



**DCMA**

ACQUISITION INSIGHT GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

# Quality Management Systems

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# DCMA Milwaukee Locations

DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY





- A. Authority**
- B. Intent of a Higher-Level Quality Requirement**
- C. 52.246-11 Contractual Requirements**
- D. Higher Level Quality**
- E. Quality Management Systems (QMS)**
- F. DCMA Audit Policy**



- **FAR 42.302– Ensure supplier complies with contractual QA requirements**
- **FAR 46.402 – Requires Government QA performance at the source if QA activities elsewhere are uneconomical, unreasonable, or destructive**
- **FAR 46.202-4 – Requires compliance with higher-level quality standards in contracts for complex or critical items**
- **FAR 46.5 Acceptance**
- **FAR 52.246-2 thru 9**
- **FAR 52.246-11 Higher Level Contract Quality Requirement**
- **DFAR 246.102 General (Auditing Requirement)**
- **DFARS 246.202-4 Higher Level Contract Quality Requirement**





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# Authority (cont)

- **DCMA Inst 303 CRITICAL SAFETY ITEMS-QA**
- **DCMA Inst 309 GOVERNMENT CONTRACT QUALITY ASSURANCE (GCQA) SURVEILLANCE PLANNING**
- **DCMA Inst 322 QUALITY SYSTEM AUDIT**
- **DCMA Inst 326 RISK ASSESSMENT**



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# Intent of Higher Level Quality

- **Higher-level quality requirements**
  - **Control work operations, in-process controls, and inspections**
  - **Bring attention to organization, planning, work instructions, documentation control, and advanced methodology**
  - **Help ensure quality requirements are met on complex and critical items**
  - **Mitigate the risk of nonconforming items to include counterfeit materials. \*Counterfeit materials are NOT just electronic parts.\***
  - **Prime contractors are responsible for ensuring quality requirements are flowed-down to their subcontractors**
  - **Prime contractors are responsible for the quality of products by their subcontractors.**



**52.246-11 -- Higher-Level Contract Quality Requirement.**

As prescribed in [46.311](#), insert the following clause:

**Higher-Level Contract Quality Requirement (Dec 2014)**

(a) The Contractor shall comply with the higher-level quality standard(s) listed below.

Title Number Date Tailoring

*[Contracting Officer insert the title, number, date, and tailoring (if any) of the higher-level quality standards.]*

TITLE NUMBER DATE TAILORING

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

(b) The Contractor shall include applicable requirements of the higher-level quality standard(s) listed

in paragraph (a) of this clause and the requirement to flow down such standards, as applicable, to lower-tier subcontracts, in—

- (1) Any subcontract for critical and complex items (see 46.203(b) and (c)); or
- (2) When the technical requirements of a subcontract require—

(i) Control of such things as design, work operations, in-process control, testing, and inspection; or

(ii) Attention to such factors as organization, planning, work instruction, documentation control, and advanced metrology.



- **If section A is blank? Contact your ACO or the PCO to verify which standard is required.**

# Higher Level Quality

- The Higher-Level Contract Quality Requirements clause requires the contractor to implement one or more of the documented quality systems that meets the applicable standard(s) cited in the contract:
  - International Standardization Organization (ISO) standard(s)
  - Other recognized applicable industry standard(s) and/or
  - Specified Government requirement
  - For evaluation purposes, any higher-level contract quality system proposed by the contractor needs to provide for the Government's ability to audit/validate its capabilities to ensure the safety and satisfaction of our customers.



# Quality Management System

DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

- **Contracts with higher-level quality requirements require supplier to establish and maintain a documented QMS**
- **QMS documentation may consist of:**
  - (1) Supplier quality manual/contract-specific quality plan**
  - (2) Support process procedures, may be part of quality manual/plan**
  - (3) Manufacturing process procedures, to include inspection and testing**



# Quality Management System

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- According to FAR 46.105, supplier must carry out contractual QA obligations by:
  - Controlling quality of product/ service
  - Ensuring their vendor's have acceptable quality control system
  - Maintaining evidence that products/services conform to contract quality requirements
  - Tendering to the Government **ONLY** products/services that conform to contract requirements





# Quality Management System

DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

- **Examples of higher-level quality standards include overarching quality management system standards such as:**
  - ISO 9001, ASQ/ANSI E4; ASME NQA-1, SAE AS9100, SAE AS9003, and ISO/TS 16949, and product or process specific quality standards such as SAE AS5553.
  - NOTE: The government does not require registration of a contractors quality system. Government does require compliance to an auditable standard.





# DCMA Auditing Policy

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- DCMA will audit a contractors quality management system.
  - Baseline audits are 2<sup>nd</sup> party audits based on the international standards and should be very similar to 3<sup>rd</sup> party audits/registration body audits
    - These are full system audits. Regardless of certification.
    - DCMA uses audit results to risk rate contractors systems
    - Follow-on audits can be focused on specific areas or full audits and are determined by risk factors that have been identified.
  - For AS9100 contractors DCMA will request permissions for OASIS access from the contractor and utilize audit results found there. This will substitute for DCMA audits if found acceptable.



- **What happen if DCMA identifies findings with my QMS?**
  - DCMA will provide an audit report if findings were part of an audit
  - DCMA will issue a Corrective Action Request (CAR)
  - DCMA will verify the corrective actions have been implemented and close the CAR
  - If contractor fails to implement changes in a reasonable time DCMA will recommend contract cancellation
- **What happens if DCMA finds I do not have a higher level QMS?**
  - DCMA will recommend contract cancellation due to not meeting the terms and conditions of the contract.
- **What if DCMA finds my QMS not acceptable.**
  - DCMA will issue a CAR
  - Contractor will have a reasonable time to correct. If corrected CAR is closed
  - If contractor fails to correct, a recommendation to cancel the contract will be forwarded to the ACO





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# Questions

