

WHAT IS RIOS™?

The Recycling Industry Operating Standard™ (RIOS™) is the recycling industry's management system. It is the best choice when it comes to quality, environment, and health & safety (QEH&S) standards. Specifically designed for the recycling industry, RIOS™ integrates the key operational elements found in other standards, such as ISO 9001 (Q), ISO 14001 (E), and OHSAS 18001 (H&S), bringing them together into one streamlined management system.

FACILITIES FROM ACROSS THE INDUSTRY FIND RETURN ON INVESTMENT BY ACHIEVING RIOS™ CERTIFICATION

It doesn't matter what commodities or products a company is processing, facilities from across the industry find return on investment by achieving RIOS™ certification. Whether big or small, based in the U.S. or international, if you are a recycler, **RIOS™ certification is the answer.**

BENEFITS OF RIOS™

Focused on three core areas: Quality, Environment, Health and Safety result in **safer**, more **sustainable** and more **profitable** facilities. By implementing a RIOS™ management system, you are showing your customers, government agencies, employees, and the community that their needs matter.

QUALITY: Increasingly downstream customers are looking for consistent, high quality material that meets the agreed upon specification. Recyclers that have a certified quality management system are able to provide assurances, and more easily market themselves to these customers. In addition, certified facilities are able to increase efficiency, and are better able to manage the material they are buying from suppliers. All of this results in lower bottom line, and higher profits.

ENVIRONMENT: Environmental laws and regulations are constantly changing and the community around you is always concerned about the impact your facility is having on the environment. RIOS™ systematically monitors changing regulations, and considers the environmental impacts that your facility has on the environment. RIOS™ helps you stay proactive and allows you to become an environmental leader within the industry.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: The health and safety of employees and visitors at a facility is paramount. Recycling facilities have many hazards, but the risk of a costly incident can be minimized. By identifying risks and hazards, creating and enforcing procedures to protect employees, and ensuring that they are regularly receiving proper training, facility owners and managers can drastically reduce the likelihood of an incident.

R2/RIOS™ – Certified Electronics Recycler™

The R2/RIOS™ certification is for electronics recyclers and refurbishers to demonstrate to customers that electronics equipment is being recycled with the highest standards for environmental protection, worker health and safety, and data privacy, and facility security. R2/RIOS™ is a combination of the Responsible Recycling (R2) Practices and the Recycling Industry Operating Standard™ (RIOS™). R2 is comprised of 13 provisions and was developed by a broad-based cooperative of electronics recycling stakeholders that included the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), state governments, manufacturers, recyclers, refurbishers, trade groups, and non-governmental organizations.

For more information about R2/RIOS™ certification contact us at info@certifymererecycling.org

RIOS™ is the only recycler specific standard that meets the provision 1 requirement of R2 for an Environmental, Health, and Safety Management System (EHSMS). Additionally, the Quality component of RIOS™ significantly strengthens a facility's ability to conform to the provision 6 requirements for Reusable Equipment and Components.

RIOS™
CERTIFIED ELECTRONICS RECYCLER



IMPLEMENTATION OF RIOS™

Designed as a **do-it-yourself system**. As part of your membership with RIOS™ you will receive the RIOS™ Implementation Guide (RIG), a series of documents, tools and templates that is designed to help you most effectively implement a RIOS™ System. Additionally, RIOS™ offers webinars for its members to assist in the completion of the key components of a RIOS™ management system. RIOS™ also offers more comprehensive in person implementation training to help facilities become certificated. Some companies choose to have a consultant assist in the implementation process. Consultants can help facilitate and expedite the process.

RIOS™ **will not tell you how to run your facility**, it will only facilitate your company to be the best it can be. This is achieved through step-by-step evaluation of environmental impacts, and health and safety risks, as well as compliance with legal requirements, and opportunities to improve efficiency. Utilizing a continual improvement, plan-do-check-act model, this system will continue to make the facility strong, more profitable, and safer over time.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does a facility get started?

Download an application from the RIOS™ website at www.certifymererecycling.org. From there, you will get your copy of the standard, the implementation tools, and access to all of the webinars, and training tools.

Once we have gone through implementation how do we get certified?

RIOS™, like most industrial certifications, is third party audited. An auditor from one of the RIOS™ authorized certification bodies will come to your facility, audit your system, provide feedback, and certify that the facility meets all of the RIOS™ requirements.

What is the cost of certification?

There are three areas of cost when obtaining RIOS™ certification, those are

- 1) RIOS™ membership fee
- 2) Cost of implementation (employee time, possibly a consultant, etc),
- 3) Cost of the audit.

The total cost varies from facility to facility.

For more information about membership or certification cost visit www.certifymererecycling.org, or contact RIOS™ staff. Remember, certification is an investment, that when done correctly, lowers the bottom line and increases profits at a facility.

"We were so excited when we received our RIOS™ certification! Having our RIOS™ management system in place has improved our efforts in ensuring the quality of products shipped to our customers. We have always been concerned about the environment and RIOS™ gives us more tools to achieve our goal of being good stewards to our environment. Finally, our goal, our #1 goal is to make sure our employees work safely, then go home to their families every day. The RIOS™ organized systematic approach towards safety actually aids in streamlining our efforts. I highly recommend RIOS™ certification."

Tamara Deiro, Director of Safety,
SA Recycling

"Deciding to become RIOS™ certified wasn't difficult, we realized this was an investment that would pay dividends for years to come. Over the past four years we have found that our customers value and benefit from the fact that we strive to be the best. Our employees are safer and more effective. Our company is able to use the structure of the certifications to be more efficient and is able to do more with our resources, creating a more profitable company."

Sarah Cade, President
PC Rebuilders and Recyclers

"At HiTech Assets, we serve very demanding clients, so quality is a necessary part of our culture. The RIOS™ management system has enabled us to build quality assurance practices into every process – every day. And the integrated approach to worker safety and environmental impacts helps us avoid duplication and wasted effort across systems. The single, completely integrated RIOS™ system has helped us win and retain business by modeling best-practices for our clients and employees. And the continuous improvement methodology has shown us ways to reduce cost. More business + reduced costs + safe workers & environment = no regrets!"

Rike Sandlin, Senior Vice President
& COO, HiTech Assets, Inc.

"At Miller Scrap, our mission it to provide quality customer service, competitive pricing, and positive recycling solutions to our suppliers and customers. In addition, our team is committed to protecting the environment, health and safety management, and continued quality improvement. Becoming RIOS™ certified has helped provide our team with the framework needed to ensure the continued long-term sustainability of our business and its mission."

Jeremy Miller, CFO and 4th generation recycler,
Wm. Miller Scrap Iron & Metal Co.

RIOS™
CERTIFIED RECYCLER

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**RECYCLING INDUSTRY
OPERATING STANDARD**

RIOS™
CERTIFIED RECYCLER