



AEROSPACE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AUDIT, CERTIFICATION & TRAINING SERVICES

SGS



HOW CAN YOU GUARANTEE CONSISTENT QUALITY TO THE GLOBAL MARKET?

AEROSPACE AUDIT, CERTIFICATION & TRAINING SERVICES FROM SGS

The aerospace industry must meet the highest levels of safety. Whether you work in design and manufacture or offer repair and overhaul services, your clients need to feel confident in your ability to reliably deliver what they need at an exceptional quality. Further to this, they want assurance in your on-going commitment to meet these requirements ahead of any contractual agreement. By getting certified against an internationally recognised standard you can prove your abilities and dedication to quality and safety, setting you apart from the worldwide competition and creating a platform for strong customer relationships which will help your business grow and grow.

ABOUT AS 9100 AND ASSOCIATED STANDARDS

As the internationally recognised quality management system standards for the industry, the AS 9100 series sets the quality levels expected in all areas of aerospace, from commercial to defense aviation. Developed by the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG), the standard covers the entire supply chain including companies that design and manufacture equipment, supply accessories or replacement parts, as well as those that offer supply and maintenance or overhaul and repair services. The standard is universally adopted but comes under a different name in different continents. The AS 9100 is the name used in the Americas, at the same time in Europe it is called EN 9100 and in the Asia-Pacific region JISQ 9100.

While the AS 9100 is the core standard for the manufacturing industry there is a series of associated standards published by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) that relate to the requirements of different segments of the Aerospace Industry.

AS 9110

The AS 9110 sets criteria for businesses providing maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO's) for commercial, private and military aircrafts. This also applies to companies manufacturing aircraft parts and components seeking Parts Manufacturing Approval (PMA) from the FAA.

AS 9120

A second variant is the AS 9120 standard, devised for aerospace stockists or pass-through distributors who are reselling, distributing and

warehousing aircraft and aerospace components (this does not apply to value-added distributors).

AS 9003

A further standard based on the AS 9100 is aimed at outsourced inspection and test quality system providers. This is known as AS 9003 and has a reduced scope and fewer requirements than the standard AS 9100, due to the nature of the business area it covers.

Each standard is designed to be in addition to any contractual, legal or regulatory requirements. It will help you provide your customers with products of a consistently high quality, while assisting you in meeting industry regulations.

THE BENEFITS

Certification by SGS to internationally recognised AS 9100 or one of the associated standards, demonstrates to current and potential customers on a worldwide scale your commitment to delivering quality products and services. By matching your quality management systems to those adopted as the aerospace industry standard you will be seen to be a global player and a potential business partner to clients in new markets as well as your current core business sector. Your customers or prospects are also far less likely to expect you to undergo their own audits, potentially saving you an additional expense and disruption. Finally, with access to information on aerospace industry best practice, you will be well placed to develop and strengthen your business while maintaining the exceptional level of quality your customers expect.

HOW DOES THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS WORK?

The certification process for AS 9100 and the associated standards consists of six steps:

- Step A – SGS provides you with a proposal based on the size and nature of your organisation. You can then proceed with the audit by accepting the proposal.
- Step B – You may ask SGS to perform a 'pre-audit' to give an indication of the readiness of your organisation for the audit. This stage is optional, yet it is often found useful in identifying any weaknesses in your systems and in building confidence before the formal audit.
- Step C – The first part of the formal audit is the 'Stage 1 – Readiness Review'. This enables our qualified AS auditor to determine the compliance of your management systems documentation while evaluating your location and the site-specific conditions. We also review your

