ECCONE

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QUALITY MANAGEMENT POLICY

Ref.No.: E001_20/01

ECCONE LTD

Construction Management | Health & Safety | CDM Services



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This Quality Manual has been issued on the authority of the Company Director of Eccone Ltd for the use of all staff, subcontractors, clients or regulatory bodies to whom Eccone Ltd may be required to provide such information.

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INDEX				
SECTION	TABLE OF CONTENTS			
Forewo	rd			
1.0	Scope	9.0	Performance evaluation	
2.0	Normative References	9.1 9.1.1	Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation General	
3.0	Terms and definitions	9.1.2 9.1.3	Customer satisfaction Analysis and evaluation	
4.0 4.1 4.2 4.2.1 4.2.2 4.2.3 4.2.4 4.2.5 4.3 4.4 4.4.1 4.4.2 5.1 5.2 5.1 5.2 5.2.1 5.2.2 5.3	Context of the organization Understanding the organization and its context Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties Internal stakeholders External stakeholders with high impact External stakeholders with low impact Our business philosophy Our Compliance Management System Determining the scope of the quality management system Quality management system and its processes Organization of our quality management system Process map Leadership Leadership and Commitment Policy Establishing the quality policy Communicating the quality policy Organizational roles, responsibilities and authorities	Figure 2 Figure 3 Figure 4 Figure 5	Internal audit Management Review General Management Review inputs Management Review outputs Improvement General Nonconformity and corrective action Continual improvement igures - Organization Chart Eccone Ltd - Process map - Eccone Intranet (Quality Management) - Eccone Website - Structure of our quality management documentation - Eccone Cycle .	
6.0 6.1 6.2 6.3	Planning Actions to address risks and opportunities Quality objectives and planning to achieve them Planning of changes			
7.0 7.1 7.1.1 7.1.2 7.1.3 7.1.4 7.1.5 7.1.6 7.2 7.3 7.4 7.5 7.5.1 7.5.2 7.5.3	Support Resources General People Infrastructure Environment for the operation of processes Monitoring and measuring resources Organizational knowledge Competence Awareness Communication Documented information General Creating and updating Control of documented information			
8.0 8.1 8.2 8.2.1 8.2.2 8.2.3 8.2.4 8.3 8.4 8.4.1 8.4.2 8.4.3 8.4.3 8.5 8.5.1	Operation Operational planning and control Requirements for products and services Customer communication Determining the requirements for products and services Review of the requirements for products and services Changes to requirements for products and services Design and development of products and services Control of externally provided processes, products and services General Type and extent of control Information for external providers Production and service provision Control of production and service provision			

- Identification and traceability
- 8.5.2 8.5.3 8.5.4 Property belonging to customers or external providers
- Preservation
- 8.5.5
- Post-delivery activities Control of changes Release of products and services Control of nonconforming outputs 8.5.6 8.6 8.7

Foreword

Changes in the organisation of Eccone Ltd or the environment in which it operates, may necessitate modifications, amendments, insertions and/or deletions to the overall quality management adopted by Eccone Ltd and its associated documentation (e.g. Quality Procedures and Work Instructions). The contents of this Quality Manual may, therefore, be altered on an as required basis. All changes shall be subject to "Change Control". Changes shall be deemed operational following approval by the authorised person/persons and published on the Eccone Ltd Website www.eccone.com as a single point of reference for customers and employees.

It is our intention to streamline our internal processes and thus to continuously increase our corpo-rate quality. These endeavours are given expression in the form of a clearly formulated Quality Management Documentation.

The present manual defines the quality policy and principles. It is available through the Eccone Ltd (Quality Management) and shall serve as guideline for all activities within the company and for interaction with our business partners and stakeholders. Since our business is mainly international, the manual and all related documented information has been prepared in English language.

1.0 Scope

This manual and all subsequent processes are applicable for Eccone Ltd and cover consulting services for public and private clients provided in Health & Safety and Management Consulting services, with emphasis in the fields of water supply, wastewater treatment and disposal, solid waste management, regional development and management advice.

The scope of the present QMS extends to our head office in Mannheim and does not cover our international branches and affiliated companies.

2.0 Normative References

All documented information or regulations referred to in this manual, are printed in.

3.0 Terms and definitions

The terms and definitions given in DIN EN ISO 9001:2015 apply for this Policy and all related documented information. They are based on gender equality. Whenever reference is made to "he" / "his" or any male title for profession, task or duty description, this is to be understood and read as synonymous for "he or she", "his or her", or the respective female title.

