



The AJA Standard

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AJA's initial ISO 50001 audits open new opportunities in Energy Management



Thai-German Ceramic Industry, an AJA client, opts for Energy audit.

AJA Registrars Thailand recently completed audits for ISO 50001:2011, becoming the first company in AJA Registrars Group to secure and carry out audits of the Energy Management Systems (EnMS) standard developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The December 2012 audits—and the certificates issued in January 2013—were significant in that they broke new ground for the Group and involved two important existing clients for other standards:

Thai-German Ceramic Industry PCL (TGCI) and Siam Ceramic Group Industries (SGI), manufacturers of ceramic floor and wall tiles. In addition, an ISO 50001:2011 audit was conducted at the Thai-German Specialty Glass Co. Ltd. (TGSG), a maker of toughened glass.

The audits initially were intended to serve as part of the ongoing ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accreditation process of AJA Registrars'

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NEWS FLASH

AJA to launch Vietnam operation

Detailed discussions have taken place in Hanoi between Tim Dixon, AJA Regional CEO, and a Vietnamese certification body about the launch of AJA Registrars operations under legal approval in Vietnam.

A recent law in Vietnam has prohibited the issuance of ISO certificates by any Certification Body not registered as a legal entity in the country. Thus, AJA Registrars has had to withdraw certificates issued to foreign-owned, Vietnam-based clients. This initiative will allow re-entry into the Vietnam market very soon.

While the discussions still must be finalized, the agreements reached thus far clearly indicate that formalization of the new operations should come after the completion of formalities. A more detailed announcement will be made as soon as the deal is concluded.

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Portishead: AJA's UK headquarters



AJA Registrars UK Portishead office

AJA Registrars office in the United Kingdom is a purpose-built modern facility based in Portishead, a coastal town in southwest England. It is home to a dedicated and professional team that maintains and manages the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) and the Ansi-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Accreditations and Certifications.

UKAS is the sole national accreditation body recognized by the UK government to assess, against internationally agreed standards, organizations that provide certification, testing, inspection and calibration services. ANAB assesses and accredits its certification bodies that dem-

onstrate competence to audit and certify organizations conforming to management system standards.

Portishead provides an ideal location, offering easy access to a major motorway network heading north, south, east and west. The two-story building includes a fully networked Information Technology hub with high-speed broadband, allowing fast and accurate communications to AJA offices and clients around the world.

Most of the eight staff members have been with AJA for more than eight years and are well versed in all aspects of certification. The senior management team has in-depth knowledge of most industrial and

commercial sectors, allowing AJA to provide help and support in most certification areas.

AJA's UK office has been the UKAS accredited headquarters for over 15 years, starting with ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems, or QMS) accreditation. Our capabilities now include ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems), ISO 27001 (Information Security Management Systems), ISO 22000 (Food Safety Management Systems), ISO 13485 (Medical Device Management Systems), ISO 50001 (Energy Management Systems—in progress) and BS 25999 (Business Continuity Management—application submitted). We are always looking to expand our

portfolio of standards as and when they become available.

History of Portishead

Portishead is located on the Severn Estuary in southwest England, with a population of around 22,000 people.

The name Portishead derives from the “port at the head of the river.”

The town’s recorded history dates back to Roman times, although there is also evidence of prehistoric settlement, including polished flint axe heads. There also were Iron Age settlements in the area, of which Cadbury Camp was the largest.

The town was built on the mouth of a small tributary of the Severn Estuary near the mouth of the River Avon. In 1497 it was the departure point for John Cabot on the caravel “Matthew,” which discovered parts of North America.

Portishead has a long history as a fishing port. It expanded rapidly during the early 19th century around the docks, with supporting transport infrastructure. A power station and chemical works were



Photo credit: Joe D

Bristol’s famous suspension bridge, designed and built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel

added in the 20th century, but the dock and industrial facilities have since closed and been redeveloped into a marina and residential areas. Nearby is the historic city and seaport of Bristol, which was the home of the brilliant engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

A short drive from Portishead is the beautiful city of Bath, which has the famous Roman baths that are fed by hot volcanic springs. We encourage all AJA team members and clients to visit us on their next trip to the UK. We will make you most welcome.



