

First ISO 14001-certified museums in Scandinavia

Company

The Swedish National Maritime Museums

Industry

Nonprofit

Region

Sweden

Intertek Solutions

Management systems auditing and certification

“It’s always more interesting to certify companies that are highly committed, and also within industries that have not previously been certified.”

-Ebbe Ombäck, an environmental management systems auditor at Intertek.

The Vasa Museum, the Maritime Museum in Stockholm, and the Naval Museum in Karlskrona, all of which are part of the Swedish National Maritime Museums agency, together became the first museums in Scandinavia to be certified to ISO 14001:2004.

This was achieved as a result of the hard work carried out by the Swedish National Maritime Museums agency, over the course of many years, to reduce its negative impact on the environment.



The Swedish National Maritime Museums chose Intertek as their certification body. With the help of Intertek’s services, customers can be assured that their management systems are efficient and continuously improving.

“It’s always more interesting to certify companies that are highly committed, and also within industries that have not previously been certified. During the audit, the Swedish National Maritime Museums brilliantly demonstrated how it has adopted the new way of thinking within environmental management. They’re well on the way to creating three green

museums,” said Ebbe Ombäck, an environmental management systems auditor at Intertek.

“The environment is one of the most significant global issues. We can make a contribution by setting a good example and showing our visitors our commitment to the environment, not least at the Vasa Museum, which attracts a large international crowd with over a million visitors every year,” said Robert Olsson, Managing Director of the Swedish National Maritime Museums.



Here are some examples of changes that the Swedish National Maritime Museums has implemented:

Waste: All the waste produced by the three museums' offices, workshops, and restaurants is collected and sorted, and has been for several years now. Environmentally friendly alternatives are requested when making purchases and in procurement processes.

Training: In 2008, all employees received training on environmental issues and the environmental management system.

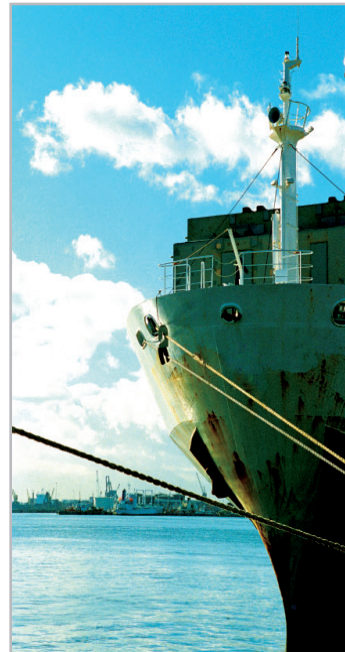
Chemicals/fuels: All hazardous chemicals are exchanged for environmentally-friendly alternatives when possible. For example, they have changed over to using biodegradable coatings on all of then Naval Museum's barks and smaller museum boats.

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"The Swedish National Maritime Museums have already reduced this by a further five percent over the course of this year, and the aim is to become even better," said Kristin Mizer, the agency's Environmental Coordinator. They are also working to reduce the museums' total consumption of fossil fuels, hazardous chemical products, and paper in the long-term.

Transportation: An important environmental objective is to reduce the amount of travel by air between the museums in Stockholm and Karlskrona by ten percent in 2009. The agency's service vehicles have been replaced with electric or hybrid vehicles, and the entire motor vehicle fleet will be green before the end of the year.



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