# Contracting Quality Early in the Lifecycle Using AS9145 Data Deliverables

A recommended practice developed by the Aerospace Industries Association's (AIA) Joint Strategic Quality Council (JSQC)

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# JSQC Charter 2024

**Joint Strategic Quality Council (JSQC)** – The Joint Strategic Quality Council is a collaborative, non-competitive partnership, improving performance through mutually beneficial quality assurance initiatives.



Source: JSQC/Mras



# Joint Strategic Quality Council Journey

Purpose: JSQC Collective Strategic Plan / Provide better value to the Warfighter



# Contracting Quality Early/Handbook

## **Project Objective:**

Ensuring quality early in a program results in fewer defects, less schedule risk, and ultimately lower total cost of execution. Establish and publish industry best practice. Obtain DoD/NASA concurrence to implement on future programs.

#### Lead

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#### **Team Members:**

#### **Government**

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- Jeannette Plante NASA
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#### Industry

- Lockheed Martin (Jose Lafon/ Heather Rennerfeldt/ Barry Benczowski)
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## **Project Goals and Deliverables**

- White paper: Benefits/CDRL
- DoD/NASA adoption of guidance
- Standard incorporated in a contract

- Late-cycle QA finds and **reacts** to nonconformities. Late-cycle problems are **more costly** to resolve.
- *Reactive remedies risk latent defect escapes that affect Safety.*
- Why do we do it? The FAR biases Government QA towards late-cycle QA.
- Great for COs but less effective for Cost, Schedule, and Regulatory targets



- RCCA costs and delays are perceived as a Quality problem regardless of the root cause.
- RCCAs often stop at proximate cause and don't perceive early lifecycle activities.

- Root Cause can be created very early in the lifecycle. "If QA had only been involved early in the development...."
- What does that really mean? What work is that?
- AS9145, Requirements for Advanced Product Quality Planning and Production Part Approval Process, first published in 2016



- Perception is new/more requirements = more cost
- New paradigms not easily embraced in AS&D contracting

#### **APQP/PPAP Elements**

Plans: Project Management, Supply Chain Management, Production (PPAP)			
APQP Applicability and Scope, Performance Targets *			
Requirement Constraints: Customer, Regulatory, QMS			
Process Flow Diagram, BOM			
Analyses: Feasibility, Capability, Capacity, PFMEA, Tolerance, Measurement Systems (MSA), Resources			
Specifications & Documentation: Design, Requirements, Packaging & Labeling,			
Control Plan: Critical Items*, Key Characteristics*, Flow Diagram, MSA, Packaging, Resources			
Design Verification and Validation*			
Risk Identification and Elevation*	* Attuned to safety as a performance target		
First Article Inspection Report (FAIR)			
First-party QA, Response to NCs			
Reviews and Milestones, Deliverables and Approvals			

Product Production Approval Process (PPAP) record is a collection of documentation, specifications, and analyses that provides evidence of the suitability and control of a production process for a given design, set of requirement constraints, and set of Target criteria (e.g., FFF, cost, schedule, risk tolerance).

The above elements correlate to the existing AS9100 model and are not new or emerging techniques.

### Cost of quality assurance function vs Cost of poor quality:

- Expect highly complex system developments to have unplanned quality costs due to weak early lifecycle Quality • involvement, especially for new, low-volume builds where Qualification replaces First Article Inspection.
- Cost of poor quality is not a budget line item, difficult to show "savings" when using AS9145. ۲
- Growth in adoption of AS9145 by industry indicates the late vs early QA swap has a net cost advantage. ۲



Upfront planning and risk avoidance yields significant downstream savings

APQP tools can be used in collaboration with traditional RCCA/BPSM efforts to identify & prioritize issues and confirm process capability.

Source: Boeing/Kohring



# JSQC Team's Approach: <u>Transition</u> both the Acquirer and the Supplier simultaneously into adopting AS9145.



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•Compel Programs to report AS9145 results during Dev phases.

•Programs use DRDs to pull data in from supply chain.



