

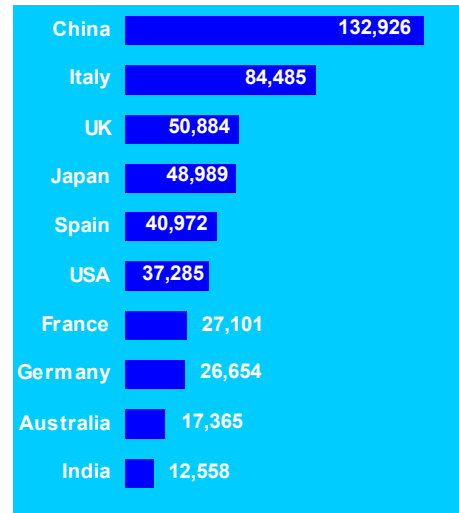


ISO 9001 registrations boom

The latest statistics for the 2004 ISO survey show that ISO 9001 registrations continue to grow worldwide. In 2004 670,000 organisations held ISO 9001 registrations (a combination of 9001/2/3 standards) compared with 408,000 in 2000, a 64% increase.

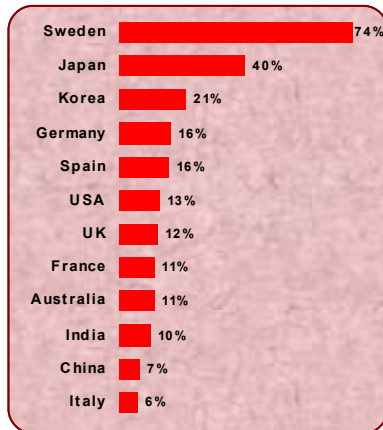
Not surprisingly China now has the most registration with the UK and other previously strong manufacturing countries also showing that registrations appear to have peaked. 10 countries share 71 % of registrations.

By the end of 2005 it is predicted that China will increase its registrations significantly, possibly to close to 200,000 ISO 9001 registered organisations



ISO 9001—worldwide registrations

ISO 14001 maintains momentum



ISO 14001 registrations shown as % of ISO 9001 registrations

Although at a much lower level than ISO 9001 registrations, ISO 14001 continues to gather pace, with a five fold worldwide increase in the last 4 years.

Japan has become the largest market for ISO 14001 registrations. Whilst there is no direct link between registrations to the 2 standards it is interesting to look at the relationship between the number of registrations to each standard within the key countries!

2005 should see a strong growth in ISO 14001 registrations in China and India.

[More Details on the ISO website—http://www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/otherpubs/pdf/survey2004.pdf](http://www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/otherpubs/pdf/survey2004.pdf)

ISO 9001—Considering a nonconformity against continual improvement? Think again...!

Continual improvement is a major requirement of ISO 9001 and yet it is almost impossible to raise a nonconformity against it. Why? Well, if you examine clause 8.5.1 you will see that it requires the use of 7 elements of the QMS to satisfy the requirements of continual improvement.

So does this mean that all 7 elements must be deployed in order to satisfy the requirement?

Clause 8.5.1 does not use the word "all" and therefore you can assume that any or all of the 7 elements specified can be used to satisfy the requirement for continual improvement. Is there an organisation who could not show such evidence? If there were such an organisation they would have had their registration withdrawn for many other reasons a long time ago.

So, do you still think you could raise a nonconformity against 8.5.1?

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ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO/TS 16949, AS 9100, ISO 13485

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