

# Accreditation Action Stream

## What is the aim of this action stream?

Achieving the highest levels of quality is of critical importance to the UK aerospace and defence supply chains.

Quality management system audits are an essential part of ensuring that safety and reliability standards are maintained and in promoting consistency of approach across the industry.

A company supplying to more than one customer may face numerous audits, checks and interventions from these customers, resulting in considerable duplication.

SC21 companies have agreed, as a result, to work together to avoid that duplication by recognising quality management system certification to international standards, by adopting and developing common processes for product and process oversight and by seeking to improve the quality performance of the overall supply chain, using common techniques based upon international best practice.

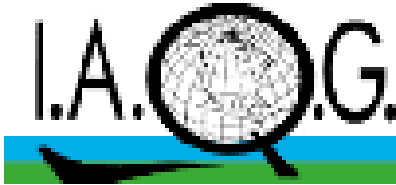
UK supply chains that have achieved AS/EN 9100 and Nadcap approval for special processes where applicable, will not receive further quality system audits from customers who are part of SC21. Companies with AS/EN 9100 approval have experienced significantly reduced levels of auditing compared with those that have not achieved approval.

The following pages introduce more detail about AS/EN 9100 and Nadcap and explain how Industry Forum can support your company.

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### AS/EN 9100, 9110 or 9120



The AS or EN 91XX standards were developed by the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG) as the recommended standards for quality management systems in the aerospace industry.

The standards are supported by the large majority of aerospace manufacturers worldwide and are increasingly being accepted for defence applications.

To achieve any of the standards an organisation needs to obtain approval from an accredited third party certification body.

Organisations formally registered to AS/EN 9100, 9110 or 9120 are entered onto an international database, identified as the Online Aerospace Supplier Information System (OASIS), with more than 1100 UK sites already registered.

### Nadcap



The internationally recognised Nadcap system of special process audits is the recommendation for special process assessment.

A growing number of major primes are now requiring Nadcap approval(s), which is overseen by the Performance Research Institute (PRI, based in the US with an office in the UK) using experienced special process professionals.

Processes covered by this approach include chemical processing, coatings, composites, elastomer seals, electronics, fasteners, fluids distribution, heat treatment, materials testing laboratories, non destructive testing, non-conventional machining and surface enhancement, sealants and welding, with other special processes being progressively added.

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### Industry Forum Support for the Accreditation Action Stream

#### Achievement of the International Standards

Industry Forum are not currently a training partner for the accreditation action stream

Industry Forum will work with you to identify which of the standards are relevant to your organisation.

We will then recommend and introduce you to an appropriate training partner or third party certification body to support you in preparation for the assessment against these standards.

#### Improvement Activity Support

Where there are gaps identified between the specification of the international standards and the use of quality system tools and techniques in your company, Industry forum will work with you to implement improvements.

Quality systems improvement activities include

- Internal auditor training
- Advanced Quality Planning
- Failure Modes and Effects Analysis
- Implementing Control Plans
- Measurement systems analysis
- Statistical Process Controls
- Structured Problem Solving

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