



ROTHAMSTED
RESEARCH

Rothamsted Research (BBSRC)

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

Background

As part of the ongoing relationship with the national research councils, Statius was asked to generate a gap analysis of the systems in place within the Rothamsted research facilities, including its operational farm at Brooms Barn, against the requirements of ISO14001:2004.

Rothamsted is almost certainly the oldest agricultural research station in the world. Its foundation dates from 1843 when John Bennet Lawes, the owner of the Rothamsted Estate, appointed Joseph Henry Gilbert, a chemist, as his scientific collaborator.

Details

As with all operations within today's working environment, the scientific research sector is under persistent pressure to ensure it has suitable controls in place for the protection of people and the environment. Operating a management system to control the impacts of the activities of its operations and having independent verification against the requirements of ISO14001:2004 form a clear route of commitment and evidence of direction with regards to the ethos of any organisation.

Due to the expanse and complexity of operation on site at the Rothamsted research facility, the planning of the diagnostic was critical to the success of the project. Prior to commencing any work on the diagnostic, a planning meeting was held between Statius and Rothamsted to form a cohesive plan of action for the diagnostic to take place.

Matt Lear of Statius was the lead consultant on the project, with his previous knowledge of the workings of the research councils through an ISO14001 project with NERC proving invaluable.

The diagnostic was conducted on a four phased approach:

1. A detailed site visit understanding the expanse of activity and boundary's within the operation. This visit included the Rothamsted site and the Brooms Barn farm.
2. A detailed gap analysis of the operation against the requirements of the 14001 standard. The standard was used as a guide to best practice with Matt using his extensive system knowledge to apply the requirements on a practical basis.
3. A detailed comprehensive report of the findings and requirements to meet the standard. The report included practical examples and a list of applicable environmental legislation.
4. A follow up meeting to discuss the finding and formulate o project plan for the way forward focussing on the likely resource requirements.

A presentation was made to the Institute's environmental team outlining:

- The report's findings
- The gap between the current position, legislative requirements and the requirements of ISO 14000
- A plan of action for implementation of the system
- Further areas where Statius could provide support

As a result of the report, the Institute was provided with all of the information required to make a decision on how to implement ISO 14001 and the resources that it would require.

Benefits

A consistent approach to risk management whilst also meeting the requirements of ISO14001.

For a consultative meeting or additional information, please contact a member of our sales team on 020 8460 3345. Alternatively, e-mail us at sales@statius.uk.com.



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