

Blue *Docs* Tuna

Web Info www.bluetunadocs.com
Email doc@bluetunadocs.com

Quality Management Systems (QMS) may be difficult to understand because there are so many types. This newsletter will narrow the focus by discussing QMS that relate specifically to the Aerospace Industry.

The AS9100 is the new standard for the Aerospace Industry.

This newsletter will offer a strategy for implementing a QMS for your company.

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Blue Tuna
Documentation
Business

**Free download for
Maintaining A Forms Log at
www.bluetunadocs.com**

This Newsletter will help you with *A Strategy for Creating a Quality Management System (QMS)*

Quality Management Systems For Aerospace Companies

Making Sense of Quality Management Systems

Take one minute to review the following . . . you will find your company somewhere in the following three scenarios.

Scenario #1

Your company is at a fork in the road. A contract award is just beyond your grasp because you lack the quality component requirement. Another customer requires yet another type of manual. What will you do?

Does this sound familiar?

Smaller aerospace companies are at the mercy of larger prime contractor's requirements. Other aerospace companies opt for the alternative - avoid supplying services to larger companies with stringent quality requirements.

FACT

More than 60 percent of IAQG (International Aerospace Quality Group) members have implemented the AS9100 standard internally and

are flowing it down to their suppliers. Most members will require suppliers to comply to the updated version of AS9100 (which is aligned to ISO 9001:2000 and supersedes older ISO 9000 standards).

Several aerospace companies have an outdated quality manual built off a mil-spec, while another may be the result of "taking a stab at ISO." FAA Repair Stations have

recently been required to revise the FAR Part 145 Repair Station Manual which includes a quality section. However, it is designed specifically to ensure regulatory compliance.

A company that is pulled in several different directions by their customers ends up re-engineering the wheel over and over to meet various customer requirements. This is not necessary.

Scenario #2

Your company provides several types of services. One manual just doesn't cover everything you do. The situation is not a problem.

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Documenting the World of Aerospace

(Scenario #2 continued)

The problem is in misunderstanding quality systems. A well planned quality system integrates business and services and streamlines the way your processes flow

Aerospace companies that distribute parts, repair articles and manufacture goods can create a quality management system to integrate the different aspects of their business.

Scenario #3

Your company only has five employees! You don't have the resources to create a quality management system. That may be true unless you want to grow or your company is doing a great deal of outsourcing or sub contracting. These are good reasons to rethink the problem and find a solution.

A QMS will benefit your company in several ways:

- Sharply define the processes necessary to implement quality procedures into your workplace
- Qualify your company to provide services to other prime contractors
- Streamline business processes
- Focus company on Customer Satisfaction through the implementation of processes specifically designed to meet requirements
- Standardize procedures across your company and build bridges between different types of businesses within the company
- Satisfy regulatory and customer requirements for quality system
- Turn the focus of the company towards quality which will eliminate mistakes, customer dissatisfaction and improve productivity and efficiency

Strategies for Creating a Quality Management System

Blue Tuna Docs can help your company develop a QMS that will meet requirements for ISO, AS9100 compliance. The implementation of the QMS will result in increased quality, productivity, efficiency, profits, and new business. The following are some of the steps Blue Tuna will take to guide your company in the creation of a Quality Management System.

Gap Analysis
Quality Manual Development
Procedures Development
Internal Audit Assistance
Implementing the QMS
Training Employees

Blue Tuna Docs is available to assist your company with as much support necessary to implement a Quality Management System designed specifically for your company.

For in-depth information on the strategies for creating a QMS contact Terry

doc@bluetunadocs.com

Repair Station Forms

One new feature in the latest revision of the FAR Part 145 for Repair Station Manuals is the opportunity to keep forms outside the manual. The repair stations that takes advantage of this opportunity must consider how they will maintain the forms logs. This will require a Quality Control Procedure (Standard Operating Procedure SOP) and Work Instructions (WI) detailing how the form is to be filled out. Go to www.bluetunadocs.com/downloads.html for help with this procedure.