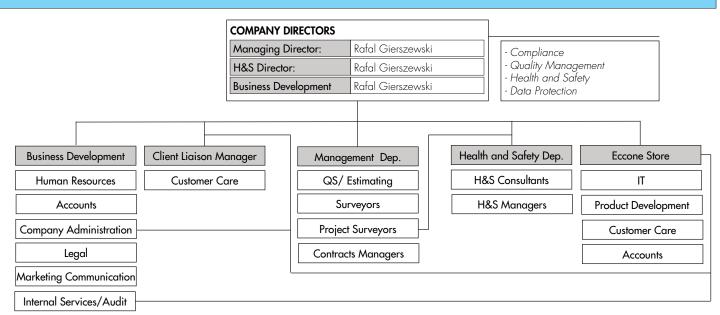
4.0 Context of the organization

4.1 Understanding the Ecc organization and its priv context cor ma

Eccone Ltd was founded in 2015 and has been developing and implementing projects and advisory services for public and private Clients for more than 5 years in UK. With more than 10 experts, Eccone Ltd ranks as one of the leading UK consulting companies, engaged in construction, with emphasis in the fields of health and safety, project management, consulting, and management advice. Our team is formed of experts who are either specialise in construction sectors, such as civil engineering, health and safety , process engineering. In addition, Eccone Ltd consultants are member of numerous UK professional associations. (RISC , CIOB, IOSH, APS)

Figure 1 – Organization Eccone Group

COMPANY MANAGEMENT



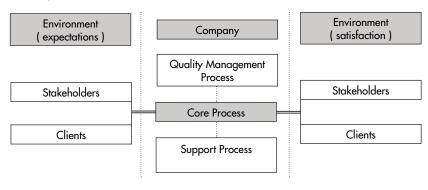


- 4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties Due to this context and related requirements, different stakeholders can be defined, which have a major influence on our activities. An evaluation of internal and external stakeholders, as well as assessment of their expectation is done within the yearly Management Review. We have categorized our stakeholders as follows:
- 4.2.1 Internal stakeholders Shareholder, management, employees, workers council.

4.2.2 External stakeholders Clients, strategic partners and sub-consultants, freelance experts, suppliers, other business partners.

- 4.2.3 External stakeholders with low impact Bank, auditors, legal counsels, insurance companies, tax authorities, health insurance companies, trade register, associations (e.g. RICS, CIOB, APS, IOSH), neighbours and candidates, press and media, competitors.
- 4.2.4 Our business philosophy Our ethical principles are a key component of our business philosophy. Our reputation within the business community is one of our most important assets. Clients and stakeholders expect us to work based on high ethical standards, to fulfil all our obligations and to act honestly and with integrity. Our reputation very much depends on the strict observance of these values. Based on the above, we expect our employees to act in accordance with our ethical principles. We assume that our senior managers live by these ethical principles, that they convey and encourage these values and that they set exemplary standards to make sure that these principles are being observed. They are the first persons to be contacted by the employees whenever ethical questions arise.
- 4.2.5 Our Compliance Management System As one of the forerunners in industry, Eccone Ltd introduced a Compliance Management System, de-signed to meet the challenges of highly varied international business activities. Its implementation is based on the knowledge that our competitiveness can only be ensured by fair and transparent business operations. Based on our compliance guidelines and extensive training, we have introduced uniform standards of conduct, implementation and monitoring procedures which have compliance embedded throughout our entire business activities.
- 4.3 Determining the scope of the quality management system Our QM system covers the company as a whole and includes the interaction with our external stake-holders. The process and does not design or develop any services on its own. All orders are project-specific and implemented according to the specifications defined by our Clients. For that reason, design and development of products and services (clause 8.3 below) are not applicable for Eccone Ltd and excluded from our QM system.
- 4.4 Quality management system and its processes The goal of our QM system is to implement the quality policy and objectives within the Eccone Ltd and to enhance our Clients' satisfaction levels. A systematic and methodical process is ensured by defining all processes that affect the services delivered to our Clients. Our QM system is structured according to the requirements as of CIOB Code of Quality Management and Standards of conduct - RICS.
- 4.4.1 Organization of our quality management system The overall responsibility for the implementation and continual improvement of the QM system within Eccone Ltd remains with management. It is supported by the Eccone Ltd quality manager who contributes to the effectiveness of the QM system and ensures that the processes are delivering their intended out-puts.
- 4.4.2 Process map The process map shows the interaction between our processes, which are divided into quality management, core and support processes. The core processes describe the complete project cycle and thus form the basis. They are controlled by the quality management processes and supported by the support processes.

