

ISO 9001 certification for Shaft sinking and Drilling

The Shaft sinking and Drilling division of Thyssen Schachtbau GmbH was awarded DIN EN ISO 9001 certification in July 2011, once again proving that the company has what it takes when it comes to meeting the highest quality standards.

In early July 2011 the Thyssen Schachtbau Shaft sinking and Drilling division had its quality management system certified by the TÜV Rheinland group to the internationally recognised ISO 9001 standard. Thyssen Schachtbau first developed and introduced its own quality management system back in the late 1990s. The company was keen to ensure that clients would continue to receive the high quality they had become accustomed to as projects became increasingly complex and demanding and at the same time wanted to prevent existing know-how being lost during the restructuring process that was about to commence.

As recent experience has repeatedly shown that clients not only want to see such a quality management system in place in-house but also expect this to comply with transparent standards, the company took the decision to have the existing quality management system certified to comply with international standard DIN EN ISO 9001. Within just a few months the existing system was revised, where necessary, and adapted to meet the requirements laid down in the standard. This also provided an opportunity to incorporate the SmS initiative (system-oriented safety), an additional health and safety certification based on international standard OHSAS 18001, which the company has been awarded on repeated occasions by the BG RCI (German Mining and Chemical Industry Employers' Association). The upshot of all this has been the creation of an 'integrated management system'.

Thanks to the commitment and dedication of the workforce a brief 'training phase' was all that was needed before things got serious in early July 2011. TÜV Rheinland was assigned the task of determining whether or not the company's quality management system met all the requirements of ISO 9001.

After an audit lasting several days, which included an inspection of working procedures at an operating site, the certificate was finally awarded with special recognition and without limitations. The certification, which is subject to annual inspection, remains valid until July 2014.

With the award of the ISO 9001 certification the Shaft sinking and Drilling division has once again demonstrated that its performance meets the very highest standards. From proposal acquisition to tender preparation, planning and project design, and from project execution through to project hand-over, 'Shaft sinking and Drilling' always works to the highest quality standards and strives at all times to create added value for its customers. The new certification will now help get this message across to new clients and will have a positive impact as the company seeks to develop its market position, especially in the Alpine region and Russia.

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Mülheim an der Ruhr, August 2011

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