



## **S<sub>2</sub> Partnership Gains ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management System**

The S<sub>2</sub> Partnership is justifiably proud to announce that its Environmental Management System (EMS) developed for clients in the Managed Property Sector, has successfully achieved accredited certification to ISO 14001:2004.








The accreditation process took less than 6 weeks, from initial discussions with the accreditation body in late December, through stage 1 audits in January and then the final stage 2 audit on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February 2008. The scope of the accreditation is not only for our Elsworth office but also for our environmental and other consultancy services.

The S<sub>2</sub> Partnership's approach to the successful achievement of ISO 14001:2004 was through the implementation of our EMS, which promotes continuous environmental performance through simple, cost effective and site specific solutions. The S<sub>2</sub> Partnership's EMS consists of three core elements; firstly the Policy and Practice Manual, secondly the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and thirdly RiskWise, our web-based risk and environmental management tool.

The Policy and Practice Manual provides the framework for the EMS and establishes a declaration of continuous environmental improvement through the organisations Environmental Policy Statement. The manual also establishes procedures covering responsibilities, communication, competence, emergency preparedness, internal audit, corrective action and management review. The Policy and Practice Manual is derived from the findings of the office or site Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), as this identifies the significant environmental aspects associated with the businesses activities. These significant aspects are the areas for continuous improvement and form the basis of all objectives and targets.

The S<sub>2</sub> Partnership's EIA is designed around the requirements of our clients and the portfolios they manage. It focuses on 8 key environmental aspects and critically evaluates the impact the organisation has in these areas.

These aspects are:

-  Energy consumption
-  Water consumption
-  Waste generation and management
-  Pollution prevention
-  Transportation
-  Suppliers and contractors
-  Statutory nuisance
-  Fauna and flora





The EIA evaluates the level of impact through a traffic light system where activities are assessed for their potential or actual level of environmental impact. Critical impacts on the environment are identified as **Red (-)**, activities with a medium negative impact are identified as **Orange (-)** and those identified with a low negative impact as being **amber (-)**. Activities which have a positive impact are identified as **dark green (+)**. This assessment process enables site managers and senior management a clear indication of where improvements are required and where they are currently achieving industry best practice.

RiskWise has been utilised not only to control and manage the achievement of objectives and targets, but also as the storage and retrieval facility for document and record control, an important aspect of any effective management system. RiskWise has also been used to log internal and external audits, together with the necessary non conformance reports. The monitoring and recording of energy consumption is a new function of RiskWise and with the impending release of RiskWise 2, the ability to record and monitor water consumption and waste generation make the future of environmental management even easier.

By having our EMS accredited to ISO 14001:2004, the S<sub>2</sub> Partnership is now in a unique position to assist our clients with the delivery of their own certificated ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management System. This could be achieved either through the delivery of the complete EMS package, or by combining one or more of the components' of our system with your own management system.

