

What is ISO 9001 – 2000 Standard?

From the year 2000 onwards all the following International standards were amalgamated and known as ISO 9001 – 2000 Standard.

ISO – 9000 –Guidelines to select standards for quality management and quality establishment
ISO – 9004- Guidelines to establish quality management system
ISO – 9001- Compact quality establishment system for product development and service
ISO – 9002- Formation of quality establishment system for goods and services except creation
ISO – 9003- Quality establishment for final examination

The special feature of ISO 9001 – 2000 Standard is that it is a one and only standard which is being used as a total system for quality management. This has been made possible by synthesizing all the above standards, then making in to a standard for the entire system.

=====

=====

What is ISO 14001 Standard?

This is an international certification that states a business has been carried out under a good system of environment management. In other words holding this standard provides certification that a better natural environment management system, in the business, is in place.

=====

=====

What are the factors to be considered before buying a packed product?

- SLS-ISO Certification
- Details of the producer
- Country of origin

- Content and Ingredients whether approved for consumption
 - Quantity and price
 - Trade mark and Brand
 - Instruction for usage, Directions
 - Manner and the nature of packaging got which impact to protect the environment(whether harmful to the ozone environment)
 - Name of the producer(Whether Reputed)
 - Date of expiry
 - Weight and volume whether agreeable
 - Date of manufacture
-

What is “Sri Lanka National Productivity Award?”

This is a competition organized by SLSI, to encourage honoring and maintaining quality and then to award businesses who appreciate quality as a part of running the business. The aims of the award are :

- To encourage businesses to be more appreciative of “Quality” during production functions.
- To promote competition for qualitative products among producers who respect quality as a means to increase standard of living
- To encourage to be participants as manufacturers who support the concept of “quality” by using to evaluate their products.

=====

=====

What is “Food Act Number 26 of 1980” and explain main attributes of the Act

This is yet another act passed by the Parliament to protect consumers. The objectives of the Act are:

- To control, sale, trade, export, and import of food items
- To set up food advisory committee

The matters that fall within the definition of “Malpractices”, under the food act are as follows:

- Manufacturing and sale of food items that are not fit for consumption
- Trading, display and sale of obsolete goods
- Refrain from displaying the expiry date

If there are complaints resultant to non compliance with the terms as per the Food Act, the following parties have been appointed to accept complaints from affected parties:

- Director General of Health Services
- Regional Director of Health Services
- Medical Officer of Health(MOH)
- PHI-Public Health Inspector
- Municipal Council Commissions
- Chairman of Local Government
- Divisional Secretaries
- Food and Drug Inspectors

=====

=====

Discuss briefly the Drugs and Perfumes Act Number 47 of 1980

This is another consumer protection intended act introduced and passed by the Parliament. The intentions of the Act have been to :

- To make more efficient the production, importing, exporting and trading drugs and perfumes
- To form a technical evaluation committee to advise matters of scientific nature and of common interest to general public to protect their health

There are certain malpractices as defined/identified under the Act and those are:

- Import and sale of out dated drugs
- Sale of drugs that are not compatible to standards required to maintain the quality of drugs.
- Sale of illegal drugs
- Importing and selling of drugs without proper procedure

=====

=====

What is “Measuring unit and Standard Act No-35 of 1995?”

The objective in forming the Act was to preserve the right of :

- Consumers
- Farmers
- Producers and
- Traders,

With regard to weighing and measuring, by forming a Department named as “ Measuring Units, Standards and Services, which has the following mission.

“To be the Apex Institute for Science of Measurement, being responsible for the National Measurement System and to ensure justice and equity in regulatory activities and transactions based on Measurements”

The services that can be obtained from the Department are as follows:

- Obtain Pattern Approval for weights, Measures, Measuring instruments
- Registration of Manufacturers of weights, Measures and weighing or Measuring Instruments
- Registration of Sellers of weights, Measures and weighing or Measuring Instruments
- Renewal of Licenses - Repairers, Manufacturers and Sellers Verifications of weights, Measures and weighing or Measuring Instruments
- Calibration of weights, measures and weighing or measuring Instruments
- Handling Complaints on violation of the Act.

