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(Edition 2)

NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF - DEFENCE INVESTMENT DIVISION

# NATO QUALITY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR FINAL INSPECTION

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**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION  
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J. MAJ  
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## **1.0 General**

### **1.1 Introduction**

1.1.1 AQAP 2131 defines the requirements for Quality Assurance (QA) to be established and applied by the Supplier for final inspection.

### **1.2 Purpose**

1.2.1 The purpose of AQAP 2131 is to give the GQAR and/or Acquirer the right of access to the Supplier to confirm that the Supplier's final inspection provides objective evidence that the product conforms with contract requirements and that the final inspection process is appropriate.

### **1.3 Applicability**

1.3.1 This publication is primarily intended for use in a contract between two or more parties. When referenced in a contract, this publication shall apply to all of the processes necessary for the Supplier to fulfil the contractual requirements.

### **1.4 Compliance with this publication**

1.4.1 Compliance with this publication is defined as the fulfilment of the requirements in section 2 of this publication.

### **1.5 Informative Reference**

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| AQAP 2000      | NATO Policy on an Integrated Systems Approach to Quality Through the Life Cycle.                 |
| AQAP 2009      | NATO Guidance on the use of the AQAP 2000 series.  |
| AQAP 2070      | NATO Mutual Government Quality Assurance (GQA) Process   |
| ISO 9000:2005  | Quality Management Systems – Fundamentals and Vocabulary   |
| ISO 10012:2003 | Measurement Management Systems - requirements for measurement processes and measuring equipment. |

### **1.6 Definitions**

Unless stated otherwise, ISO 9000:2005 definitions shall apply.

**Acquirer** Governmental and/or NATO Organisations, that enter into a contractual relationship with a Supplier, defining the product and quality requirements

**Certificate of Conformity** A document, signed by the Supplier, which states that, the product conforms with contractual requirements



|   |   |
|---|---|
| Government Quality Assurance                | Government Quality Assurance is the process by which the appropriate National Authorities establish confidence that the contractual requirements relating to quality are met.   |
| Government Quality Assurance Representative | Government Quality Assurance Representatives are the Personnel with responsibility for Government Quality Assurance (GQA), acting on behalf of the Acquirer.  |
| Product                                     | The result of activities, processes and tasks. A product may include service, hardware, processed materials, software or a combination thereof. A product can be tangible (e.g. assemblies or processed materials) or intangible (e.g. knowledge or concepts), or a combination thereof. A product can be either intended (e.g. offering to customers) or unintended (e.g. pollutant or unwanted effects) |
| Supplier                                    | Organisation that acts in a contract as the provider of products to the Acquirer.   |

## **2.0 Requirements**

### **2.1 Access to Supplier and support for GQA activities**

2.1.1 The Supplier shall provide to the GQAR and/or Acquirer:

- The right of access to facilities where parts of the contracted activities are being performed.
- Information pertaining to the fulfilment of requirements in the contract.
- Unrestricted opportunity to evaluate Supplier compliance with this Publication.
- Unrestricted opportunity to conduct verification of product conformity with the contract requirements.
- Required assistance for evaluation, verification, validation, testing, inspection or release of the product for the accomplishment of GQA to contract requirements.
- Accommodation and facilities.
- The necessary equipment available for reasonable use for performing GQA.
- Supplier personnel for operation of such equipment as required.
- Access to information and communication facilities.
- The necessary supplier documentation, to confirm product conformance to specification.
- Copies of necessary documents, including those on electronic media.

### **2.2 Products presented by the Supplier for release**

2.2.1 The Supplier shall ensure that only acceptable products, intended for delivery to the Acquirer, are presented to the GQAR and or Acquirer. GQAR and or Acquirer reserve the right to reject non-conforming products.

### **2.3 Control of non-conforming products**

2.3.1 The Supplier shall identify, control and segregate non-conforming products.

### **2.4 Acquirer supplied products**

2.4.1 When the Supplier establishes that an acquirer-supplied product is unsuitable for its intended use, he shall immediately report to and coordinate with the Acquirer on the remedial actions to be taken. The Supplier shall also inform the GQAR.

### **2.5 Final Inspection**

2.5.1 The Supplier shall perform all inspection and testing of the product necessary to demonstrate conformity with contract requirements, and shall maintain inspection and test records sufficient to demonstrate the conformity of the product to contract requirements.

2.5.2 The Supplier shall ensure that all devices used for final inspection shall be in calibration.

2.5.3 The Supplier shall provide a Certificate of Conformity at release of product to the GQAR and/or Acquirer unless otherwise instructed.

The Supplier is solely responsible for the quality of all products he provides to the Acquirer.