



Environment Institute of  
Australia and New Zealand Inc.

## ABSTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

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### **Title: The business case for ISO14001 certification**

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#### *Abstract:*

ISO14001 is the most adopted environmental management system in the world. It is implemented by 3,300 organizations in Australia and more than 300,000 globally.

This study answers the questions:

1. Does ISO14001 improve environmental performance?
2. How can we influence its implementation?
3. What incentives are provided by Australian regulators for ISO14001?
4. Does ISO14001 impact environmental prosecution outcomes?

The study outcomes:

- ISO14001 has been statistically proven across several studies to reduce air, water and waste pollution and improve systems. It has not reduced non-compliance, complaints or incidents.
- The most influential reasons organizations adopted ISO14001 were economic and ethical.
- The incentives provided by regulators in Australia vary by state and include fee reduction and risk based license conditions.
- In environmental prosecution cases this study found that ISO14001 did not reduce the severity of penalties imposed. Although pending prosecution did result in several organizations choosing to implement ISO14001.