



AEROSPACE STANDARD

AS9162™

Technically equivalent writings published in
all IAQG sectors

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Supersedes ARP9162

Aerospace Operator Self-Verification Programs

RATIONALE

This document has been elevated from a recommended practice to a standard, and defines the actions required to implement and maintain an operator self-verification program.

FOREWORD

To continue to assure customer satisfaction, aviation, space, and defense industry organizations must produce and continually improve safe, reliable products that meet or exceed customer and regulatory requirements. The globalization of the industry and the resulting diversity of requirements and expectations have complicated this objective.

This standard is focused on standardizing, to the extent possible, operator self-verification practices in the aviation, space, and defense industry. Establishing common requirements practices should result in improved quality and safety, decreased costs, and elimination or reduction of organization-unique requirements.

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1. SCOPE

1.1 General

This document identifies the basic elements and provides a standard for structuring operator self-verification programs within the aviation, space, and defense industry for producers of commercial and military aircraft and weapons platforms, space vehicles, and all related hardware, software, electronics, engines, and composite components.

The requirements specified in this standard are complementary (not alternative) to contractual and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. Should there be a conflict between the requirements of this standard and applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, the latter shall take precedence.

1.2 Application

Operator self-verification programs are applied to improve the overall efficiency and product quality of processes considered stable and capable of fulfilling all requirements, as determined by the implementing organization. Operator self-verification programs are not stand-alone processes, but augment an existing quality management system. Its application can be made where inspection activities are currently deployed.

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

The following documents support the application/use of this standard. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies. When a conflict in requirements between this standard and the applicable documents listed exist, the requirements of this document shall take precedence.

2.1 International Aerospace Quality Group Publications

9100 Quality Management Systems - Requirements for Aviation, Space and Defense Organizations

9110 Quality Management Systems - Requirements for Aviation Maintenance Organizations

NOTE: Equivalent versions (e.g., AS, EN, JISQ, SJAC, NBR) of the IAQG standards listed above are published internationally in each IAQG sector.

2.2 International Organization for Standardization Publications

ISO 9000:2005 Quality management systems - Fundamentals and vocabulary

3. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions apply:

3.1 Acceptance

The establishment of a record that signifies verification that the product is compliant with all the specified requirements. In self-verification programs, the organization clearly specifies the detail and extent of the approved operator's acceptance authority.

3.2 Critical Processes

Those processes that if not performed properly or improper parts/material are used could result in a failure, malfunction, or defect endangering the safe operation of the product involved.

3.3 Independent Surveillance

Observation/review or audit of operator self-verification by an entity that is not dependent on or affiliated with the entity controlling the operator.