



**DCMA**

# DCMA Quality Assurance

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## DCMA Quality Assurance vs Industry Quality Assurance

- Industry focus is on sustained quality of a product or service
- Our focus is on *Contract* Quality Assurance

Many of our methods will look similar:

- Product Examination
- Process Reviews
- Quality System Audits
- Corrective Action Requests



## Where does our authority come from?

- 52.246-2 (b) The ***Contractor shall provide and maintain an inspection system acceptable to the Government*** covering supplies under this contract and shall tender to the Government for acceptance only supplies that have been inspected in accordance with the inspection system and have been found by the Contractor to be in conformity with contract requirements...

- 52.246-2 (c) The Government has the right to inspect and test all supplies...
- 52.246-2 (k) Inspections and tests by the Government do not relieve the Contractor of responsibility for defects or other failures

You may also see:

- 52.246-11 Higher Level Contract Quality Requirement (a)  
The Contractor shall comply with the higher-level quality standard(s) listed below... (Contracting Officer will then insert the Quality Standard in the contract.)

- **52.246-11 Higher Level Contract Quality Requirement**
  - This clause means the quality requirement called out is a *contractual* requirement.
  - This requirement may flow down to your vendors.
  - In order for DCMA to assure you are adhering to the T&C's of the contract, we will review **Processes** and audit your **Quality System**.

## Quality System Audits

- A Quality System Audit (QSA) is a second party audit which focuses on the contractor's QMS compliance with the customer's requirements.
- QSA's allow DCMA personnel to assess risk and focus future surveillance activities.
- Third party audit certification may be used to assist in risk rating the QMS and/or elements for surveillance activities.

## Detection to Prevention (D2P)

- In the past, DCMA was much more focused on Product Examination.
- Today, we are increasingly focused on processes and Quality System Audits.
- Detection requires a larger workforce. Prevention is both more effective and allows us to be a leaner workforce.

## We're from the Government...we're here to help....

- As Contract Administrators we can communicate with the buyer.
- DCMA Engineers can help with variances, deviations, and waivers.
- Inspect and accept at source gets you paid quicker.
- Free Quality Assurance system improvement.
- We share your goal of shipping parts to the warfighter!

## Things to know:

- If/when you are awarded a contract, reach out to DCMA early.
  - ***Know your POCs!***
- If you anticipate problems with production, let us know asap.
- Flow down requirements to your suppliers (-2, and -11).
- We love documentation! Have it organized and ready for our QAS.
- Our QAS' are busy, so give us plenty of notice.
- Understand iRapt (formerly known as WAWF).
- Be sure you understand the packaging and shipping requirements.

# QUESTIONS

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