Figure 2 – Process map



5.0 Leadership

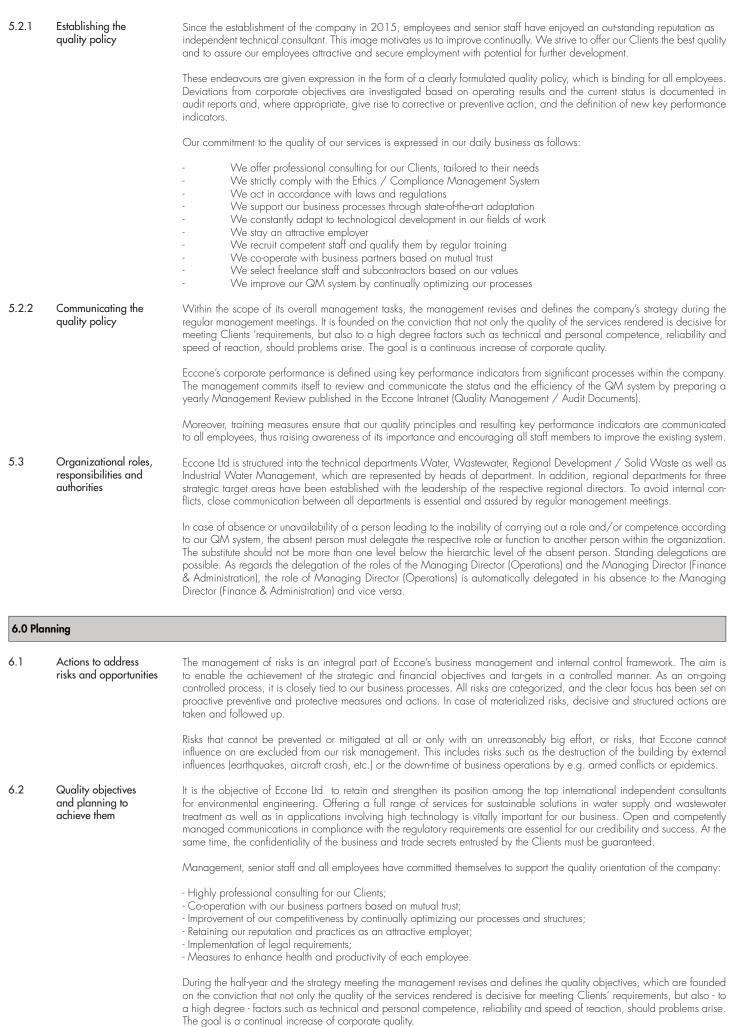
5.1 Leadership and Commitment Eccone Ltd is an independent consulting company, with the impartiality, independence and integrity required for the provision of its services. Since 2018 Eccone Ltd maintains a Quality Management System (QM system), which guarantees that all work will be planned, controlled and supervised and that all services correspond exactly to the requirements specified by the Clients. The quality orientation of the company is exemplified by the management and our senior staff. They and all employees have committed themselves to adapt their actions to the documented quality policy and practices. The management requires all Eccone Ltd employees to carry out their work in accordance with the quality regulations described in this manual and assures that

- we commit to offer highly professional consulting for our Clients, paying particular attention to changes in Clients' interests and needs;

- there is no financial influence exerted on investigation and inspection results;
- any influence on investigation and inspection results by external persons or organizations is excluded;

- Eccone Ltd and its employees are free from any commercial, financial and other influences potentially compromising their technical judgment;

- we are not involved with activities potentially compromising confidence in the company's independence of evaluation and its integrity concerning the testing activities.





6.3 Planning of changes

Quality objectives are revised and redefined - if necessary - during the regular management meetings. All employees are informed at regular intervals about the current situation of the company and the status of individual projects through the Eccone Ltd Newsletter and staff information meetings, which are also published in the Eccone Ltd Intranet, thus making the information available throughout the whole company. The status and the efficiency of the QM system are reviewed by preparing the Management Review. Based on the Review, measures are defined, and objectives are set for ensuring continual improvement. Management Reviews are prepared once a year and published in the Eccone Ltd Intranet, section Quality Management/Audit Documents.