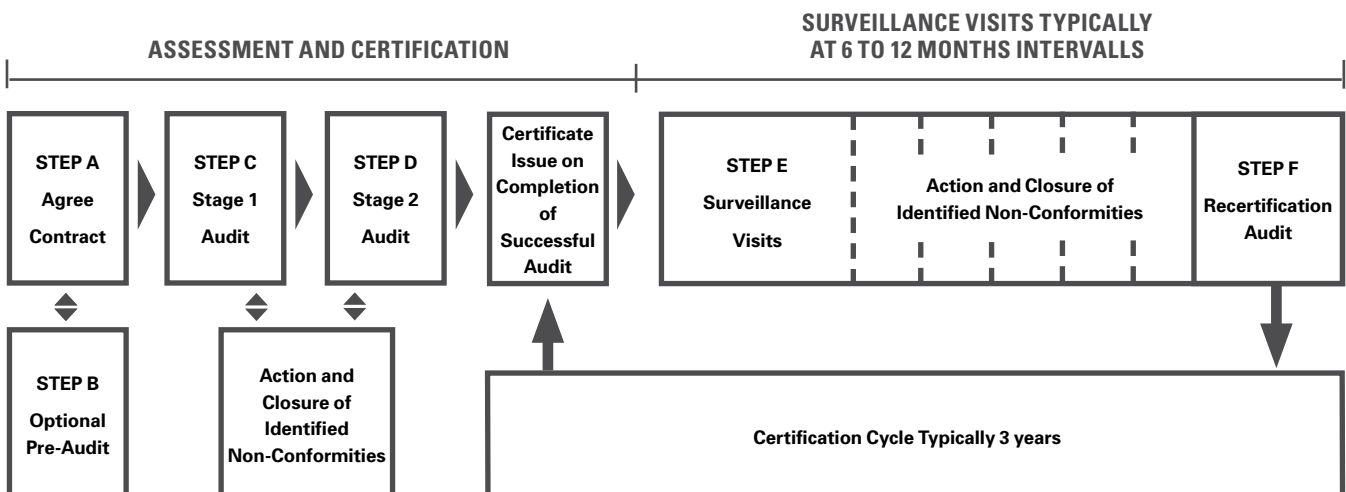
understanding of the requirements of the standard and collect information on the nature of your organisation allowing us to determine your preparedness for Stage 2. This assists us in planning the rest of the audit as effectively as possible and to initially examine the key processes of the system. You receive a report after this Stage 1 audit identifying any concerns or observed non-compliances so that you can take immediate action prior to the initiation of the Stage 2 audit.

- Step D – This is 'Stage 2' of the initial audit process. The audit includes interviews by the IAQG authenticated audit team with you and your colleagues and examination of records. Observation of your working practices determines how compliant your actual processes are with the standard and with your own documentation system. At the end of this stage, we will present the findings of the audit classified as either major or minor non-conformances along with other observations and opportunities

for improvement. Once you have addressed the non-conformities, a technical review of the audit will then be conducted by the SGS Certification Manager to confirm the issuance of a certificate. Once SGS has issued the certificate, we publish the information on the Online Aerospace Supplier Information System (OASIS) database.

- Step E – Our surveillance visits are scheduled at either six or twelve month intervals depending on the contract. During the visits, the authenticated auditor reviews the implementation of the action plan addressing the past non-conformities and examines certain mandatory and other selected parts of the system in line with an audit plan that we provide you with before each visit.
- Step F – Shortly before the third anniversary of the initial certification, our routine visit will be extended to enable a re-certification audit. Surveillance visits will then continue, as before, on a 3-year cycle

CERTIFICATION PROCESS OF AS 9100 AND ASSOCIATED STANDARDS



AS/EN/JISQ 9100, AS 9110, AS 9120 & AS 9300 RELATED TRAINING

We offer an in-depth training course that explains the requirements of the internationally recognised AS 9100 and the associated quality management system standards.

Please check with your local SGS affiliate to find the course schedules for your region or visit www.sgs.com/training for more details.

OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO AS/EN/JISQ 9100, AS 9110, AS 9120 & AS 9300

In addition to the standards themselves, SGS also offers a selection of other services to help you manage quality and develop a culture of continuous improvement:

- Gap assessment against the requirements of AS 9100 and the associated standards: this is a good alternative in case your organisation is not ready to go through the full certification process;
- Integrated Management Systems: your quality management systems can be audited and certified simultaneously with other management systems which you have implemented; and
- Customised audit solutions against bespoke quality performance criteria, over and above those included in AS 9100 and the associated standards: SGS can help develop the performance criteria and the checklist or simply check performance against existing measures.

WHY SGS?

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. Recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity, we employ over 59 000 people and operate a network of more than 1 000 offices and laboratories around the world. We are constantly looking beyond customers' and society's expectations in order to deliver market leading services wherever they are needed.

Partnering with SGS opens the door to better performing processes, increasingly skilful talent, consistent and compliant supply chains and more sustainable customer relationships delivering profitable competitive advantage. Work with the global leader and take your commitment to the next level.

We have a history of undertaking and successfully executing large-scale, complex international projects. With a presence in every single region around the globe, our people speak the language and understand the culture of the local market and operate globally in a consistent, reliable and effective manner. SGS is one of the most recognised certification bodies to deliver AS/EN/JISQ 9100 audits and holds accreditations from UKAS (United Kingdom), ANAB (USA) and COFRAC (France).

TO LEARN HOW SGS CAN HELP YOU MEET THE STRICTEST QUALITY CRITERIA IN THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS, VISIT WWW.UK.SGS.COM/AEROSPACE-CERTIFICATION OR CONTACT UK.NOWISTHETIME@SGS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

WWW.SGS.COM