

Environment issues have played an important part in recent years at the public debates because the human family and environment faced a common challenge of surviving.

A new approach to environmental protection is now available thanks to the development of the international standards on environmental management, ISO 14001. The standard lead to enhance the quality of life and environmental requirements through the sustainable development of society, which involves the protections of environment and by ensuring the human lives in healthy and safe environment. The implementation of the environmental management system prescribed by ISO 14001 can lead to good compliance with environmental legislation and continual improvement in the environmental performance.

Standardization plays an important role in present trade because of its market value due to the demand of consumers. Most companies with environmental impacts, like asbestos industry seeks the environmental standards by implementing environmental management system to overcome this demand as market pressure.

In Sri Lankan Asbestos products, which uses for roofing industry has not much confidents in its production process and usage. The public has no clear view about the asbestos eventhough these products are used by them. The producers of asbestos are still trying to find the more convenient ways in every directions; product quality, occupational health & safety and environmental safety. The regulatory bodies have not defined specific rules & regulations for this industry.

The environmental management system implementation within ISO 14001 standard to the asbestos production process and related studies are the most effective way to asses & identify the occupational, public health and environmental risk associated with asbestos production. This helps to propose the safer work practise & environmental standards to minimise its harmful effects.