7.0 Sup	7.0 Support		
7.1	Resources		
7.1.1	General	In the consulting and engineering business, competent and skilled employees are the backbone of the company's competi- tiveness and the success of a project substantially depends on the personality and competence of the project staff. Eccone Ltd pays high attention to the selection of its employees. Apart from technical knowledge and expertise, the ability of staff to organize and communicate, as well as proficiency in foreign languages is of main interest.	
		An overall understanding between staff members and the corresponding line managers, as well as the clarification of compa- ny and individual objectives, targets and questions are the basic condition for a target-oriented and trusting collaboration. It is furthermore Eccone's intent to promote the staff member in his specific and interdisciplinary qualification. In this respect, the employee dialogue is a very important element to increase motivation and to develop and support the employee's activities.	
		In addition, and to support our permanent work forces and to add specific expertise, we count on the appointment of Free- lance Experts. Regulations for contracting Freelance Experts, their assignment, duties and responsibilities have been defined and are subject to regular control.	
7.1.2	People	The overall responsibility for the implementation and continual improvement of the QM system within Eccone remains with the management. It is supported by the Eccone quality manager who contributes to the effectiveness of the QM system and ensures that the processes are delivering their intended out-puts. The Eccone quality manager assumes a consultative function vis-à-vis the management and provides advice and assistance regarding the implementation of the system.	
		Our processes are defined and described in documented procedures. Process managers have been appointed to monitor each process and the related forms and documents and - with assistance of the Eccone quality manager – to prepare revisions – if necessary.	
7.1.3	Infrastructure	Eccone office space, IT infrastructure including hardware and software as well as information and communication technology (video conference facilities) are continually brought up-to-date according to requirements needed for the daily business. Legal provisions on workplace environment are respected. Additional administrative support (IT, Human Resources) is provided by Eccone Senior Management , if required.	
		In addition to the standard office applications, several additional technical software is being used, the selection and appli- cation of which is defined according to the Eccone strategy and project requirements.	
7.1.4	Environment for the operation of processes	Variable working hours and parttime agreements offer flexibility to realize given tasks. For travellers and expatriates abroad, adequate assistance in cases of emergency is provided by an external provider for medical and travel security services (International SOS). Company-level agreements regarding social issues, offers for company sports activities or gettogethers are positively received by all employees.	
7.1.5	Monitoring and measuring resources	Not applicable	
7.1.6	Organizational knowledge	Eccone has determined the organizational knowledge that is necessary to manage and execute its processes and to ensure conformity of our services. Our knowledge is based on internal (intellectual property, lessons learned, best practices, project database) and external resources CIOB Standards / RICS Rules, CIOB/RICS Books and selected technical literature). The knowledge is being maintained and made accessible to all employees through the Eccone Intranet.	
		Regulations for physical and electronic filing of project documents facilitates the traceability of proceedings and thus represents an important contribution to the transfer of the organization's knowledge.	
7.2	Competence	Project success substantially depends on the personality and competence of the project staff. Eccone pays high attention to the selection of its employees. Apart from technical knowledge and expertise, the ability of staff to organize and communicate, as well as proficiency in foreign languages is of main interest.	
		The basic condition, which allows Eccone to render high-quality services, is best-qualified staff. It is our intent to promote the employee in his specific and interdisciplinary qualification. In addition to the knowledge that has been acquired in the scope of the professional education and experience, a constant and additional training is required to meet the continually changing requirements. Eccone has de-fined the need for training and assures proper documentation of training measures performed.	
		Moreover, an overall understanding between staff members and their line managers, as well as the clarification of company and individual objectives, targets and questions are the basic condition for a target-oriented and trusting collaboration. In this respect, the employee dialogue is a very important element to increase motivation and to develop and support the employee's activities.	

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- 7.3 Awareness All employees are requested to respect and to perform their activities in accordance with our quality management system and our stipulated quality standards. Regular workshops on the quality management system and selected processes ensure awareness of our quality processes and objectives. In the case of nonconformities stated during internal audits measures are taken and followed-up.
- 7.4 Communication The Eccone Intranet is the most important internal communications channel and meeting place and features a wide range of services. Information has been categorized according to the sectors Marketing, Quality Management, Business Support and Internal Organization.

Additionally, the Management informs the employees at regular intervals about the current situation of the company and the status of individual projects through the Eccone News. Information is given on compliance and quality topics and major strategical issues decided during the management meetings which are held on a regular basis. Additionally, up to date topics are communicated via mail, Yammer or within the News section of the Eccone Intranet.

