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**Environmental management —
Environmental assessment of sites
and organizations (EASO)**

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Foreword

This translation has been made based on the original Japanese Industrial Standard established by the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry through deliberations at the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee in accordance with the Industrial Standardization Law:

This Standard has been prepared based on **ISO 14015 : 2001** *Environmental management — Environmental assessment of sites and organizations (EASO)*.

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In the event of any doubts arising as to the contents,
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Environmental management — Environmental assessment of sites and organizations (EASO)

Introduction This Japanese Industrial Standard has been prepared based on ISO 14015, *Environmental management — Environmental assessment of sites and organizations* (EASO) published in 2001 without modifying the technical contents.

The portions underlined with dots are the matters not stated in the original International Standard.

Organizations are increasingly interested in understanding the environmental issues associated with their sites and activities or those of potential acquisitions. These issues and their associated business consequences can be appraised by means of an Environmental Assessment of the Site and Organization (EASO). Such an assessment may be carried out during operations or at the time of acquisition or divestiture of assets and may be conducted as part of a broader business assessment process often referred to as “due diligence”.

This Standard gives guidance on how to conduct an EASO. It provides the basis for harmonization of the terminology used and for a structured, consistent, transparent and objective approach to conducting such environmental assessments. It can be used by all organizations, including small- and medium-sized enterprises, operating anywhere in the world. This Standard is flexible in its application and may be used for self-assessments as well as external assessments, with or without the need to employ third parties. The users of this Standard are expected to be industry, past, present and possible future users of particular sites, and organizations with a financial interest in the industry or site (e.g. banks, insurance companies, investors and site owners). This Standard is likely to be used in connection with the transfer of responsibilities and obligations.

The information used during an EASO may be derived from sources that include environmental management system audits, regulatory compliance audits, environmental impact assessments, environmental performance evaluations or site investigations. Some of these assessments or investigations may have been conducted using other relevant standards (e.g. JIS Q 14001, JIS Q 14011 or JIS Q 14031).

Through the process of evaluating both existing and newly acquired information, an EASO seeks to draw conclusions relating to business consequences associated with environmental aspects and issues.

Conclusions in an EASO should be based on objective information. In the absence of validated information, an EASO assessor may be required to exercise professional judgement in evaluating the available environmental information and drawing conclusions.

This Standard does not provide guidance on intrusive investigations or site reme-