

"Ecostage" has certification of 5 stages from foundation of environment management to the building of an internal control system and the realization of CSR as a system being based upon ISO14001. It is also a complement of ISO14001, and supports and estimates environment management.

"Ecostage" is an environmental management system born in Japan. Estimation by third-party leads it to the highly transparent which is same as examination registry system of ISO14001.

It was advocated by Nagoya's environment management workshop in 2000.

"Ecostage society" got participations of a lot of enterprises and non-profit organizations and personal participations from universities and consulting firms, and was institutionalized and founded in November 2003.

It's developed nationwide at present, and the environment management evaluation and support system has been introduced into many enterprises and organizations.

## **The features and the merits of "Ecostage"**

1: An evaluator consults and plans for strengthening management functions.

The same evaluator (consultant) follows up continually. The present management system as a starting point, the evaluator (consultant) supports their customer's challenge for efficiency of business, environmental improvement and improvement in quality in the views of 5S (SEIRI...dispose, SEITON...placement, SEISOU...cleaning, SEIKETSU...cleanly, and SHITSUKE...discipline) and 3 MU (MURI...overburden, MUDA...wasteful, and MURA...non-uniformity).

The evaluator (consultant) ascertains the building situation of management system and does the first evaluation, and third-party evaluation committee estimates the result once again. The sequence of evaluations maintains and improves the quality of the certification.

2: According to the level of management function or purposes of organization, choose challenging stage from 5 stages. There are 5 stages from stage 1 to stage 5. Every company can choose their challenging stage depends on the level or purpose of them, and can level up step by step.

The high consistency with ISO is also the feature of Ecostage. The one which satisfied with requirements of ISO14001 is "Ecostage 2" .

The shift to certification of CSR management or management innovation (CSV) is also possible.

3: Ecostage also corresponds to the latest trend and individual needs, and it can be chosen from the wide menu.

Ecostage, certification of CSR management, certification of management innovation (CSV), Ecostage for a group of related companies by business or located place, Ecostage for local government, management system of chemicals, MFCA (Material Flow Cost Accounting) and tools for grasping CO2 emission.