

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

Generic Guidelines for Auditing of Quality Systems



AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR QUALITY CONTROL
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GENERIC GUIDELINES FOR AUDITING OF QUALITY SYSTEMS

Sponsor: American Society for Quality Control —
Quality Auditing Technical Committee

ABSTRACT

Generic Guidelines for Auditing of Quality Systems describes the significant elements that should be considered in the planning and execution of audits. The standard is intended to provide generic guidelines for internal and external Audits of Quality Systems.

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FOREWORD

This Foreword is not a part of the American National Standard "*Generic Guidelines for Auditing of Quality Systems*".

This document is to assist in the establishment, planning and execution of audits of quality assurance systems ("quality systems"). As a generic guideline, it is general enough to be applicable and adaptable to different industries and organizations. Further details for effective and efficient audits are described in many publications included in Appendix "B" (bibliography).

The document is not intended to be applied in all specific situations, but is to be used in developing and describing criteria for effective and efficient auditing.

The guideline has been formulated in conjunction with a careful study of published audit standards, as listed in Appendix "A", and current audit practice in the quality field. Some definitions were adopted from the ANSI/ASQC A3-1978 standard "Quality Systems Terminology".

A flow chart in Appendix "C" accompanies the text.

Suggestions for improvement will be welcomed and should be made to the sponsor's Quality Auditing Technical Committee.

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