AS9101 & AS9104 Revisions
Affecting **Aerospace**
Services

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DEKRA On the safe side.

Crucial to ensuring the safety and reliability of products and services throughout the aerospace industry, the AS9101, AS9104-2 and AS9104-1 standards regulating the auditing, certification and oversight of quality management systems and certification programs were recently revised.

Revisions to ensure efficient quality management systems

Manufacturers and direct suppliers operating in the aviation, space and defense sectors must adhere to strict national and international standards with solid certifications proving the quality, reliability and safety of their products and services. Resilient and effective quality management systems in companies serving in the entire value chain play a vital role in upholding industry standards, meeting customer expectations and protecting consumers. In efforts to improve security measures, processes and best practices throughout the industry, standards relevant to quality management system certification programs and prerequisite auditing requirements are constantly evolving.

The latest revisions to the AS9101, AS9104-1 and AS9104-2 standards have been made to ensure International Accreditation Forum (IAF) documents are in line with current requirements and improve Certification Body (CB) auditor accountability. Modifications aim to underscore the implementation of risk-based auditing and oversight practices, reduce variations due to site structures, eliminate redundant or confusing items and align these three standards with others (AS9100, AS9110, AS9120) in the series.

Main changes to the AS9101, AS9104-1 and AS9104-2 standards

The overall certification structure has been downsized to now differentiate between only single site and multi-site certification. Single-site certification documents one address on the certificate and in the Online Aerospace Supplier Information System (OASIS) data base whereas multi-site certification lists all applicable addresses and the central function of each site on the certificate and in the OASIS database.

Audit scope has been expanded to include key quality management data such as:

▸ Customer requirements and satisfaction

▸ Scheduling and actual delivery

▸ Internal auditing practices

▸ Quality management system efficiency

The proportion allowed for remote audits has been increased from 30% to 50%. New requirements define audit time as the sum of planning, conducting and reporting the audit. Following the revised Organization Certification Analysis Process (OCAP) risk- and performance-based assessment calculation guidelines, audit durations of various processes can be reduced from 10-20%. Keep in mind that the OCAP must be completed and submitted to the CB ninety days before the next scheduled audit.

Benefits of the revised standards

New advanced scheduling requirements for audits help to ensure planning is conducted in a timely manner to support effective and successful audits for ultimate certification. Revisions allow organizations with multiple sites to be more flexibly allocate audit time to locations where it is needed most. The OCAP risk-based approach enables companies at low risk to decrease audit time by 10% while companies at medium risk experience no change and those considered high risk see an audit time increase of 10%. High risk demands more intense audit scrutiny for increased security along the supply chain.

An increase of allowable remote audits means companies can:

▶ Decrease allocated in-house resources

▶ Keep business up and running as normal

▶ Save time with streamlined audit

▶ Reduce expenses for on-site audit

▶ Meet industry standard obligations with flexible remote options

To support industry members in finding new suppliers or monitoring current partners, revised measures have been implemented to uphold industry requirements while ensuring the OASIS database remains clear and easy to use.

Transition timeline

With transition to the revised AS9101, AS9104-1 and AS9104-2 standards requirements already underway, audits for 2024 are now in planning.

Do you want to learn more about the revisions and how they might affect your organization? Contact our experts today!

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