



ISO 55001 Guidelines for the Water Industry

The ISO 55001 Guidelines have been developed by the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) as an initiative of the WSAA Asset Management Program. The objective of the Guidelines is to enable compliance with requirements of ISO 55001 and will be used to understand gaps between ISO 55001 and Aquamark to inform the 2016 Aquamark benchmarking exercise.

Background

Over the past decade Australian water utilities have had an increasing focus on developing and improving their asset life cycle management practices. It is recognised this is a continuous improvement journey.

WSAA's Aquamark tool for asset management performance assessment, developed specifically for water industry assets, identifies the processes and sub-processes required for management of assets through the lifecycle functions and the requirements of supporting business systems. The lifecycle functions comprise of planning, asset selection, acquisition, operation, maintenance and ultimate disposal or renewal.

Australia's water utilities are familiar with the development of management systems for quality management, environmental management and safety management, and appreciate the benefits of management systems to efficient business operation. In addition many have based their asset management systems on PAS55. ISO 55001 is the next iteration in asset management and is compatible with other ISO systems

The guidelines in ISO 55002 for the application of ISO 55001 provide explanatory text to clarify the requirements specified in ISO 55001. Further guidance on the implementation of ISO 55001 has recently been developed by the Asset Management Council and other organisations. However, further work is required to provide guidance for managing specific asset types. In this regard it would be highly beneficial for water utilities to have guidelines for establishment and implementation of a management system specific to water and/or sewage assets management and that are specific to the regulatory and legislative environment applying in Australia's states and territories.

Separately the Aquamark Benchmarking process is entering its fourth iteration. A vital component to ensuring Aquamark remains contemporary is ensuring that this tool addresses the key aspects identified in ISO 55001. It is intended that the outcomes from this project will provide a strong base from which to support the future development and enhancement of Aquamark. Such linkage is essential to ensure the continued viability and usefulness of Aquamark to the industry.

Outcomes and benefits

The guidelines will can be used by water industry asset management practitioners to establish and implement the requirements of an Asset Management System prescribed in the International Standard ISO 55001.

Project AM Sub-08 has specifically produced:

- Guidelines for Establishment and Implementation of a Management System for Asset Management to ISO 55001 for Australian water utilities
- Software to provide stepped processes to select/define various requirements for different size/ asset diversity/ state regulation/ legislation for establishing and implementing an asset management system according with the requirements of ISO 55001
- Establishment of a reference resource on WSAA's member website having example documents from various water utilities that have been prepared to meet specific requirements in ISO 55001
- Guidance on modifications to the Aquamark tool to ensure it addresses new requirements described by ISO 55001.
- As a separable part of the quotation: an industry readiness report comparing the current state of utilities who had undertaken Aquamark. This would be in the form of an individual report for each utility who had participated in Aquamark 2012 and a combined industry report.

Benefits:

A consistent approach and compliance with ISO 55001 through the availability and implementation of these Guidelines will have significant benefits to the water industry to ensure that utility asset management systems can be managed to deliver leading practice operations. The key benefits are listed below:

- Leading practice asset management systems
- Continuous improvement
- ISO 55001 compliance
- Incorporation of ISO 55001 in the Aquamark 2016 tool

How to purchase

This subscription project was funded by participating WSAA Member utilities. Non-participating WSAA Members and those without WSAA membership will be required to purchase the project deliverable.

Participating members can access this project via the [WSAA Member Portal](#). If you do not have access to the portal please contact web@wsaa.asn.au.

Further Information

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