

UPGRADING TO THE NEW ISO 9001-2015

Does your company still need to upgrade to the new ISO 9001-2015?

If you answered “yes”, we know we need to upgrade on a shortened schedule. Since there are now only a few months until the old ISO 9001 is considered canceled, your current Quality Management System will be considered obsolete.

Fortunately, upgrading your to the new 2015 requirements is still very doable, easier than you think, even with a shortened schedule.

More good news is that 80% of the old ISO 9001 has not changed in the new 2015 version. So if you already have an earlier version of ISO 9001, you are already 80% there.

ADDITIONS:

So what’s new in the ISO 9001-2015? This new standard will ask that a company determine:

1. Who are the parties interested in the company, and what their expectations for your company are.
2. What are the factors that impact the production of good product and customer satisfaction?
3. What risks are associated with producing the product, the way that your processes currently work, given the current training levels, current equipment and tools etc.

The first two additions are a onetime effort, and what you determine, will be reviewed and updated at Management Review.

The 3rd item termed “Risk Management” is also only an occasional task. And Risk Management also replaces the Preventive Action requirement. [So no more making up a Preventive Action to satisfy the Registrar!]

Both Risk Management & Preventive Actions are efforts to predict what could go wrong, and take steps to either prevent untoward events and then prevent them from happening, or if they do happen, then implement actions to reduce the event’s impact.

Another small easy addition, is called “Organization Knowledge.” It asks the question, “Has the company determined the necessary knowledge for its operations to achieve conformity of products and services; AND is this necessary knowledge maintained, and made available as needed or necessary. Requirements are easy such that nothing is required to be written down, recorded measured. Responsible individuals simply need to be able to state what knowledge is important to the company, and that this information is shared with all who need it.

One not so easy addition is showing the effectiveness of your Quality Management System. This can be either not so easy, or we can make it as simple as possible.

Most companies have some simple measures such as On Time Delivery and Shipments vs Returns. An easier way to obtain metrics on your processes, is to determine which process caused the nonconformity or late delivery.

Was it production?

Was it the purchasing process – that includes Purchasing, the suppliers, as well as receiving?

Did someone get the dates wrong or in contract Review, or did someone forget to order material?

Then mark the nonconformity or late delivery against Administration.

This is another easier ways to measure your processes.

Most importantly, find out what your company already looks at or measures such as scrap rates, cycle times or other times and costs. Figure out what measures are already available and which measures are easiest to compile. This will take some time to figure out which metrics are:

1. Available
2. Easy to compile and
3. Most meaningful.

HOW ISO 9001 BECAME EASIER

1st, as mentioned, Preventive Actions went away. Preventive Actions – no longer required.

2nd, the requirements for Procedures and a Quality Manual has been dropped.

3rd, the requirements for Document Control have been simplified.

OVERALL

ISO 9001-2015 is an easier standard to comprehend and work with. My experience has been that companies have found their newly upgraded Quality Management System now easier to work with and less work at up keeping.

If you are looking to upgrade your Quality Management System to ISO 9001-2015 or AS-9100-2016, in the easiest way possible, Contact the QDS Corp