




# ISO 14001:2015 – How the 2015 Standard Can Benefit Sustainability

APTA Sustainability Workshop – August 1, 2018

 **SOUNDTRANSIT**

# Agenda

- Sound Transit Background
- ISO 14001 Background
- Sound Transit's Environmental and Sustainability Management System
- Key changes to the ISO 14001:2015 Standard and benefits to sustainability
- ESMS and APTA Sustainability Commitment





# Sound Transit

- Regional transit in Central Puget Sound – carried 47 million people in 2017
  - Light rail
  - Commuter train
  - Express buses
  
- ***Rapidly expanding*** – voter approved package in 2016
  - When completed – 116 mile light rail system with more than 80 stations



## What is ISO 14001?

- International standard that specifies requirements for an effective environmental management system
- Environmental Management Systems help agencies:
  - Improve resource efficiency
  - Measure environmental impacts
  - Manage environmental obligations with consistency
  - Improve overall environmental impact
- Significantly updated in 2015



## Sound Transit's ESMS

- Environmental and Sustainability Management System
- Combines environmental compliance and sustainability
- Applied agency wide
- Certified in December 2007
- Recertified to the ISO 14001:2015 standard in November 2017

**Our finding: the new ISO standard is better aligned to benefit sustainability**

# Key Changes to the ISO 14001:2015 standard

- Strategic Environmental Management
- Leadership
- Protecting the environment
- Environmental performance
- Lifecycle perspective
- Outsourced processes
- Communication
- Documentation

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• Outsourced processes }  
• Communication  
• Documentation
- +++ for Sustainability

# Strategic Environmental Management

## ISO Says:

- Focus on... local, regional or global environmental conditions that can affect, or be affected by the organization
- Risks and beneficial opportunities integrated in operational planning

## ST's Approach:

- Detailed opportunity matrix in addition to a risk inventory
- Evaluated and supported at equal levels







# Protecting the Environment

## ISO Says:

- Commit to proactive initiatives to protect the environment from harm and degradation
  - Prevent pollution
  - Sustainable resource use
  - Climate change
  - Biodiversity/ecosystem protection

## ST's Approach:

- Sustainability integrated into management system.  
Opportunities, risks, goals, metrics, all evaluated for both compliance and sustainability



# Environmental Performance

## ISO Says:

- Shift from improving the management system to improving environmental performance
- Reduce emissions, waste. etc.

## ST's Approach:

- Follow APTA Sustainability commitment methodology for quantifying environmental impact and benefits

# Lifecycle Perspective

## ISO Says:

- Org's will need to control and influence environmental impacts associated with product design and address each stage of the life cycle

## ST's Approach:

- Green Procurement Policy
- Total Cost of Ownership
- Life Cycle Cost Analysis Tool



# ESMS alignment with APTA Sustainability Commitment

| Sustainability Commitment Core Principle  | Main ESMS Tools  |
|---|--|
| 1. Sustainability in strategic objectives | Environmental and Sustainability Policies                              |
| 2. Sustainability champion                | Identification of resources, roles, and responsibilities               |
| 3. Staff outreach                         | Training/awareness and communication                                   |
| 4. Sustainability targets & measurement   | Objectives and targets; continual improvement – sustainability metrics |

# ESMS and APTA Sustainability Commitment Continued



- **ESMS Activities**
  - Record keeping, internal auditing, corrective action, agency management reviews
- **APTA Commitment**
  - Sustainability Plan, target, annual metrics
- **ISO Certification**
  - External surveillance auditing to prompt continual improvement

# Conclusion

- The ISO 14001:2015 Standard is more aligned than ever to support sustainability programs
- ESMS helps prioritize sustainability objectives and provide a path forward
- Jointly, ESMS, ISO 14001:2015, and APTA have been building blocks at Sound Transit to enable staff to enact change

