

Lesedi pledges its commitment to the Environment

After the successful completion of the ISO 9001 accreditation, it was agreed at senior level to pledge the company's commitment to the environment. It was decided that the next objective for Lesedi to achieve would be ISO 14001 accreditation, this would enable Lesedi to focus its environmental efforts against an internationally accepted criteria. A single standard will ensure that there are no conflicts between regional interpretations of good environmental practice.

The company has declared its primary environmental objectives, those that can have most environmental impact, in order to gain most benefit these will be the key areas for the improvement process and the company's environmental program.

The Environmental system establishes procedures, work instructions and controls to ensure the implementation of the policy and achievement of the targets can become a reality. Communication is a vital factor, enabling people in the organization to be aware of their responsibilities, aware of the objectives, and able to contribute to its success.

Key areas in the Establishment of the system

- Implement the policy statement
- Compile impacts and aspects registers and identify those of a significant nature
- Develop the legal register
- Implement a training programme
- Definition of Environmental objectives
- Develop systems and controls

Lesedi operational activities and operations often include areas of Environmental sensitivity, such as the nuclear environment, thus emphasizing the need to protect the Environment for our future generations.

From the outset of the project to the accreditation phase has taken some 15 months, much of this has resolved around the entrenchment of the new procedural requirements into the organization, to ensure they are fully understood, and to carry out training with personnel as to the objectives and targets being set, and individual's roles in achieving them.

In conclusion the Lesedi management group pledged its commitment to the Environmental system, it felt that such systems strive to achieve,

- A common approach to environmental management systems similar to quality management.
- Enhance the organizations ability to attain and measure improvements in environmental performance.
- To facilitate trade and increase the ability of Lesedi to compete for a greater market share, in the light of increased global environmental awareness.

The next goal for Lesedi is to achieve accreditation to the OHSAS 18001, this will complete the integrated management system, the emphasis will then be on continuous approval