

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS STANDARDS –
ACHIEVING GREATER CREDIBILITY THROUGH GREATER VISIBILITY
OF THEIR OUTPUT**

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ABSTRACT

Environmental Management Systems Standards (EMSS) such as ISO14001 and EMAS have been promoted and widely implemented in recent years; however no consensus has been reached on their real effectiveness. This paper will critically review the costs and benefits associated with the implementation of EMSS. A number of factors that influence these costs and benefits and are critical for the adoption of EMSS will be discussed. The aim of this paper is to shed light on both the potential and the limitations of these management tools.