



RESEARCH OF ECOLOGICAL CERTIFICATION AS ONE OF THE FACTORS FOR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND ENSURING ECONOMIC SECURITY

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Abstract

The article analyzes the essence of the concept of "ecological certification" as one of the factors ensuring economic security. It also provides a methodological approach to studying the stages of environmental certification, which serves as a means of controlling the entry of environmentally harmful products into the country. The certification system has been improved, not limiting certification and contributing to the integration of the country's economy into the world market and meeting international obligations.

Keywords: improving quality, safety and competitiveness of products, quality management, certification, certification systems, environmental impact assessment, ecological certification

INTRODUCTION

Improving the quality, safety and competitiveness of products is of great importance for any civilized country. In the modern world of industrialized countries, a worthy place among competitors can be taken only by combining democratic forms of governance with good organization of production, high quality products and services. Today it is necessary, using foreign experience in quality assurance, to find, taking into account our characteristics, those methods and tools that are best suited for the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Currently, social and personal needs for industrial products are only partially and often met through products of inadequate quality. With the expansion of production and import of a different assortment of consumer goods, the likelihood of acquiring life-threatening,



environmentally harmful products increases. In these conditions, one of the first places is the problem of improving the quality of products, consumer protection.

In management, the choice of management methods for achieving a goal in a specific environment was always important. Among the methods of quality management in the conditions of economic development and its integration into the world community, organizational methods play a special role, primarily in the field of standardization, metrology and certification. Research in this area, their application in practice will contribute to improving the quality of products and services.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A significant contribution to the study of theoretical and methodological issues of quality management was made by such scientists as B.V.Boytssov, L.E.Basovskiy, A.V.Glichev, U.E.Deming, J.Juran, N.I.Dunchenko, Yu.V.Kryanev, I.E.Kryukov, M.D.Magomedov, D.Murray, Neil R.Hanna, V.B.Protasev, K.M.Rakhlin, A.V.Rybin, S.Singo, V.I.Siskov, A.Feigenbaum, A.D.Shadrin and others.

U.E.Deming's approach to quality management includes four main components:

- 1) statistical process control;
- 2) the scientific basis of management;
- 3) management psychology;
- 4) a systematic approach [Deming, 1994].

The most important contribution of J.Juran to the development of the theory and practice of quality management is the development of a model of the quality system, called the "quality spiral". It reflects the process of continuous formation and improvement of product quality at all stages of its life cycle, from the stage of market research to the stage of after-sales service [Juran, 2004].

A.Feigenbaum defines a comprehensive quality management system as "a coordinated working structure operating in a company and including effective technical and managerial methods that provide the best and most practical ways of interaction between people, machines, and information in order to satisfy consumer's requirements for product quality as well as cost savings on quality" [Salimova, 2011].

In S.Singo's approach, more emphasis is placed on the organization of the production process, and not on management. One of Singo's mottos is: "Who is satisfied will not do anything progressive" [Bendell, 2000].

B.V.Boytsov paid much attention to the issues of the formation and functioning of quality systems, product quality planning, stimulating quality improvement, and product certification [Boytsov, Kryanev, 2000].

In the works of A.V.Glichev much attention is paid to the study of the nature of quality, the relationship between the categories of "quality" and "use value"; methodology of a systematic approach to quality management; certification issues; issues of the effectiveness of quality management systems, decision making and motivation in quality systems; staff training in the field of quality management; the relationship between quality and spirituality and many other issues that make up the content of science and quality management practices [Glichev, 2001].

The concept of the economic and statistical direction is described in sufficient detail in the work of V.I.Siskov, "Economic and Statistical Study of Product Quality". As part of the economic and statistical area, it is recognized that product quality has two sides: production and consumer (economic) [Siskov, 1971].

According to D.Murray, the orientation of quality management exclusively to industrial production has practically disappeared in the present. So, in the forecast of the British Institute for Quality Assurance (IQA) "Vision 2020", which reflects the prospects for the development of the theory and methodology of quality assurance, an increase in the role of the human factor in this direction is noted [Murray, 2005].

L.E.Basovskiy, V.B.Protasev claim that in the 90's the influence of society on enterprises increased, and enterprises began to take into account the interests of society more and more. This led to the emergence of the standards of the ISO 14000 series, establishing requirements for management systems in terms of environmental protection and product safety [Basovskiy, Protasev, 2011].