Photo credit: David Iliff

Bath’s historic Roman baths

AJA Registrars UK Portishead personnel

ACCREDITATION OFFICE

Paul French Director
 Chris McMillan Group QMS
 Lyn Palmer Office Manager
 Craig Kirton Surveillance Manager
 Lyn Hatfield Overseas Administrator
 Angie Ange Overseas Administrator

CERTIFICATION OFFICE

James Gibb Director
 Gina Gingel UK Administrator



Thai-German Specialty Glass chose AJA Registrar’s for ISO 50001 audit.



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EnMS certification scheme. The plan had to be amended as ANAB was unable to provide a witnessing audit team within the time frame required by the client. As a result, the clients initially received non-accredited certification. But as the audits were conducted in complete accordance with the documented audit processes submitted as part of the accreditation scheme, the three clients will retrospectively receive their accredited certificates.

In fact, ANAB reviewers have now accepted AJA’s EnMS certification schemes, and the accredited certificates will be issued to the clients once the outstanding witnessed audit requirements have been met early this year.

“This is a very, very important achievement both for Thailand and the AJA Registrars Group as a whole,” says Tim Dixon, AJA Regional CEO for Asia Pacific. “These clients are recognized, both in Thailand and in their business

sector, as significant companies. Being able to support them in this Energy Management Systems initiative enhances AJA’s reputation and standing as a leading Certification Body, both in Thailand and throughout Asia.”

ISO 50001 has been identified by AJA’s senior partners as perhaps the most commercially attractive new ISO standard in years, as it offers companies the ability to reduce the environmental impact of energy use while ensuring they are systematically focused on reducing energy costs.

These initial certifications in Thailand also demonstrated that the EnMS certification scheme, developed primarily by James Gibb of AJA Registrars UK, has passed rigorous review by ANAB, an internationally recognized accreditation body. As a result, the path has been cleared for all companies within the AJA Registrars Group for adoption of the scheme as each country’s ISO 50001 market becomes increasingly active.

“From a Thai and Asian perspective, these developments now place fully



AJA Registrars also conducted an Energy Management Systems audit for SGI.

approved EnMS auditors at the disposal of clients and other country operations for the most cost-effective development of their own resources,”

says Regional CEO Dixon.

AJA offices interested in offering ISO 50001 services in their markets should contact Tim Dixon

(timdixon@ajathailand.com) for Asia and James Gibb (JamesG@ajaregistrars.co.uk) for all other regions.

AJA earns Global Diamond Award

AJA Registrars Group has received the 2012 Diamond Award for Quality Assurance from the International Association of Multidisciplinary Research (IAMURE) at a ceremony during the recent Global Conference on Education, Business, Engineering and Sciences in Singapore.

The highly coveted award recognizes AJA's achievements as a certification body for standards issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). As a third-party certification body, AJA has helped client companies develop and implement world-class Management Systems in Quality, Environmental, and Occupational Health and Safety

disciplines. The Diamond Award was presented by IAMURE President Dr. Generoso Japos, and was accepted by Paul Bagatsing, Vice-President of AJA Registrars Philippines, on behalf of Tim Dixon, AJA's Regional CEO. The award ceremony took place at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Center, where Mr. Bagatsing delivered the keynote address focusing on the role of education, business, engineering and the sciences in building a new knowledge economy. IAMURE publishes journals on the social sciences, research, education and technology, and is a leader in Asia in the use of publication software technology. Mr. Bagatsing also

recently spoke on behalf of AJA at the World Research Festival held at the Marco Polo Plaza Conference Center in Cebu, Philippines. He discussed the importance of management systems in the Education and Research Sectors. He also provided the keynote address at the International Conference on Social Sciences, Health and Environment in Bangkok, Thailand, emphasizing the need to recognize individual differences, protect human rights and nourish a sustainable environment. A lively question-and-answer session period highlighted the ISO certification process and the benefits of certification.

AJA poised for new opportunities after strong 2012 performance

AJA Registrars Group experienced significant growth in 2012, a year marked by commercial and professional successes and expansion into important new markets and services.

