



Case Study

From Ecocamping to EMAS



Background

Campingplatz Holmerhof is a campsite in Bad Füssing in Germany. Besides providing typical campsite facilities, it also provides health and wellness facilities.



Campingplatz Holmerhof implemented Ecocamping in March 2003 with the objective to work in the most environmental friendly manner possible.

Reasons for EMAS Registration

The campsite decided to change from Ecocamping to EMAS, due to the fact that EMAS provides more legal security than any other environmental management system.

The Implementation Process

EMAS has been jointly implemented by the campsite owner and a project manager of Ecocamping, who provided support for the implementation. The process of collecting all necessary data for the EMAS registration took around three months and the whole process has been very work-intensive.

Due to the existing implementation of Ecocamping, around 30-40% of the EMAS requirements had already been fulfilled. The areas where most of the criteria had already been implemented were the entry of quantities for consumption data and waste management.

However, the Campingplatz Holmerhof still considered the implementation as complicated, especially the setting up of a rigid documentation system. It was felt that EMAS is structured for big companies and that smaller companies do not have sufficient capacities to implement EMAS easily. What happened was that the person who prepared the instructions had to control them at the same time.

Benefits of an EMAS Registration

The main benefit of the EMAS registration for Campingplatz Holmerhof is the legal security that the scheme provides. Additionally it is seen as crucial to have an environmental mission, which for an environmental friendly form of vacation is of great importance. This benefit does not only account for Campingplatz Holmerhof, but also for other campgrounds. However, it was feared that campgrounds will place emphasis on eco labelling to communicate environmental behaviour, since it is easier and cheaper.

Advice for other Organisations

The owner of the campsite recommended other campsites to set aside a sufficient amount of time for implementing EMAS since it might be time consuming.

