A Certification Body That Values Your Process

When you choose SQA for auditing or certification services, you'll know what you're getting up front. We have a "No Surprises" policy in place that reduces the uncertainty and stress normally associated with standard assessments.

It's essential that the complicated issues associated with certification are made straightforward by providing easy-to-follow worksheets and materials so we can get to know your business and help you thoroughly prepare.

With SQA in your corner, you stay in the loop with open and frequent communication. We also encourage your active feedback and discussion in an objective manner.

Only the best will do when it comes to our highly experienced and pre-screened auditors, each must pass an industry competency test, which many of our competitors do not require.

Lastly, we promote your success through our well-defined process designed to help you with your certification.

Certification as a Process

The international certification standards outline a process approach to implementing and supporting a quality management system.

As a result, there is increased involvement of top management with regards to the Management System (MS). Top management is engaged for the setting of the "Quality Policy" and quality goals and objectives.

It continues with management review looking at data from the MS and taking actions to make sure that quality goals are met, new goals are set, and continual improvement is achieved.

We Are Accredited to Certify or Perform the Following:

- ISO 9001:2015
- ISO 14001:2015
- AS9100:2016
- Internal Auditing
- ISO 45001:2018
- ISO 13485:2016
- IATF 16949:2016
- Supplier Auditing
ISO 9001:2015 shouldn’t be pigeonholed into a simple quality standard, one that only the quality department should be worried about, but rather should be thought of as an important cog in the gears of a company’s entire strategy and operations.

According to an empirical study conducted by David I. Levine and Michael W. Toffel of the Harvard Business School, entitled “Quality Management and Job Quality”, of the 916 companies that adopted the ISO 9001 standard, all realized additional benefits when compared to the 17,849 organizations that did not adopt the standard.

With a certified QMS in place and working for your organization, the focus can move toward accomplishing efficiency, productivity, and quality goals - thanks to an influx of data, continual improvement options, and mechanisms to review and evaluate your company’s overall performance.

ISO 45001:2018

ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OHSMS) address risks, taking into account other international standards like OHSAS 18001, and expanding upon them to ultimately help organizations, regardless of their size, to proactively work to stop potential injuries or illnesses.

Did you know that nearly 3 million workers were fatally injured due to work over the last few years, in addition to nearly 374 million non-fatal work-related injuries and illnesses.

Implementing the ISO 45001 standard not only helps companies minimize these possibilities of their workforce befalling accidents or harm, but it uses a straightforward plan-do-check-act or PDCA model.

This model provides a simple framework to help organizations plan what steps need to be put in place, as well as what measures should be applied to address concerns that surround long-term health issues and absences from work.
From consistent design, research and development, to production, installation, and delivery, the ISO 13485 standard supports the construction of medical devices that are safe, long-lasting, ready for their intended purpose.

For manufacturers of medical devices who want to provide safe/effective equipment, a proper quality management system needs to be in place in order to comply with regulatory requirements and to deliver the highest quality products.

By choosing to become ISO 13485:2016 certified, you’re sending a message to your customers that your company is committed to making the highest quality, safest, and most effective medical devices on the market.
AS9100:2016

The International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG), the governing body behind AS9100, has four main objectives for the aerospace industry when it comes to quality, these objectives include continual improvement, commonality, establishing best practices and coordinating with regulatory and government agencies.

When you achieve AS9100 certification you validate for your company that there are processes in place that work to satisfy these objectives, as well as provide your organization with a foundation to operate at the highest levels - fostering growth and the potential to produce some of the safest components possible.

Ultimately, contributing to the aerospace industries continued success and the increase of your own business opportunities.

IATF 16949:2016

Organizations achieving certification to IATF 16949 receive two major benefits. The first benefit surrounds the process approach, as it pertains to continual improvement.

This essentially assumes that the organization knows, understands, and practices a philosophy that is committed to quality in all actions, never settling for “good enough”, while understanding the dynamics that exist between the various processes that make up their quality management system.

The second benefit derives from the added requirements of IATF 16949 certification itself, which are based on proven techniques that further enhance an organization’s ability to achieve higher quality levels in the challenging automotive sector.
Internal Auditing

Our first-party or internal auditing services are conducted within your organization and provide an independent review of your systems and processes to highlight their strengths and weaknesses.

Regardless of whether you need auditing support against external standards or processes that have been mandated by your customers, Smithers delivers a high-value, unbiased, and objective review.

Supplier Auditing

We work hard to design these customizable solutions to support the needs of companies that wish to perform audits on their suppliers to ensure contractual requirements are being met.

This could include specific process control documentation, part traceability, part sorting, and quality standards, or any other performance expectation the customer has placed upon the supplier.
Results and Expectations of Certification

- Well defined & documented procedures improve consistency of output
- Quality is constantly measured
- Procedures ensure corrective action is taken as defects occur
- Defect rates decrease
- Defects are caught earlier & corrected at a lower cost
- Defining procedures identifies current practices that are obsolete/inefficient
- Documented procedures are easier for employees to follow
- Organizations retain or increase market share, sales, or revenues

The Ongoing Benefits

- You will have consistent, repeatable processes in a common system
- You will have fewer problems with failures in service or product quality
- Your people know what to do and how you want it done
- Certification can lead to new market opportunities
- Having the standard will distinguish you in the marketplace
- Many problems will disappear because you know how to prevent them;
- Better management control and reporting