The Group's newest operation was launched in Jakarta, with the opening of PT AJA Sertifikasi Indonesia. The Indonesian owners have invested considerably in staff training to develop the knowledge and skills to conduct audits and provide third-party certification services against standards issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and other bodies. The Indonesia office has aggressively entered the marketplace with a special focus on forestry schemes applicable to a country rich in natural resources.

Elsewhere in Asia and the Pacific, three of the Group's wholly owned operations — in the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand — have completed an upgrade of their own national accreditations against the requirements of ISO 17021:2011 (Conformity Assessment for Bodies Providing Audit and Certification of Management Systems). The three offices also reported financial performances that reflect their own growth and ever-expanding reputation in their markets, with Singapore breaking the \$2 million revenue milestone for the first time.

In the United Kingdom, the

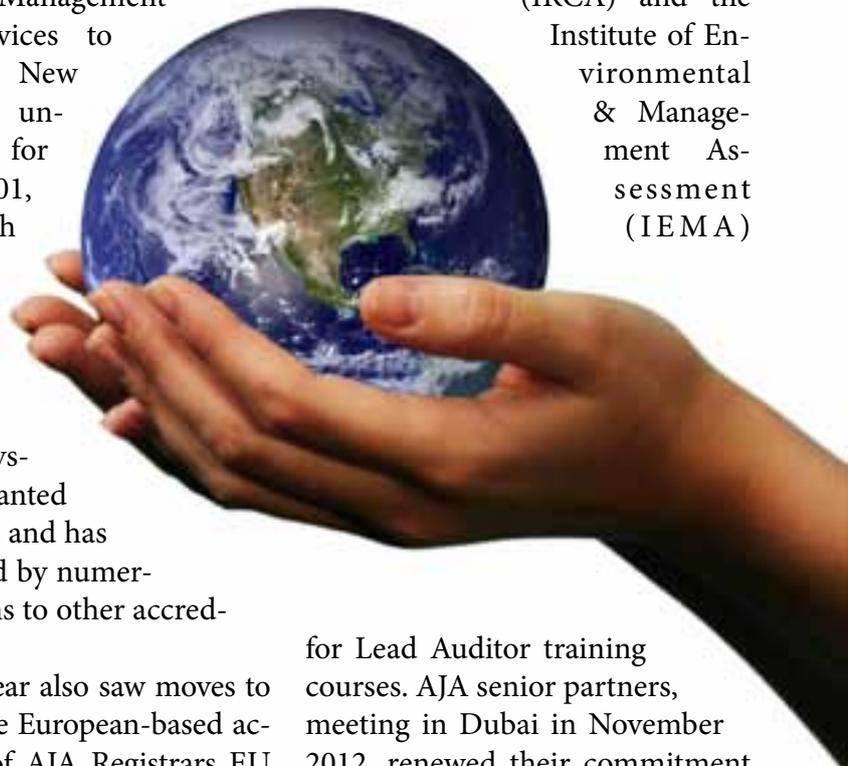
management team worked tirelessly to complete the required upgrade of Management Systems to ISO 17021:2011. The successful completion of the upgrade ahead of the deadline enabled all of the companies in the Group to continue to offer Management Systems services to their clients. New accreditation under ANAB for OHSAS 18001, the British Standard for Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems, was granted early in 2012, and has been followed by numerous extensions to other accredited schemes.

The past year also saw moves to streamline the European-based accreditations of AJA Registrars EU SRL, with a complete restructuring of the roles and responsibilities for day-to-day accreditation and client management to AJA Registrars UK and by full implementation of the upgraded AJANet, the Group's dedicated client- and accreditation-management software program.

Our European-based initiatives, driven by our Italian partners, Al-

fonso Pagliuca and Lorenza Corsini, saw significant successes in Risk Management certification in the Middle East. In addition, AJA Academy saw its approvals renewed by the International Register of Certificated Auditors

(IRCA) and the Institute of Environmental & Management Assessment (IEMA)



for Lead Auditor training courses. AJA senior partners, meeting in Dubai in November 2012, renewed their commitment to training initiatives and agreed to develop new courses on OHSAS and Energy Management Auditor Training, as well as other specialized areas.

As AJA Registrars Group welcomes 2013, it finds itself in its strongest-ever position, poised to meet challenges in the marketplace and take advantage of new opportunities.

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