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### **Adoption of companies in Vietnam to ISO 14001**

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#### **Abstract**

The vietnamese economy is in international integration period and thus faces numerous challenges. The government has taken a sustainable development strategy as the foundation for its development plans, with particular attention paid to combining economic development and environment protection. However, in addition to macro policies, it needs to take concrete and effective measures to implement this strategy. The application of the ISO 14000 series may be an important contribution to realization of that strategy. However for trade, it may either pose a great challenge or give a good opportunity for the businesses to improve their international competitiveness. This article has given the negative impacts to environment from business production activities and pointed out challenges and opportunities of enterprises when applying ISO 14001. In addition, the article also gives a few evidence and indicate some benefits if businesses implement ISO 14000. Finally, appeals to business organizations to act for our living environment.

**Keywords:** ISO 14001, EMS, Environment management system, Vietnam