

Aerospace

Your changing landscape

AS 9100: answering your frequently
asked questions

LRQA

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Understanding the upcoming changes to AS 9100

AS 9100 is a widely adopted and standardized quality management system for the aerospace industry, aimed at improving product quality and ensuring regulatory compliance.

With the upcoming amendments to the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG) rules, significant changes are on the horizon for organizations certified to AS 9100. These updates will impact auditing and certification processes, site structure classifications, and various compliance requirements. To help our clients navigate these changes effectively, here we answer Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) addressing the key aspects of the new rules.

[Find out more about our AS 9100 solutions](#) →



Frequently asked questions

Q | What are the recent amendments to IAQG rules for AS 9100?

A | The upcoming amendments to IAQG rules introduce significant updates to the auditing and certification processes for the AS 9100 series of standards. Key changes include simplified site structure classifications, the removal of mandatory annual audits of the purchasing process, and new requirements for pre-audit data submission (OCAP data), among others.

Q | How has the classification of site structures changed?

A | The amendments have simplified site structure classifications to two types: single site and multiple site. Previously recognized structures like “several-site,” “campus,” and “complex organizations” will no longer be used. Organizations previously classified under these structures will need to transition to the multiple-site structure.

Q | Are annual audits of the purchasing process still required?

A | No, the requirement to audit the purchasing process during each annual audit has been removed. However, the purchasing process will still be audited as part of the overall surveillance cycle.

What is OCAP data, and why is it important?

Q | OCAP (Organization Certification Analysis Process) data is required to be submitted to the Certification Body (CB) at least 60 days before each audit. This data includes on-time delivery metrics, product/service conformity to customer requirements, customer complaints, organizational and process performance (KPIs), and PEAR results from the last AQMS annual audit. This ensures thorough pre-audit planning and evaluation.



Q | **What are the new requirements for customer and regulator approvals?**

A

From the initial stage of the audit process, any customer and/or regulator-specific approvals and their requirements must be identified and reviewed to ensure all relevant regulatory and customer expectations are considered early in the audit process.

Q | **Is the use of OASIS v3 mandatory?**

A

Yes, the use of the IAQG OASIS v3 system is now mandatory for all audit reporting, including the management of NCRs. Audit reports using AS9101F word forms are no longer acceptable.

Q | **What is the performance-based surveillance/recertification (PBS/RP) process?**

A

The PBS/RP process allows organizations that consistently demonstrate high performance to benefit from a reduction in audit duration. The criteria to enter and maintain PBS/RP is significant. To qualify, organizations must provide evidence of:

- Completion of one AQMS certification cycle
- The OCAP risk analysis results in a low/medium risk for each site, including the central function
- Implementation of an Internal Audit Program in accordance with ISO 19011, including:
 - Annual audit of all applicable AQMS requirements; and
 - Defined, structured, multiple event audit program that adjusts throughout the calendar year based upon:
 - + performance;
 - + customer complaints;
 - + risk; and
 - + change management
- Internal auditor competency that includes:
- Auditor(s) that have completed a TPAB approved ASD Lead Auditor course (reference 9104/3).
- Organization has an ethics policy that includes communication and reporting processes.
- No externally identified major nonconformity (e.g., CB, customers, regulatory authorities), as defined in 9101, in the past 12 months related to internal audit, management review, or corrective action processes issued to either a single site or to the central function within a multi-site structure.
- No certificate suspension due to an AQMS nonconformance in the past six years.
- Meeting customer satisfaction metrics, based on customer provided data.



Q

How has the management of non-conformance reports (NCRs) changed?

A

The AS 9101:2022 update introduces a structured process for managing NCRs, including specific timelines for containment, root cause correction, corrective action plans, and re-establishing conformity.

Q

Are remote audits allowed under the new rules?

A

Yes, new enablements allow for 100% remote (ICT) Stage 1 audits at initial certification and 100% remote (ICT) transfer audits, subject to a satisfactory risk assessment.

Q

Do the new rules include considerations for climate change?

A

Yes, organizations must now determine if climate change is a relevant issue and address it within their QMS. This requirement aligns with the recent amendment to ISO 9001:2015, highlighting the importance of environmental considerations in quality management.

Q

How can organizations prepare for these changes?

A

Organizations should review the new rules thoroughly, update their QMS and audit processes accordingly, and ensure they are prepared to submit the required OCAP data. LRQA is available to support clients through these transitions.

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About LRQA:

LRQA is the leading global assurance partner, bringing together decades of unrivaled expertise in assessment, advisory, inspection and cybersecurity services. Our solutions-based partnerships are supported by data-driven insights that help our clients solve their biggest business challenges.

Operating in more than 150 countries with a team of more than 5,000 people, LRQA's award-winning compliance, supply chain, cybersecurity and ESG specialists help more than 61,000 clients across almost every sector to anticipate, mitigate and manage risk wherever they operate.

In everything we do, we are committed to shaping a better future for our people, our clients, our communities and our planet.

Get in touch

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