



Certify Your Aerospace Quality Management System

AS9100:2009 (C)

Aerospace Industry Aims Higher

Though quality and safety are always chief concerns in any industry, the greater risks and complexity of the aerospace market requires even more demanding and stringent standards.

As this industry responds to accelerated growth and rapid technological change, it is increasingly important to be sure that a quality management system is in place. Only by following the safeguards inherent in such a system can companies protect the integrity of their manufacturing process. This is the essential defense that products destined for aviation, space, and defense need.

History of AS9100

The AS9100 standard evolved from ARD9000, which was developed in 1996 by the American Aerospace Quality Group. In 1999, the AS9100 series was accepted by U.S., Japanese and European aerospace industry suppliers.

Led by innovators General Electric Aircraft Engines and Rolls Royce-Allison, suppliers withdrew from company specific standards and adopted AS9100. By 2001, the Federal Aviation Administration had recognized it as a comprehensive quality standard meeting federal and statutory regulations, and use it as the basis for a quality system standard in addition to the Circular Advisory. The Boeing Company soon came on board.

Today, members of the International Aerospace Quality Group have implemented the standard internally, and they are requesting that their suppliers follow suit.

SRI Quality System Registrar is well equipped to provide registration for the AS1900 series. Our auditors have extensive aerospace industry background in specific areas, a qualification that is required by the registration. These auditors have received an Aerospace Experienced Auditor (AEA) designation, assuring you that they know this industry thoroughly and can audit your quality management system.

SRI's AEAs are approved by the AAQG RMC (Registrar Management Committee) certifying that we continue to operate by the internationally accepted criteria.

The AS9100 Series

The AS9100 Quality Systems standard for Aerospace is the management system standard. Based on ISO9001:2008, it includes over 100 additional requirements referring specifically to aerospace. AS9100 also supports the FAA's FAR Title 14 Part 21 requirements. The standard applies to management systems that cover quality in design, development, production, installation and servicing, as well as purchasing, validation and shipping.

A Standard for Everyone

Companies that are driven to compete and win in the aerospace industry can demonstrate their commitment, responsibility and expertise through certification by independent, third-party AS9100 registrars. Certification can be applied to any area: design and manufacturing of equipment, parts, supply, maintenance, overhaul and repair depots, accessory supply, airport and airline operations, flight operations and cargo handling.

AS9110 is a standard for maintenance organizations that work in aerospace. It assures that aerospace products are maintained for stringent conditions, where repairs can be difficult and endurance is essential. The standard focuses on controls and maintenance plans, configurations and the qualifications needed to perform maintenance.

AS9120 registration applies to quality management systems for distributors who regularly stock aerospace commodity items (aerospace stockists). This standard allows these organizations to demonstrate their ability to consistently provide products that meet customer and regulatory requirements, and enhance customer satisfaction through continual improvement processes.

Benefits of Certification

Companies that seek AS9100 certification strive to exceed government requirements, improve their performance through excellence in management practices, track and communicate their progress and work with independent auditors to enhance and certify their management systems.

Through independent certification by an accredited registrar like SRI, aerospace companies and vendors demonstrate that they have an effective quality management system in place. In addition, quality management systems guide firms in assessing their needs, building performance goals and reporting progress to their customers.

Additional Benefits of AS9100 Certification

- Increased customer satisfaction
- Ongoing operational improvements
- Fewer errors and lower return rates
- Greater productivity and improved performance
- Simplified and effective documentation
- Greater audit and surveillance efficiency
- Greater access to new markets

In addition, because AS9100 assures customers that your products meet agreed-upon standards, there will be less need for individual customer audits, saving time and resources. Sales and transactions go more smoothly because your reputation for performance has already been established by your registration through an accredited registrar.

Endorsements of AS9100

AS9100 has been endorsed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as well as Boeing, GE Aircraft Engines and United Technologies companies Pratt & Whitney, Sikorsky, and Hamilton/Sunstrand, to name just a few. Today, more than 60% of the members of the International Aerospace Quality Group have implemented the standard, and they are requiring more of their suppliers to implement AS9100 through 2006 and 2007.

Resources

The American Aerospace Quality Group and the International Aerospace Quality Group (AAQG/IAQG) have developed a collection of critical documents, including the AS9000 (This is obsolete) and AS9100 quality standards, and the AS9101 checklist. Online, searchable versions are also available. To receive automatic updates of new and revised documents, companies may also subscribe to *SAE Aerospace Quality Standards on the Web*.

To order copies of the standards that apply to aerospace, go to the SAE website, www.sae.org/products/aeroqualitystandards, or call 724-772-7144 or email elecpubs@sae.org to subscribe to standards changes and updates through *SAE Aerospace Quality Standards on the Web*.

SRI is a Full-Service, Accredited Registrar

As acceptance of international standards has grown, so has SRI. Established in 1991, **SRI was one of the first five registrars in the U.S.** SRI now serves over 40 manufacturing and services industries across North America, Asia, and Europe.

SRI Auditors Make the Difference

From its leadership role, SRI has built its business by employing the best auditors in the field. Our senior auditors are seasoned professionals averaging more than 25 years of experience. They know the standards and the industry so they can step right in and add value to your audit.

We know you have a choice.

Here's why you should choose SRI:

- Accredited by ANAB, RvA, IATF, SRI offers registration to a **full range of standards** to meet all your business needs
- SRI's **web-based e-VENTS** system, integrated with our fully automated operation support, puts all your sites' audit schedules, plans, and results at your fingertips when you need it, where you need it
- SRI uses the **same audit team across audit events** for greater consistency and effectiveness
- We offer **Pre-Assessments** and two-stage **Registration and Renewal audits** that give you one-on-one time with a lead auditor and an early look at your system, which leads to a smoother registration audit
- SRI's **no-surprises, practical, open-book approach** builds strong, long-lasting relationships
- We are one of the **top five U.S. owned and operated** registrars, and among the first to be QS-9000 and ISO/TS 16949 qualified. Decisions regarding your business and registration are made right here by us
- **SRI's membership** in key QMS and EMS technical advisory groups, and participation in industry standards development and oversight, ensure you are among the first to know about changes that will affect your business
- **Training** conducted publicly by our lead auditors on standards and requirements gives you the practical, hands-on knowledge you need to succeed
- **Our organization is the right size** to provide responsive, one-on-one service to every client. We are ready when you need us



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