

Environmental Audits

The Murata Group employs four auditing systems to conduct environmental audits at each of its production plants and production subsidiaries. The purpose of these audits is to discover and correct any noncompliance that may arise in various operations. As well, we use the basic information obtained through these audits when conducting reviews of our environmental management system.

Environmental Audits

At each of its production plants and production subsidiaries, Murata undertakes four audits periodically and checks on activities.

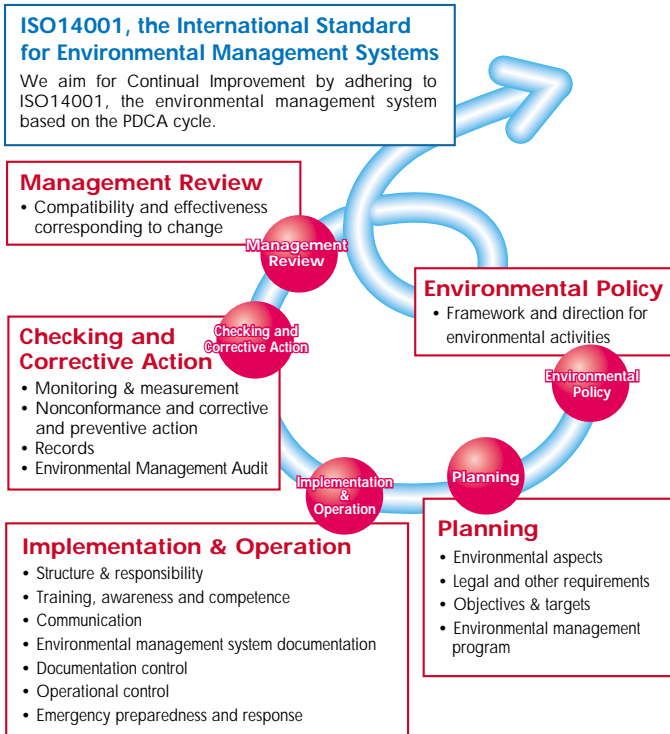
1. Internal self-audit of the company's environmental management system
2. Functional staff audit by the Environmental Management Department of Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
3. Audit by auditors
4. Periodic ISO14001 audit by a certification body

We undertake audits Nos. 2 and 3 above, except at production plants and production subsidiaries. This audit system, together with the discovery and correction of noncompliance in all kinds of applications, makes use of the data obtained through the audits as basic information for use whenever a review of the entire environmental management system is conducted.

Functional Staff Audit by the Environmental Management Department of Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

The internal company audit and the audit by an external certification body are implemented around the appropriate management plan and conformance to laws, as well as improvement targets measured against actual results. As well, Murata's Environmental Management Department, as the main functional staff of the Murata Group, periodically audits all plants and subsidiaries. Using the results of the internal audit and external inspection of the plant, we implement the audit by functional staff by focusing on the state of progress according to the company-wide environmental action plan as well as the results of the inspection for conformance to important laws and regulations. This approach aims to compensate for the limited time available for the inspection by the external certification body. In addition, it compensates for the specialized portion that cannot be covered by the plant internal inspection. The audits regarding nonproduction offices are focused on compliance with the law.

Continual Improvement



Functional staff audit underway at Hakui Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd. in December 2003

Periodic ISO14001 Audit by Certification Bodies

Certification bodies conduct periodic on-site audit of the environmental management systems at all Murata production sites and production subsidiaries to ensure continuous compliance with the ISO14001 international standards.

Plant Internal Self-audit

At each production plant and production subsidiary, we have established a management standard for day-to-day business and are continuing with the discovery and correction of noncompliance and monitoring of operations. In addition, we undertake internal audits at fixed intervals every year, and we undertake activities to correct any issues detected as a result. In this audit, we take steps to determine whether the various prescribed rules are being followed correctly. This plant internal self-audit has been undertaken at each production plant and production subsidiary since the formation of the plant environmental management system from 1997 to 1999. We intend to upgrade the skills of the auditors by re-training and by building on the experience gained during internal environmental audits.



Internal environmental audit underway at Suzhou Murata Electronics in May 2004