

Press Release

DEKRA Certification on New Revision of EN 9100

Aviation Quality Management in New Guise

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The civil aviation industry is working at the limit of its capacity. Quality assurance must be ensured of supply chains branching across the world, of innovative production processes and of complex production conditions in order to prevent supply bottlenecks and damage. The upcoming revision of the quality management standard for aviation, EN 9100, responds to the changed market environment. At the ILA Berlin Air Show 2016, experts from DEKRA certification will demonstrate the practical consequences.

"Increasing pressure on manufacturing leads to significant increases in the requirements for quality-assured performance of the supplier chain," says Wolfgang Bott, auditor and aviation expert at DEKRA certification. "It is therefore important to factor in any changes to the quality management systems within the aviation, aerospace and defense industries that are expected to apply from fall 2016."

The revision of ISO 9001:2015 has implications for the EN 9100 series of standards, upon which quality management within the aviation industry is based. A key feature of the revision of the underlying ISO 9001:2015 is the introduction of a high level structure, according to which standards are organized into ten sections. All recently published ISO standards have been compiled using this structure to simplify integration and compatibility with other management systems. The consequences for the aviation industry include adjustments to knowledge and risk management including regulations for dealing with counterfeit components or preventing foreign bodies entering production with potentially serious consequences.

Risk Management in Focus

For example, the standard pays particular attention to foreign bodies that can damage aircraft, otherwise known as *Foreign Object Damage* (FOD). With increasingly more powerful engines, the danger also increases of even the tiniest foreign bodies being sucked into the engine at large air volumes and causing damage. To prevent this, the standard stipulates preventive measures that aim to increase the awareness of workers of a high level of work discipline in all production and repair areas and to encourage them to recognize and eliminate the dangers associated with foreign bodies.

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Unclean workstations, incorrect work clothing or production residues in components can all lead to cost-intensive damage, delays in supply and even accidents," says the expert from DEKRA certification. The new high level structure is a milestone for the code of practice as it has established a high level of compatibility with other quality management systems. "What is more, from now on, risk analyses will span the entire organization of an aviation company and its interaction with the market."