

Air Filtration & ISO14000

ISO14000 Certification

The electronics industry is one of the first industries aggressively adopting ISO14000 standards. These standards call for the management and reduction of environmental pollutants, predominantly in water and air. Filtration and recirculation has become a major stepping-stone for achieving ISO14000 certification.

Our filter systems eliminate air pollutants and can help companies to become “zero” discharge facilities. ISO14000 certification and the philosophy of being an environmentally friendly company significantly improve the corporate image.

Monitoring and Measuring Emissions

ISO14000 certification requires that a company has in place an *Environmental Management System* (EMS). The EMS model requires that a company monitor and measure its environmental performance, and it requires continuous environmental improvement. For example, consider a company that is accounting for lead consumed during the wave soldering process: A certain percentage of the lead is soldered onto the product; another percentage becomes “dross” and is removed manually from the solder pot; Much of the remainder has become airborne dross and in many cases is vented to the atmosphere. However, with the HEPA filtration as in our filter units, the contamination is filtered and removed. Filtering exhaust provides control over such by-products and therefore enhances a company’s ability to monitor and measure its environmental performance.

Lead-Free Soldering

ISO14000 is a contributing force in the electronics industries migration to lead-free soldering. Lead-free solder will eliminate lead from consumer products, which benefits the environment by reducing the presence of lead in landfills once the products are disposed. However, in the electronics manufacturing facility, lead-free solders have been shown to produce fumes and dross at even a higher rate than traditional lead based solders. In the form of airborne dross, Silver and Tin are highly toxic. Fluxes must be harsher and used in greater quantities, due to the lower solderability of lead-free solder. Solder temperatures are higher and accelerate the burning of flux. While the elimination of lead from the product will benefit the environment, pollution controls such as Impell filter systems will be more important for companies as the industry eliminates lead from its manufacturing processes.