

## **SLS go green.... with environmental responsibility!**

SLS are pleased to announce, that after successfully reducing their environmental impact for the previous 2 years, the organisation has achieved accreditation to the Environmental Management System (EMS) standard ISO14001: 2004.

ISO14001 is a systematic standard that has been designed to assist organisations in reducing their impact upon the environment; it is widely considered to be the most sought after environmental standard within UK industry.

### **The EMS aims to:**

- Improve environmental performance across the business.
- Provide a systematic and comprehensive way of monitoring environmental impact.
- Assess the long term effects of products, services and processes on the environment.
- Provide a platform for individuals to share environmental concerns by the assignment of responsibility, allocation of resources and ongoing evaluation.

As part of the EMS, and to meet the stringent criteria of the ISO accreditation, SLS set an ambitious target to reduce all energy usage by 5%. All areas of the business were carefully assessed resulting in new energy efficient computers being installed, print usage reduction and additional recycling bins placed in prominent places throughout offices and the warehouse; all of which ensured targets were met and surpassed.

*In 2009, SLS reduced energy usage by 44% compared with the previous year. In addition, vehicle emissions were reduced by 4.8% which is the equivalent of 13 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, and 82% of the general waste produced across the business was recycled.*

Over the next few years SLS intend to use the EMS to reduce environmental impact further by reducing energy usage, vehicle emissions and waste to landfill. In order to meet the challenge of ongoing targets, SLS are considering the benefits of introducing new technologies and implementing structural changes.

Peter Lister, Operations Director says "We're really proud to have achieved ISO14001 accreditation but we won't become complacent. We're already in the process of developing the EMS to cover suppliers too; this will ensure end users receive an environmentally responsible service throughout the supply chain."