help you facilitate a cost effective and efficient approach to applying these requirements within your organization.

### **Reasons to consider Eagle Group:**

We listen to our customers and anticipate their needs: to move you toward successful registration with an organization that has the industry knowledge, technical expertise, professionalism and ability to work with you as a team. The registration strategy that we design for you will address your specific cultural and organizational needs while allowing for minimal disruption of your day-to-day activities. This strategy will assist in integrating existing systems, as well as providing for the hands-on development of an either an RCMS and/or RC 14001 based system that is efficient, effective and that you will own.

- We practice what we preach – Eagle Group is one of only 6 other competing consulting and training organizations in North America that is an ISO 9001 registered company and
- An ISO 14001 Registered company –we implemented an Environmental Management System to further demonstrate our commitment to the continual improvement process and improving the environment we live in
- We have no formal affiliations or reciprocal agreements with any Registrars, we support the registrar selection process with guidance based on our experience and the actual experiences of our clients
- We have our own full time dedicated staff that have a wide depth of industry experience and RAB credentials
- We assign a project consultant manager/team to support your implementation and registration initiative
- We offer free phone, fax and email support to address questions
- We have an Eagle Group consultant team, independent of your registration initiative, conduct a Final System Review (Dress Rehearsal) to ensure readiness of your system prior to your registration audit

We appreciate the opportunity to support your business needs. Please review the outlined information and contact Debbie lafrate or Cheryl Burt at 800-508-9044 if you have any questions or would like to further discuss your customized implementation strategy. We encourage you to learn more about Eagle Group and our RCMS/RC14001 Services by visiting us at <http://www.eaglegroupusa.com/>.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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President

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### **Feedback**

We're always looking for new content. If you have any press releases, newsletter ideas, or just topics you'd like us to cover, e-mail them to [webmaster@eaglegroupusa.com](mailto:webmaster@eaglegroupusa.com)

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