

# Towards a **green economy** with EMAS

German companies are on track with the best environmental performance system





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Unless production methods with high greenhouse gas emissions and raw materials consumption are changed, our world is heading towards ecological and economic collapse. We need a green economy.

A “green economy” is about developing successful businesses that make a positive contribution to the sustainable development of society as a whole.

Sound environmental management systems in companies are the foundations of good environmental performance.

Companies can demonstrate their environmental performance and continual improvement by different means: By single measures or by taking a systematic approach.

EMAS is the premium environmental management tool to achieve this aim.

**The EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)** is a management tool for companies and other organisations to evaluate, report and improve their environmental performance. EMAS registration leads organizations to enhanced performance, credibility and transparency.

The management system is also compatible with other corporate objectives, e.g. energy efficiency, resource efficiency and social responsibility including employee involvement.

Currently, about 1350 organisations with approximately 1900 sites are listed in the German EMAS register. Within the EU, more than 8000 sites are EMAS-registered.

**In January 2010, the revised EMAS regulation came into force. It enables organisations worldwide to join this European star management system.**

EMAS requires organisations not only to comply with all relevant legislation, but to continually improve their own performance with regard to all relevant direct and indirect environmental aspects, such as energy, waste, water, emissions, procurement and biodiversity. All environmental performance information must be presented to the public through an externally validated report.

EMAS environmental statements strengthen trust in an enterprise because the public can rely on the fact that the company’s statements and data are verified.

A company’s environmental statement must fulfill certain requirements.

EMAS participants must provide information about their environmental policy and environmental management system as well as about the organization’s essential environmental impacts. The organization must also report on compliance with regulations, their environmental programme and their environmental targets.

An EMAS environmental statement establishes transparency with respect to the organization's actions and simplifies performance comparisons within economic sectors. This transparency becomes even more important in building confidence with neighbors, customers and business associates. An environmental statement provides a good basis of information for competent authorities, residents and other concerned citizens, as well as for environmentally aware consumers, scientists, environmental organizations, banks and insurance companies.

**Core Performance Indicators (CPIs)** within the EMAS statement increase the level of information, complement the requested qualitative analysis of relevant environmental aspects, and reveal the progress of the environmental management at one glance. With the help of CPIs, organizations can express complex facts concisely and descriptively in tables and charts, for example, energy and water consumption per unit produced per year.

The unique **EMAS logo** ensures the public that the registered organisation complies with environmental laws, strives for continuous environmental improvement and has published a validated environmental statement containing all relevant data and information.

The **EMAS logo** has proven to be an effective instrument in Europe for marketing best-practice companies.



The “green economy” concept also covers the social impacts of the prevailing economic system. It is about successful businesses making a positive contribution to the sustainable development of society as a whole.

The concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) recognizes the ecological environment and the social dimensions of good business behavior. Sound corporate management systems are foundations for sustainable economies and sustainable societies. On 1 November 2010, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) published the **Guidance standard on social responsibility, ISO 26000**. Main topics of ISO 26000 are human rights, labor practices, fair business practices, environmental protection, and consumer concerns. ISO 26000 is explicitly not a management system standard nor is it intended for certification purposes. The standard addresses environmental protection in several areas, including environmental responsibility, the precautionary approach, impact assessment and sustainable procurement. Companies registered to EMAS are already following these non-binding recommendations and suggestions of ISO 26000 through their management system structures and principles of action.

PLAN, DO, CHECK, and ACT now – the time is right for ENERGY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The international standard **ISO 50001 “Energy management systems – Requirements with guidance for use”** specifies requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and improving an energy management system, whose purpose is to enable a company to follow a systematic approach for continual improvement of energy performance. Even though this standard has been designed to be used independently, it can be aligned or integrated with other management systems standards, in particular with ISO 9001 and ISO 14001.

Many businesses around the world have energy efficiency action plans. An energy management system provides a valuable added dimension to these existing measures. Early users of ISO 50001 report early gains from implementing ISO 50001, including significant reductions in power consumption, carbon emissions and energy costs, and benefits to manufacturing plants, communities and the environment.

Any company can use ISO 50001 to drive down its energy costs and its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Energy efficiency is a significant environmental aspect in most EMAS companies. Only a few additions are required to fulfill ISO 50001 requirements. The focus of EMAS is on improvement of the overall environmental performance of a company including energy-related issues. EMAS companies present very clearly within their validated environmental statement energy related data. EMAS is therefore applicable to all the requirements of ISO 50001.





“Since the ,birth‘ of EMAS, the European Commission is strongly committed to improving this worldwide high quality environmental management system and creating as much public awareness around it as possible. With EMAS III, we have succeeded to make the scheme accessible to non-European countries. This way EMAS can help reduce the environmental impacts of businesses around the globe as much as possible.,”

**Karl Falkenberg,  
Director-General of the European Commission,  
Environment DG**

“EMAS is an important instrument of environmental policy and part of the CSR strategies that are implemented by organisations. It allows companies to visualise their own environmental performance as part of their environmental and socio-political climate, energy and resource efficiency strategies. EMAS gives businesses, government agencies and other organisations opportunity to voluntarily contribute to the conservation of natural resources.”



