

Environment



Environment

Our Environment

Where to start? Where to finish? The environment is an issue of truly global proportion but with a local root. The actions or choices of individuals and organisations contribute to effect beneficially or otherwise the environment. Many actions create readily apparent effects on a local level but less obvious are those actions that contribute to global issues. Some effects now require governmental and international agreement to deliver progress, however, on a local level best practice, good stewardship and awareness of international concerns can enable organisations to build practical environmental protection into their operational processes.

Where to Start?

With such a wide scope, determining a starting point is probably the hardest part in establishing an environmental improvement programme. Environmental audit in the form of Phase I, Phase II and Phase III is a stepwise approach to initially identify points of risk with respect to discharges, emissions, chemicals, land and water. Then to identify areas of concern and aspects requiring control, action or further investigation the output from this process enables organisations to demonstrate control and plan for future improvements in environmental management.

Monitoring and Management

Monitoring of environmental parameters is undertaken to demonstrate compliance with applicable standards and consents. In addition, routine monitoring can provide early warning of potential problems, or on-going data to show control or successful remediation of prior pollution incidents.

Monitoring is typically undertaken of the following:

- Soil
- Air
- Noise
- Groundwater
- Surface water
- Product

Operation of a routine on-going monitoring programme will establish a baseline operating range for the location and enable variation or potential problems to be identified and resolved at an early stage.

The requirement to monitor may be set by corporate standards or external regulatory requirements. In the case of pollution incidents, data may be required in a legal context and it is important that appropriate sample methods are followed. In all cases clear communication is required to establish parameters of concern and relevant target levels to enable progress to be made.

Where to Finish?

Where organisations have identified the areas of environmental concern and put in place management processes for prevention, improvement and control, the impact of the business process on the environment is reduced. There is no end, but simply an on-going requirement for stewardship of our environment.

First Environment Provides

First Environment provides the technical expertise to assist client organisations to implement management solutions for environmental management. Including

- Environmental audits.
- Monitoring and analysis.
- Site investigation.
- Incident support.
- Consent and licence application.
- Liaison with regulatory organisations.
- Advice on control and improvement works.
- Preparation of policy documents and record systems.
- Independent on-going inspection and audit.

As an independent company First Environment is able to consider all available options and assist our clients in implementing the most appropriate environmental control strategy for their location.

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