In the works of N.I.Dunchenko, M.D.Magomedov, A.V.Rybin, the fundamentals of technical regulation (confirmation of compliance, certification, standardization) are set forth taking into account modern changes in the legislative framework. Much attention is paid to the economic aspects of quality management: the formation and evaluation of costs, the analysis of indicators of marriage and losses from it [Dunchenko, Magomedov and Rybin, 2012].

A review of scientific sources suggests that a number of authors, for example, K.M.Rakhlin, I.E.Kryukov, A.D.Shadrin believe that modern quality management should combine with the general management of the enterprise and become its integral part [Rakhlin, Kryukov and Shadrin, 2003, 2004].

Consideration by the enterprise management of the quality system, only as a necessary factor in ensuring quality, along with other management systems, the material base and

personnel, causes isolation and insufficient level of responsibility of top management for the development and improvement of quality management systems. Neil R.Hannah agrees with the importance of this reason, indicating that “the lack of full and comprehensive support from senior management in the implementation of the ISO 9001 standard is explained by the lack of simple and understandable tools for calculating the effect of investments in standardization and certification” [Neil R. Hannah, 2011].

The works of Uzbek scientists P.R.Ismatullaev and M.M. Tashpulatov address the issues of economic benefits of producing certified products. In their opinion, the funds invested in certification pay off quickly enough due to the possibility of a significant increase in prices for certified products. At the same time, the absence of conformity certificates may lead to a ban on the export of such products or require the manufacturer to significantly reduce its prices [Ismatullaev, Tashpulatov, 2008].

Over time, all work in the field of quality was focused on the conditions of centralized management, i.e. on the system of state regulation and the equalization of the national economic effect. Partially retaining its significance in the current working conditions of that period, it currently does not reflect the requirements of a market economy and, above all, does not take into account the impact of the competition factor. In a competitive environment, manufacturers themselves must take care of improving the quality of goods in the market, which will increasingly be saturated with goods from developed countries.

In the ISO 8402-86 standard, a note to the definition of the term quality control recommended adding a definitive word, such as “quality management at the company level” when referring to a broader concept. Company-wide quality control (CWQC) was also discussed in the note to the term “global quality management” in ISO 8402: 1994 [Product Quality Management ISO 9000 - ISO 9004, ISO 8402, 1988].

Since quality management is one of the aspects of the general management of a company, it cannot be considered in isolation from the science of management (management), which determines the general laws of management activity. According to V.Yu.Ogvozdin, for the organization of effective quality management it is necessary to use the provisions and recommendations of management that can be applied in quality management. This will allow:

- get a general idea of organizations (enterprises) and factors of the internal and external environment, that is, about the conditions under which quality management is carried out;
- familiarize yourself with the essence of management and the structure of management at the enterprise in order to understand the role and place of quality management in the management of the enterprise as a whole;

- apply managerial functions in quality management, as well as approaches and methods for their implementation, accumulated in management practice [Ogvozdin, 2004, 2009].

Thus, the works of scientists reflect the theoretical aspects of quality management and the laws of a developed market and, of course, do not take into account the specifics of our conditions.

RESEARCH METHOD

When conducting the research, the methods of deduction, classification, generalization and comparison were applied. Especially, with the help of a retrospective method, the description, the development system of the concept of "ecological certification" has been studied. The necessary regulatory documents are investigated constructively using typological analysis methods.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Certification in most foreign countries has become one of the important elements of both market and state management of product quality.

For us, in conditions of economic development and the creation of a civilized market, the problem of public interest in certification is especially great. It is no accident that, unlike foreign experience, this problem is solved in our country from top to bottom, i.e. from state bodies (through the establishment of laws, norms, rules) to enterprises, organizations.

In our country, mandatory certification of goods (works, services) has been introduced, for which requirements are established in legislative acts or standards aimed at ensuring the safety of life, the health of consumers and environmental protection, and the prevention of damage to property of consumers. The main objectives of the certification system of the Republic of Uzbekistan are:

- protecting consumers from the acquisition (use) of goods, works and services, including imported, that are dangerous to life, health and property, as well as the environment;
- promoting exports and increasing the competitiveness of products.

