

CEMENCO RENEWS ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATE FOR 3 (THREE) YEARS

The Liberia Cement Corporation-CEMENCO on September 20, 2021 renewed its ISO 9001:2015 certificate for three years (September 20,2021 to October 01, 2024). The certificate was renewed after a rigorous audit conducted by the certification body- CERTIQUALITY of Milano (MI)-Italy. CEMENCO started its certification process for the first time in 2017 and became certified on March 10, 2018. However, as a normal practice, ISO certificate carries on it an expiration date and when that date reaches, the entity in possession of the certificate must be audited to determine its eligibility for a renewal. Since CEMENCO March 10, 2018 certificate was nearing expiration, its renewal became a necessity.

Brief history of ISO

ISO (International Organization for Standardization), officially began operations in February 1947 and is the world's largest developer of voluntary international standards. There are more than thirteen family of quality management standards. Of these , ISO 9001 sets out the criteria for a quality management system and is the only standard in the family that can be certified to (although this is not a requirement).It can be used by any organization , large or small regardless of its field of activity.

Importance of ISO

Companies (especially manufacturing) know ISO standards may be good for them but they may need motivation to get certified. In the case of The Liberia Cement Corporation, All Managers are the motivational force in CEMENCO's certification. CEMENCO has adopted ISO 9001 for three reasons:

- The value of the standard
A good quality process drives a company and ideally, involves everyone in producing a quality product and that what ISO 9001 does. Additionally, ISO 9001 has a significant export promoting effect of manufactured goods. The standard can improve business processes and manufacturers with similar products and price use the certification to differentiate themselves from their competitors.
- The sales and marketing advantage over competitors
Done correctly, ISO standards can improve an organization's business processes and add value. Companies and organizations are attracted to doing business with companies who are ISO certified. These are all characteristics of ISO 9001.
- Company requirements
In times past, organizations especially those from the international world, mandated CEMENCO to be ISO certified. "It's hard to do business with anyone-especially in manufacturing- if you're not ISO 9000 certified.