Figure 2-5 NASA Project Life Cycle

Deliverable Requirement Descriptions (DRDs) are directive and prescriptive means for acquiring data.

AS9145 DRDs introduce acquirers and suppliers to better planning techniques.

Phase-in approach: full conformity to AS9145 will not be required (though can distinguish a more mature supplier!)

# AS9145 DRD Starter Pack

No.	Title	Relevant Requirements in AS9145
1	Industrial Base and Supply Chain Risk Inventory	4.1.5
2	Manufacturability Risk Inventory	4.3.2.2, 4.4.6, 4.5.4 (PFMEA)
3	Engineering/Design Adequacy	4.4.4.1(DFMEA), 4.4.3 (Design V&V Plan)
4	Design-to-Manufacturing Plan	4.5.5(Process KC identification), 4.6.3(MSA)
5	Statistical Process Control	4.6.5 (SPC)

# **DRD** Content Example

#### 2: Manufacturability Risk Inventory

The contractor shall submit **evidence of a manufacturing risk assessment** in the form of a documented Manufacturing Risk Assessment. The assessment shall include an assessment for each assembly or raw material; COTS parts do no need to be assessed. **Each part that is identified as high risk (e.g., immature verification and validation methods for raw or processed materials, unknown reliability for novel constructions, immature or lack of verification methods or metrology, immature or low availability of capital equipment or fixturing, or a new assembly that is more than 50% different from something already produced) must have risk assessment**. Include parts where production capacity cannot be verified to meet requirements. The sourcing risk assessment shall include likelihood and consequence severity ratings (e.g. 1 to 5), and a summary of planned risk mitigations for each risk. Industrial base risks that are of particular relevance should be considered for inclusion. The assessment shall identify the methods used for internally identifying / eliciting risks, the associated criteria for assessment, and any requirements detailing when risks require associated handling / mitigation actions. The supplier shall **present the Manufacturing Risk Assessment at each Milestone Review**. Products deemed high risk must have an associated risk analysis/assessment (e.g. PFMEA).

The manufacturing risk baseline shall be **updated and reported at quarterly technical reviews and at each major program review as long as high-risk items remain**. In addition, the supplier shall provide detailed status to the customer of any mitigation steps that are not meeting plan. The supplier shall flow down this manufacturing risk management requirement to their sub-tier suppliers who are producing raw materials or assemblies.

#### **Reference:**

Department of Defense Manufacturing and Quality Body Of Knowledge - Section L.1 Manufacturing Management Requirements Department of Defense Early Manufacturing and Quality Engineering Guide – Section 1.2 Early Manufacturing Overview Department of Defense Early Manufacturing and Quality Engineering Guide – Section 3.7 Manufacturing Feasibility Assessments Department of Defense Producibility and Manufacturability Engineering Guide – Section 6.1.1 Manufacturing Feasibility Assessments AESQ RM13145 APQP and PPAP within Aerospace – Section 5.10 Assess Feasibility

Deliverable	Milestone Review Presentation
Specification	Contractor format
Date of First Submittal	At Systems Requirements Review
Date of Subsequent Submittal	At each Milestone Review

Does not bias RFPs only to current industry users of AS9145

Acquirers will have to blend this content into their preferred format.

JSQC is exploring how DoD and NASA Handbooks can push this content to RFP teams.

# Take Aways

- Poor early lifecycle QA is a likely risk to late-cycle cost and schedule stability for low volume, highly complex hardware developments.
- AS9145 organizes early lifecycle best QA practices into a standard approach and is attuned to safety performance targets.
- Chicken or the egg? Acquirers and suppliers will have difficulty introducing AS9145 into an RFP/Proposal if both "sides" aren't positioned to do so simultaneously.
- A small group of DRDs can be used to phase in a more common usage of early lifecycle QA.
- DoD handbooks are promoting AS9145 techniques and can be used for increasing knowledge about how and when to use them.
- JSCQ Task Group is pursuing opportunities for inserting the recommended DRD language into RFP tools used by the DoD and NASA.