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## WHAT IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

Environmental auditing is a systematic, documented, periodic and objective process in assessing an organization's activities and services in relation to:



- Assessing compliance with relevant statutory and internal requirements
- Facilitating management control of environmental practices
- Promoting good environmental management
- Maintaining credibility with the public
- Raising staff awareness and enforcing commitment to departmental environmental policy
- Exploring improvement opportunities
- Establishing the performance baseline for developing an Environmental Management System (EMS)

Conducting an environmental audit is no longer an option but a sound precaution and a proactive measure in today's heavily regulated environment. Indeed, evidence suggests that EA has a valuable role to play, encouraging systematic incorporation of environmental perspectives into many aspects of an organisation's overall operation, helping to trigger new awareness and new priorities in policies and practices.



### **Resource**

*An overview of the audit Process at the end of Chapter 4 can be pulled out for ease of cross-referencing.*