



## Why RIOS? The Benefits of Certification

The recycling industry is more diverse and in-demand than ever – and it can be overwhelming to consider options for improving your operations! Certification can be a great option, but why RIOS – the Recycling Industry Operating Standard $^{TM}$ ?

The most immediate among the advantages of choosing RIOS is the network of support offered to all RIOS members. Not only does membership include a fully-developed Implementation Guide – a full DIY set of instructions, tools, templates, and tips for developing a RIOS management system – but the knowledge that they are backed by the reputation and industry awareness of RIOS. Membership is priced in a tier-based structure, with the price depending on a number of factors including the number of facilities affiliated with an organization. For further details on pricing and qualifications, visit the RIOS website.

A strong benefit of RIOS for recyclers is its status as an integrated standard. Not just a standalone set of recycling guidelines, RIOS includes Quality, Environmental, and Health and Safety requirements designed specially for the recycling, refurbishing, and repair industries. Without RIOS, many organizations end up having to pursue separate certifications in the aforementioned areas, incurring greater costs in auditing the equivalent ISO standards – RIOS membership costs far less! Additionally, RIOS is the only single standard that meets all of the EHS and Quality requirements for R2 (Responsible Recycling) certification, and additional ISO standards (such as ISO 9001 or 14001) can be quickly and easily integrated into the systems established to satisfy RIOS requirements.

Even for non-electronics recycling, RIOS has plenty to offer! It includes effective and comprehensive tools to help facilities manage and mitigate risks – something that can greatly help reduce insurance premiums in the midst of the industry's ongoing insurance crisis. The proactivity of addressing environmental issues systematically through certification can also help mitigate the impact of environmental justice, issues, and EPA actions, both of which have increased over the past several years.

Having a strong management system in general can provide additional benefits with regard to a business's reputation (with not only clients and fellow industry players but employees as well). The clear demonstration of efforts to improve operations with certification may even help provide leverage when seeking government grants or bank loans!

To learn more about the benefits of choosing RIOS certification or the process of joining and becoming certified, reach out to PJR today. Call **248-358-3388** or visit **www.pjr.com**!