**Peter Altmaier,  
Federal Environment Minister**



**Michael Sommer,  
Chairman of the German Trade Union Federation  
(DGB) and  
President of the International Trade Union Confe-  
deration (ITUC)**

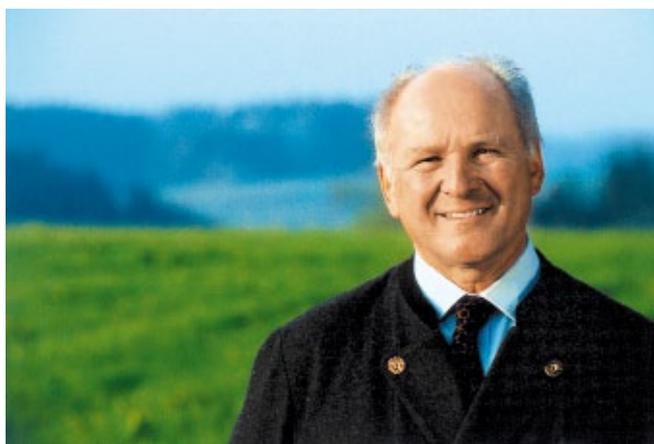
“I support EMAS in finding ways to utilize corporate environmental protection to reduce business management costs. In the future, we need to increase not only labour productivity, but also the productivity of energy and resources. Companies should increasingly recognize and take advantage of the innovative alternatives EMAS offers them – improved efficiency in the use of materials, energy and resources – to enhance their competitiveness. I see EMAS as thus also contributing to easing workflows and providing incentives for environment and employment.”



**Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler,  
Schaeffler-Group**

“EMAS aims at the continual improvement in environmental performance. We have fully endorsed this approach and environmental protection is a vital part of our corporate goals within our management principles. The validation of all of our production sites around the world according to EMAS convincingly gives proof of our corporate environmental policy enhanced by a sound environmental management system which has been implemented for a very long time.”

“EMAS is an open commitment to the environment, not an empty promise. Good examples particularly have an effect on those who really count: the young people. EMAS helps companies to be more sustainable, because it initiates a comprehensive process of thought and action. Aristotle defines wisdom as one of the main virtues: ‘Recognize the right thing and act accordingly.’ EMAS is an expression of wisdom.”



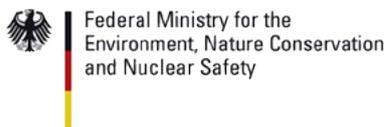
**Prof. Dr. Claus Hipp,  
HiPP Organic Baby Foods**



**Bettina Countess Bernadotte,  
Mainau Island**

“We know and appreciate EMAS as a useful and efficient tool for environmental management. EMAS has helped us significantly to realize consequences for cost optimization through environmental issues in order to continuously meet our motto: „economic and ecological balance“.

Kornkraft Naturkost GmbH • KornMühle e.Kfr. • KRS-MARABU Ball and Roller Technology GmbH • KS Gleitlager GmbH • KS-Recycling GmbH & Co. KG • Kulmbacher Brauerei AG • Landesanstalt für Umwelt, Messungen und • Landesbank Baden-Württemberg • Landesbausparkasse Baden-Württemberg • Landeshauptstadt München • Landhausschule Heidelberg • Landidyll Hotel • Landschaftsverband Rheinland • Landwirtschaft und Tierarztpraxis Dr. Thomas große Beilage • LANXESS Buna GmbH • Laserline • LEIPA Georg Leinfelder GmbH • Leoni Bordnetz-Systeme GmbH • LEUNA-Harze GmbH • Lieken Brot- und Backwaren GmbH • Linde + Wiemann GmbH KG • Lübeck-Travemünder Verkehrsgesellschaft mbH • Lücke Metallveredelungs-GmbH • Lufthansa Cityline GmbH • Mack Alu-Systeme GmbH • Mahle GmbH • Mainau GmbH • MAN Nutzfahrzeuge AG • MANN + HUMMEL GMBH • Märkisches Landbrot GmbH • Maschinenfabrik Niehoff GmbH & Co. KG • Max Wittmann GmbH • MBR Recycling GmbH • Mercedes-Benz Ludwigsfelde GmbH • Micronas GmbH • MINIMAX GmbH & Co. KG • Ministerium für Umwelt, Energie und Verkehr • Modell Hohenlohe- Netzwerk betrieblicher • Molkerei Gropper GmbH & Co. KG • Mondi Incoast GmbH • Motorsportfreunde Idstedt e.V. • MTU Aero Engines GmbH • Neumarkter Lammsbräu • NIGU CHEMIE GmbH • Nordzucker AG • Novelis Deutschland GmbH • NSC Nutzfahrzeug-Service-Center GmbH • Nürburgring GmbH • Odenwald-Chemie GmbH • Öko-Bäckerei Konditorei • ÖkoMedia GmbH • Oktoberdruck AG • OMV Deutschland GmbH • OSCORNA-DÜNGER GmbH & Co. • OSI Food Solutions Germany GmbH • OTT GmbH • Oxxynova GmbH • paper + design GmbH tabletop • Paul Albrecht GmbH • Peguform GmbH • PONACHEM Compound GmbH • Pöppelmann GmbH & Co. KG • Premium AE-ROTEC GmbH • pronorm Einbauküchen GmbH • ProTec24-Unternehmensgruppe • proTerra Umweltschutz- und Managementberatung GmbH • Provinzial Rheinland • Radbrauerei • Recart Druckerzubehör GmbH • Reifen Draws GmbH • RELOX Technik GmbH • Reno De Medici Arnsberg GmbH • Reuland Apotheke • RheinEnergie AG • Rieger GmbH • Roche Diagnostics GmbH • Romantik Hotel • Rosignol GmbH & Co. Präzisionsschliffe KG • Roth Werke GmbH • Saar-Lor-Lux Umweltzentrum GmbH • Saint-Gobain Oberland AG • Salus-Schoenenberger-Firmengruppe • SALUTAS Pharma GmbH • SAMAG Saalfelder Werkzeugmaschinen GmbH • Sappi



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**More information:** [www.emas.de](http://www.emas.de)