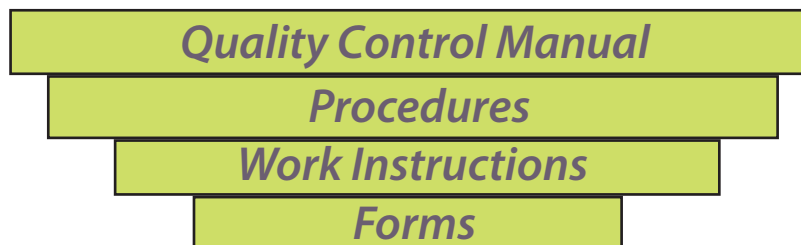
Don't forget FAR 145.163

The new training requirements for Repair Stations is right around the corner. Information for the new requirements to take place April 2005 will be revealed soon. Blue Tuna will keep you posted.

www.bluetunadocs.com
doc@bluetunadocs.com
214-681-4300

Quality Manuals vs Quality Management Systems What is the Difference?

It is a common misconception to think that a Quality Management System is another phrase for a Quality Manual! While a Quality Manual is certainly at the heart of a Quality Management System, it is only a part. There are typically four elements (four levels of documentation) to a Quality Management System. A Quality Control Manual expresses policy. Quality Procedures are more detailed and define the implementation of quality policy. Work Instructions are details about tasks. Forms when filled out become records. Records are indicators of processes that have been performed and their results.



A Quality Management System is composed of all four levels of documentation. The good news for small companies is that these levels of documentation are not normally complex. Quality documentation is scalable and usually follows the complexity and size of an organization.

About AS9100 The new standard for the Aerospace Industry

Published in March 2000, AS9100 is the first single standard available for use across the global aerospace community. While it maintains the same 20 elements as ISO 9001:1994, AS9100 also includes the additional requirements necessary to address both civil and military aviation and aerospace needs. It also addresses the needs of suppliers, regulatory bodies and manufacturing customers of the aerospace industry. Companies that effectively implement AS9100 can improve their overall performance by reducing problems and increasing efficiency, thereby remaining competitive in the industry.

The Federal Aviation Administration has determined that AS9100 is "a comprehensive quality standard containing the basic quality control/assurance elements required by the current Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 14, Part 21." Both the U.S. Department of Defense and NASA have reviewed the standard and have published guidance material on using the standard for contractual requirements.

This is the first time that a single standard has been available for use across the global aerospace community. It provides a common set of quality requirements, facilitating development of a single quality system and will enable customers to share results of quality system audits. The American Aerospace Quality Group (AAQG) is working with the Registrar Accreditation Board (RAB) to establish a process for third party ISO 9000 Registrars to get accredited to perform AS9100 assessments.

Using Blue Tuna Docs is like having your very own writing staff without the added costs of benefits and other expenses normally associated with employees. We are a call away.

www.bluetunadocs.com
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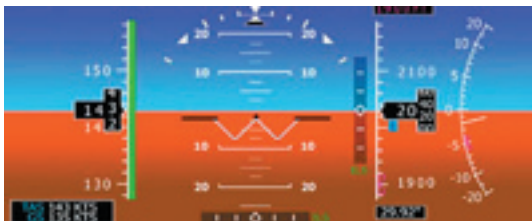
What Blue Tuna does

Blue Tuna Docs is in the business of documenting the World of Aerospace. The range of documentation and consultation varies, because Blue Tuna supports manufacturing, services, parts distribution, engineering, marketing and quality management in the Aerospace Industry. Blue Tuna helps customers with regulatory requirements, new customer requirements, research and devel-

opment, proposals, and bids. The list of documentation includes: TSO, PMA and STC for FAA approval. The creation of Quality Management Systems, FAA Repair Station Manuals, and JAA supplements for Aerospace companies. Manuals include overhaul manuals, installation and operation manuals, and training manuals. Blue Tuna Docs writes white papers for research, papers for technical matter ex-

perts and technical articles. Blue Tuna Docs consults with Aerospace Companies for implementing Quality Management Systems, establishing new repair station facilities, documentation and creation of new business processes. Blue Tuna can help you with your next proposal or the design of your next project. We have availability to Aerospace Software Designers, technicians, and engineers.

Types of Projects



What Blue Tuna has done lately...

- * AS 9100 Quality Control Manual
- * Installation & Operation Manual for a FAA Type Certificate
- * Installation & Operation Manual for Visual System for a F16 Flight Simulator

Blue Tuna Docs produces overhaul manuals, parts catalogs, installation and operation manuals, repair station manuals, JAA Supplements, quality control manuals, white papers, advertisements, training materials, web content, graphics, proposals, and custom forms.

If time and costs are important considerations for your project needs give Blue Tuna a call. We specialize in producing a quality product on schedule.

**Documenting the
World of Aerospace!**

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**In the past year Blue
Tuna has served 50+
Aerospace Companies**

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