Based on the generally recognized and widely used in world practice forms of protecting consumers' interests in the field of product quality, the state assessment and product quality control should include:

- testing and certification of products;
- certification of production for the stability of the quality of products;
- accreditation of testing laboratories (centers) for independence and technical competence to provide the right to conduct certification tests;

state supervision of the conformity of product quality, test methods and measuring instruments to the mandatory requirements of standards and other normative acts.

At the same time, as noted above, measures for the development of state assessment and product quality control should be introduced in stages, in conjunction with the transition of economic sectors to new forms of economic relations and the development of a national certification system. All these measures should correspond to the market approach to production, but at the same time, strictly regulate the lower limits of the quality level with tangible economic sanctions.

It should be noted that ecological certification is a new developed area of environmental protection in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Mandatory ecological certification of goods (works and services), for which requirements are established by law aimed at ensuring the safety of life, consumer health and environmental protection, were introduced with the adoption on April 26, 1996 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Protection of Consumer Rights". By this law, the "Uzstandard" agency was given the status of the parent body for certification of goods (works and services), whose functions include establishing control over compliance with legal requirements in this area [the Law "On Protection of Consumer Rights", 1996]. Over the years of independence, the "Uzstandard" agency has introduced a certification system in the country that defines the procedure for mandatory certification, developed using the experience of foreign countries.

Product certification in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 28, 1993 "On certification of products and services" is the activity of confirming the conformity of products with established requirements. Ecological certification - the activity of confirming the conformity of the certified object with the environmental requirements presented to it [the Law "On certification of products and services", 1993]. At the same time, environmental means the requirements established in legislative and other regulatory acts in the field of nature management and environmental protection. An ecological certificate is issued by an environmental certification body of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection. The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 9, 1992 "On Nature Protection" is the main regulatory document for ecological certification. Article 46 of this law states the prohibition of the use of raw materials and materials, the introduction of technological processes and the production of finished products (including food) without an ecological certificate and a sanitary and epidemiological conclusion, as well as deviations from the parameters defined in them. Ecological certification is also carried out in cases provided by law [the Law "On Nature Protection", 1992].

Ecological certification as a measure of nature protection and environmental rights of citizens resembles a state environmental review, the purpose of which is also to determine the conformity of the object of examination with environmental requirements. The fundamental difference between these measures is in the object. So, one of the objects of mandatory state environmental impact assessment is draft technical documentation for new equipment, technology, materials, substances, certified goods and services, which are included in the list approved by the authorized state body in the field of environmental impact assessment, including goods purchased abroad. But if the objects of expertise are always pre-design, project and pre-planned documents, then the objects of ecological certification are finished products. Accordingly, the objects of ecological certification are new equipment, materials, substances. The inclusion of goods and services in the list of mandatory ecological certification in accordance with Articles 11,12 and 13 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Environmental Expertise” serves as the basis for their classification as objects of mandatory state environmental impact assessment. A specially authorized state body in the field of state environmental impact assessment is the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection [the Law “On Environmental Expertise”, 2000].

With the help of ecological certification, a number of critical tasks are solved to ensure the rational use of natural resources, protect the environment and human health from the harmful effects of environmentally potentially dangerous products or services. It contributes to:

- prevention of the appearance on the market and sale of environmentally hazardous products and services and, accordingly, prevention of harm to the environment;
- the introduction of environmentally friendly technological processes and equipment;
- the production of environmentally friendly products at all stages of its life cycle, increasing its quality and competitiveness;
- the creation of conditions for the organization of production that meets established environmental requirements;
- improving the management of economic and other activities;
- prevention of the import into the country of environmentally hazardous products, technologies, waste, services;
- integration of the country's economy into the world market and fulfillment of international obligations.

Ecological certification thus serves:

- a means of confirming environmentally significant indicators of product quality declared by the manufacturer;
- assisting consumers in the competent selection of environmentally sound products;

- control of product safety for the environment of life, health and property;
- consumer protection from the dishonesty of the manufacturer (seller, performer).

Acting as a tool to protect the environmental and economic interests of the republic, ecological certification promotes the entry of the Republic of Uzbekistan into the global economic space, the production of competitive domestic products, and serves as a means of monitoring the import of environmentally harmful products into the country.

