



XIV Environmental management systems: ISO 14001 and EMAS

Another tool in supporting internal greening processes and sustainable public procurement are environmental management systems, whether EMAS or ISO 14001, especially in order to establish environmental improvement targets, regular follow-up and control indicators of the environmental impacts of the processes and activities carried out.

Buses with an environmental management system implanted ↓





Environmental management of public services

In Barcelona, more and more local bodies are implementing environmental management systems in the management of public services:

→ Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona – Metropolitan Transport Company

For the environmental management of buses on the public thoroughfare

→ Parks and Gardens

In the management and upkeep of public green areas, road-side trees and the integral management of beaches

→ CLABSA

For sewerage management by means of an integrated environmental quality system

→ Urban Services and the Environment Sector

In its areas of action, such as: urban cleaning, road cleaning and the collection of urban solid waste, the upkeep of public lighting, the use of groundwater, among others as well as in administrative activities and the maintenance of the building where it is seated.



Greening of the fountain maintenance and conservation contract

The new contracted company, which is responsible for the city's 1,572 public fountains and 222 ornamental fountains and is managed by the Urban Services and the Environment sector, has incorporated environmental criteria in order to meet the criteria of the Environmental Management System implanted in the sector:



→ Water-saving measures: an improvement in the fountain impermeabilisation programme, more fountains with recirculation and the incorporation of new equipment such as sludge vacuuming which allows to clean ornamental fountains more often without having to empty them, more frequent cleaning of the bottom and walls with a mobile treatment device. The contracted company's facilities also have a system for the reuse of water for the cleaning of its vehicles.

→ Energy-saving measures: the installation of fibre optics in 4 ornamental fountains with the consequent energy saving, changing incandescent lamps for low-consumption projectors, the contracted company's facilities have solar-powered hot water for the changing room area. In addition, the company's 28 vehicles run on compressed natural gas and the vehicles have been adapted to reduce noise pollution (up to 3 decibels).

Environmental benefits: with these measures, water saving of 679,934.85 m³ is estimated for the end of 2006, once the impermeabilisation process will be completed on all fountains, which will represent a 65.5% saving on the amount of water consumed in 2004. Likewise, 1,643,314 kWh/year will be saved, which may mean up to a 32.1% saving of energy compared to the consumption of electricity in 2004.