ISO 14001:2015 Readiness Assessment and Guided Preparation for Hansford Parts & Products

Hansford Parts and Products (Hansford) is a contract machining services company located in Macedon, New York. Hansford also manufactures their own products including the Hansford Davis Keyseater, Hansford Die Handler, and Hansford Die Carts.

Challenge
Hansford was encountering increasing customer demands for the implementation of an ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management System (EMS) in order to do business. The company recognized this as an opportunity to gain competitive positioning as a differentiated supplier and enhance their commitment towards continuous improvement, ultimately reducing environmental impacts and costs. The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) supported Hansford with this project to determine readiness for conformance to the ISO 14001:2015 EMS standard and ultimately third-party certification.

Solution
The ISO 14001:2015 EMS standard specifies requirements for an organization to develop and implement a policy with objectives regarding its environmental responsibilities. The organization needs to consider compliance obligations and information about significant environmental aspects that the organization can control and influence.

NYSP2I conducted a systematic review of processes, procedures, and data in an effort to determine Hansford’s readiness for conformance to the ISO 14001:2015 EMS standard. The work included a review of existing documentation and information, an on-site readiness assessment, identification of opportunities for closing the gaps to achieve conformance, and training for internal self-audits.

Results
As a result of the work performed by NYSP2I, documentation was developed including an analysis of interested parties, process flow diagrams and input-output diagrams for major activities, an environmental aspect chart with risk analysis for significance determination, data collection and analysis of environmental impacts for objectives and targets, and an internal audit checklist. As this project included a gap assessment, subsequent work will need to be completed by Hansford to close the identified gaps and strive for continuous improvement.

Since Hansford is already certified to the ISO 9001 Quality Management System (QMS) standard, the experience with a QMS, coupled with the existing commitment from top management, will allow for an efficient transition to an EMS. Hansford requested NYSP2I attend the third-party initial certification audit with their Registrar. Hansford successfully passed and received certification in January 2018.