- Inform about prepackaging items
- Registration of Repair Persons / Agency of weights, Measures and weighing or Measuring Instruments

The explanation given as “malpractices” defined under the Act:

- A malpractice is the inappropriate use of weighing and measuring instrument/inappropriate weighing and measuring
- Usage of illegal equipments

Functions of the Department of Measuring Units, Standards and Services are-

- Annual verification of instruments/equipments
- Act against the use of illegal instruments
- Formation of National Measuring Library Services
- To ensure accuracy of weighing and measuring instruments

=====

=====

What is Consumer Credit Act No 9 of 1982?

The provisions of this Act applies in relation to all hire-purchase agreements entered into in Sri Lanka.

In brief a hire-purchase agreement is an agreement or a system by which one pays for a thing(use of an asset, say a car, machine etc...) in regular installments while having the use of it

According to the Act, all the hire purchase agreements should be in writing and must includes the following:

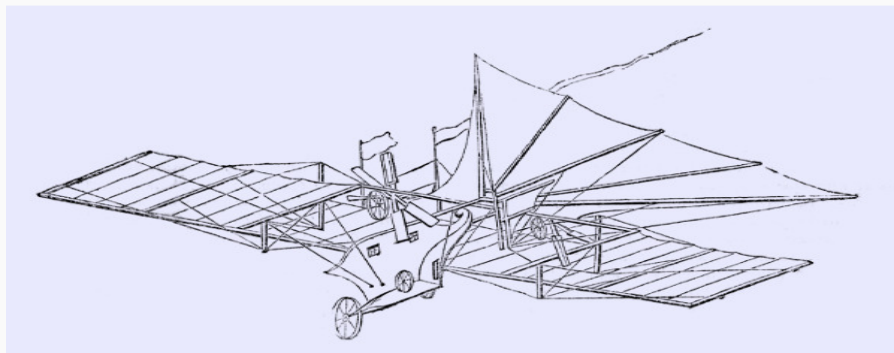
- Nature of the Agreement
- Cash Price
- Hire Purchase Value

- Installments Payment Plan
- Outcome if the agreement is breached

Explain Intellectual Property Act No 36 of 2003

Intellectual properties(IP) are creations by people and the act attempt to preserve the rights of such creators. For this, in Sri Lanka, the INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ACT, No. 36 OF 2003 has been passed.

Intellectual property (IP) refers to creations of the mind, such as inventions; literary and artistic works; designs; and symbols, names and images used in commerce. For example the below shown is one design...



In other words, IP is assets which emerged from inventors therefore, protected in law.

For example, *patents*, *copyright* and *trademarks*, which enable people to earn recognition or financial benefit from what they invent or create. By striking the right balance between the interests of innovators and the wider public interest, the IP system aims to foster an environment in which creativity and innovation can flourish.

Patent

Patent is form of sole right given to an individual, group or an organization or all of them because a new process, new method new machinery, new creation and/or a combination of all of them have been the result of the individual/group who created the process, new method, new machinery, new creation or the combination.

Right to a Patent is discussed in the:

Act- chapter 67. (1) Subject to the provisions of section 68, under which the right to a patent is presented as shall belong to the inventor.

(2) Where two or more persons have jointly made an invention, the right to a patent shall belong to them jointly.

Once the patent right has been obtained, the certificate is valid for a period of 20 years.

Copyright

This is a right given to/held by some one or several persons to reproduce creations in the field of arts, drama, music, literary piece, a computer software, a certain performance, sound recording and communication signals.

Trademarks

A trade mark is a sign, A distinctive word, phrase, symbol, colour, art work, or design of a competitive nature which differentiate one offer from another.

Trademarks identify a product or service and is legally owned by its manufacturer or inventor. The Abbreviation, *TM*.