All documents related to quality management are available in the Eccone Intranet (Quality Management). Any changes or updates made to the QM documentation, as well as the publication of other QM documents (e.g. audit reports, management reviews) are published in the Quality News section of the intranet (with automatic distribution by mail), thus making the information available throughout the whole company.

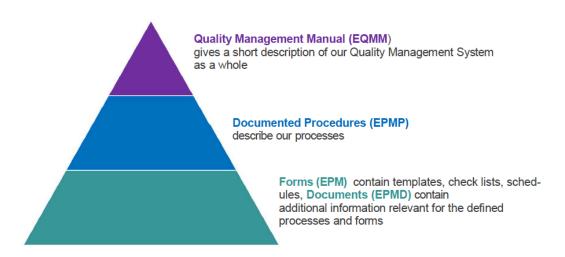
7.5 Documented information

7.5.1 General

As described in the chapter 7.4 above, all documented information is available through the Eccone Intranet (Quality Management), which is available throughout the whole company. Any changes or up-dates made are communicated through in the Quality News section of the intranet (with automatic distribution by mail).

Our documented information is based on our processes. Quality management processes comprise mainly the tasks of quality management that define the framework of the company's activities and guarantee a continual improvement of the organization. Core processes describe the complete project cycle and thus constitute essential contributions to Client satisfaction. Support processes provide the prerequisites and the necessary resources for smooth progress of the core and management processes.

Figure 6 – Structure of our quality management documentation



7.5.2 Creating and updating

We have committed to the fact that the documented information:

- is correct and complete,
- is valid and up-to-date,
- meets all internal requirements,
- can be used as evidence of correct practice in the case of liability claims, and
- that clear regulations will be applied

All quality management documents are clearly marked and identifiable and all employees have access to the currently valid versions. By the defined check respectively approval procedure, all parties concerned have the possibility to contribute their needs and ideas. Process managers have been appointed to monitor each process and the related forms and documents and - with assistance of the Eccone quality manager – to prepare revisions – if necessary.

7.5.3 Control of documented Documented inform information QM system have be

Documented information required by the QM system or of external origin provide evidence that regulations set forth in our QM system have been respected. They serve as an important tool to prove that procedures were duly followed in compliance with the quality standards. In case of any disputes they may help to clarify the circumstances.

We have defined clear regulations for electronic and physical filing of project documents, including documented information from external origin, which ensure that these documents shall be filed in such a way that they will not be damaged, affected or lost and that a quick access is guaranteed.





