

## APPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (ISO 14001; EMAS) IN HUNGARY

Juhász Cs\*

\*University of Debrecen Centre of Agricultural Sciences Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Water- and Environmental Management

### **Abstract**

*Nowadays firms and companies make efforts to create responsible environmental behaviour, to moderate activities harmfully loading the environment, and to protect the natural resources. The volunteer use of the tools of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) was widely spread among the Hungarian companies from the middle of the 1990-ies. In this paper the quality and quantity analysis of EMSs (ISO 14001, EMAS) applied in Hungary was done. On the base of my studies it could be established that the environmental aspects according to ISO 14001 standard has been built in the company management system in the case of companies applying EMS. Preservation of environment is integrated into different areas of operation. The EMS according to ISO 14001 encourages the companies to apply a leading method being aware of environment and to improve their environmental performance. In the case of companies applying EMS the role of environmental protection became very important in internal and external communication. The companies having EMS based on ISO 14001 standard do not always meet the requirements of environmental protection regulations, but they are committed to meet the criteria. It was established that the emissions decreased, the responsibility structure became controlled and the technological discipline was strengthened by the realisation of EMS. It was also established that due to the trainings connected to the realisation of EMS the environment-conscious skills of the workers have developed and contributed to forming an appropriate environmental behaviour.*

**Key words:** Environmental Management Systems, ISO 14001