Ecological certification is carried out in our country in the form of mandatory and voluntary. It is mandatory in cases established by the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Compulsory ecological certification means that the state assumes the protection of public interests related to ensuring the environmental interests of the population and environmental protection, rational use, protection, reproduction of natural resources and in other cases provided for by law. To carry out mandatory ecological certification, the State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection draws up and approves lists of objects subject to mandatory ecological certification. Thus, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 19, 2000 "On the regulation of the import into the Republic of Uzbekistan and export of environmentally hazardous products and wastes from its territory" approved the nomenclature of products and wastes subject to mandatory ecological certification and the procedure for ecological certification of products manufactured in the Republic of Uzbekistan, and regulation of the import and export of environmentally hazardous products and waste from its territory [the Law "On the Regulation of the Importation into the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Export of Ecologically Hazardous Products and Wastes from its Territory", 2000].

In accordance with Article 11 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Environmental Expertise", the objects of state environmental impact assessment are:

- projects of government programs, concepts, patterns of placement and development of productive forces, sectors of the economy and social sphere;
- materials for the selection of land for all types of construction;
- predesign and design documentation;
- draft regulatory and technical and instructional documents governing economic and other activities related to the use of natural resources;
- documentation on the creation of new types of equipment, technologies, materials, substances, products;
- operating enterprises and other facilities that have a negative impact on the state of the environment and the health of citizens;
- materials of a comprehensive survey of territories in order to subsequently give them the status of protected natural areas, environmental emergency zones and ecological disasters;

all types of urban planning documentation;
objects with a special legal regime.

To strengthen state control over the use of environmentally hazardous products, certified goods and services that are on the list approved by the authorized state body in the field of environmental impact assessment (these include goods purchased abroad) are classified as mandatory by the Law on Environmental Expertise, State environmental review (Article 13) [the Law “On Environmental Expertise”, 2000].

Voluntary ecological certification is carried out in cases when the mandatory certification is not prescribed in the legislative documents of the Republic of Uzbekistan and is carried out at the initiative of the applicant, nature user or legal entity performing administrative functions in the field of natural resources, on the basis of an agreement between the certification body and the applicant.

CONCLUSION

In foreign practice, there is no clear division into mandatory and voluntary certification, and it is not always determined who should conduct them specifically. It should be agreed that, in accordance with the legislation, the management of mandatory certification is reserved by the “Uzstandard” Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan. However, in our opinion, it is necessary that no authority could impose any restrictions on the conduct of voluntary certification, as well as on the composition of the participants in this work. At the same time, we believe that the manufacturer of the products has the right to choose any certification scheme, as well as a regulatory and technical document. He may use a state, international or regional standard, technical specifications, company standard or foreign standard. Voluntary certification can be carried out by any testing laboratory. For them, in our opinion, the accreditation of the “Uzstandard” Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan is not required.

Summarizing the above, it can be said that environmental impact assessment, being an instrument for protecting public interests related to ensuring the environmental interests of the population and protecting the environment, mainly contributes to the integration of the country's economy into the world market and the fulfillment of international obligations.

Thus, during the period of integration of the economy of Uzbekistan into the global economy, it is advisable to develop an effective mechanism for ecological certification, including the following measures:

- declare the world level of the confirmation object;
- establish promotional prices and allowances for their products as environmentally friendly and natural;

- establish tax, credit, insurance and other benefits for the implementation of low-waste technologies and industries, the use of secondary resources;
- apply the ecological labeling of their products in accordance with the requirements of international standards ISO 14020, 14021, 14024 and 14025;
- advertise their products as environmentally friendly and / or natural in the media and on the Internet;
- ecological certificate and ecological declaration contribute to increased sales of products in foreign markets.

In our opinion, to date, activities to confirm the conformity of goods are not effectively used as a mechanism for regulating trade, designed to protect the market from dangerous products. In this regard, it is necessary to develop a Concept of quality control and food safety, providing a "reasonable balance" between the level of risks for the consumer and the level of costs of production control. To protect the domestic market from dangerous and low-quality products, it is advisable in the Concept to provide for strengthening the mechanism for regulating international trade in terms of protection against the import of dangerous and low-quality products. Supervisory authorities, such as the State Customs Service, the "Uzstandard" Agency, the Sanitary and Epidemiological Supervision under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan and others should have a single base for identifying violations and eliminating them.

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