8.5.3	Property belonging to customers or external providers	Assets provided by the Client or other stakeholders are considered as company property and subject to secrecy wherever required. After the technical completion of the project, the project will be formally handed over to the Client and closed out. The return of documents provided by the Client or other stakeholders is documented during the project closure meeting.
8.5.4	Preservation	All project results are systematically collected, filed and archived during and at the end of the project. Regulations for phys- ical (archive) and electronic (file server) filing of project documents have been set-up and are applied throughout the whole company.
8.5.5	Post-delivery activities	Clear filing rules are needed, because many projects run for several years, and have long defects liability periods. In addi- tion, requirements for retention of legal documents shall apply. Guidelines ensure that all processes are verifiable at any time and that even years after the termination of the project the documents can be easily retrieved.
8.5.6	Control of changes	As stated in chapter 8.2.4 above, major modifications respectively additional services to contracts awarded are controlled through addenda signed with the Client.
		Regarding the preparation of project documents, all reports submitted as draft version shall be marked "DRAFT" on the cover page. The internal quality check is documented on page 2 of each report (quality check box). Written comments and reviews of the Client and/or the IFI are integrated and filed – for documentation - as stipulated in the filing plan. As soon as notified deficiencies have been eliminated, the final version of the related document shall be elaborated and submitted to the Client and/or IFI for final approval/no objection. This report shall be marked "FINAL" on the cover page.
8.6	Release of products and services	The project manager and the head of department have to agree on a procedure for quality control prior to submission of the first documents. This procedure has to be documented during the project kick off meeting and shall guarantee that any official project documents are subject to a final quality control prior to their submission. For this purpose, each report shall have a quality check box on page 2 where the author of the report, the person who checked the report and the person who approved the report are indicated.
8.7	Control of nonconforming outputs	Eccone has specified nonconformities that may occur as well as their control, with the target to register them, to have them analysed and to take measures to eliminate them. Additionally, measures to pre-vent their occurrence have been determined.
9.0	Performance evaluation	
9.1	Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation	
9.1.1	General	The performance of our quality management system is monitored trough the evaluation of the Client satisfaction by means of the Client interview and the number of Client certificates received. Results from internal audits and the key performance indicators are evaluated in the yearly Management Review.
9.1.2	Customer satisfaction	Eccone has a vital interest in the satisfaction of its Clients and monitors if the Client's requirements have been met. Client's satisfaction is recorded systematically by means of a pre-defined questionnaire and the request for a certificate to be issued by the Client after project closure and confirming the successful completion of all services contracted.
9.1.3	Analysis and evaluation	All projects are subject to a regular control by the responsible head of department, thus ensuring that risks can be identified and eliminated at an early stage. The assessment of our freelance experts (refer to chapter 8.4.2 above) and of the Clients' satisfaction constitute an essential contribution in ensuring our quality principles.
		The Clients' satisfaction is assessed in form of an interview by the project manager or the head of department. The interview shall be made at suitable intervals during the project duration, but at latest after project completion. The completed form is handed over to the Eccone quality manager, who will evaluate the results. The total points received shall be divided by the number of questions answered. At a result of less than 1.5, a meeting shall be held between the project manager and the head of department to agree upon measures to improve the Client's satisfaction. The results are published in the yearly Management Review.
9.2	Internal audit	In addition to external audits, regular internal audits are carried out, which shall review the usefulness and effectiveness of our QM system and check the compliance with instructions specified by the standard. They shall furthermore review conformance to the specified quality targets and policy and find out, if there is any need for changes to improve our QM system. In coordination with the Eccone quality manager, the Eccone quality manager prepares the audit plan, and publishes it in the Eccone intranet (Quality Management / Audit Documents).
		All audit results are documented by the Eccone quality manager using a pre-defined form. The reports are published in the Eccone Intranet (Quality Management / Audit Documents). In case of nonconformities identified, measures to be taken shall be defined, and discussed or arranged with the responsible audiences, and implementation and effectiveness of these measures shall be checked by the Eccone quality manager. Each audit shall be concluded by a final discussion of the audit results with all participants. A summary of all open and concluded measures is stated in the yearly Management Review.
9.3	Management Review	
9.3.1	General	The management commits to review regularly the status and the efficiency of the quality management system by preparing a Management Review. The review is prepared once a year and serves for continual development and improvement of our QM system.
9.3.2	Management Review inputs	The basis for the Management Review are, among others, status of actions from previous management reviews, findings resulting from audits performed, quality measures planned, status of training measures performed, a consideration of relevant stakeholders, assessment of risks and opportunities at a strategic level and the achievement of quality objectives based on key performance indicators assessed. Based on the recorded results, measures are defined, and objectives are set for ensuring



9.3.3	Management Review
	outputs

On basis of the review it will be decided on opportunities for improvement and any need for changes of our existing QM system. New targets for the following business year are established by the management. The Management Review is published in Eccone Intranet (Quality Management / Audit Documents).

10.0	Improvement	
10.1	General	The goal of our QM system is to implement and continually improve our quality processes within the company and thus to enhance our stakeholder's satisfaction levels. Processes have been defined which ensure early warnings and methods for correction. Moreover, all processes within Eccone are subject to regular reviews to guarantee continual improvement.
10.2	Nonconformity and corrective action	If, despite of any due diligence, a nonconformity or Clients' complaint occurs, they will be registered according to regulations set forth in our QM system and corrective measures will be initiated.
		Project related nonconformities shall be reported monthly to the responsible head of department. The idea behind is to inform the head of department as early as possible if any major changes or deviations have occurred or are imminent regarding change in scope of works, budget, personnel, time schedule, problems, risks and compliance issues or if major comments on any submitted reports have been received, in order to allow suitable corrective action, in time.
		Company related nonconformities are to be reported by the head of department in the monthly Business Status Report (BSR), which is being discussed in the regular management meetings. Topics comprise, among other, lowlights, outstanding invoices, major project budget adjustments needed, claims and risks, as well as early warnings on financial upsides and downsides.
10.3	Continual improvement	All processes, which Eccone has defined through documented procedures, aim at optimizing our services quality. The collec- tion and systematic evaluation of project data is an important contributing factor, for which we use mainly IT-based systems. Subsequent analysis of the reasons for any non-conformity enables us to implement appropriate measures and to define new objectives. Processes, which will be implemented soon to improve the quality of our services, are defined and their imple- mentation monitored in the yearly Management Review. A continuous improvement enhances Client's satisfaction and helps to serve for long-term success of Eccone.

Figure 7 - PDCA Cycle

