



January 23, 2009

To: Users and Stakeholders of the IAQG Industry Controlled Other Party (ICOP) process of Certification of Aerospace Quality Management System (AQMS) Standards
From: Rick Downs – IAQG ICOP Chair
Subject: 2009 IAQG Other Party Management Team (OPMT) ICOP Improvement Initiatives

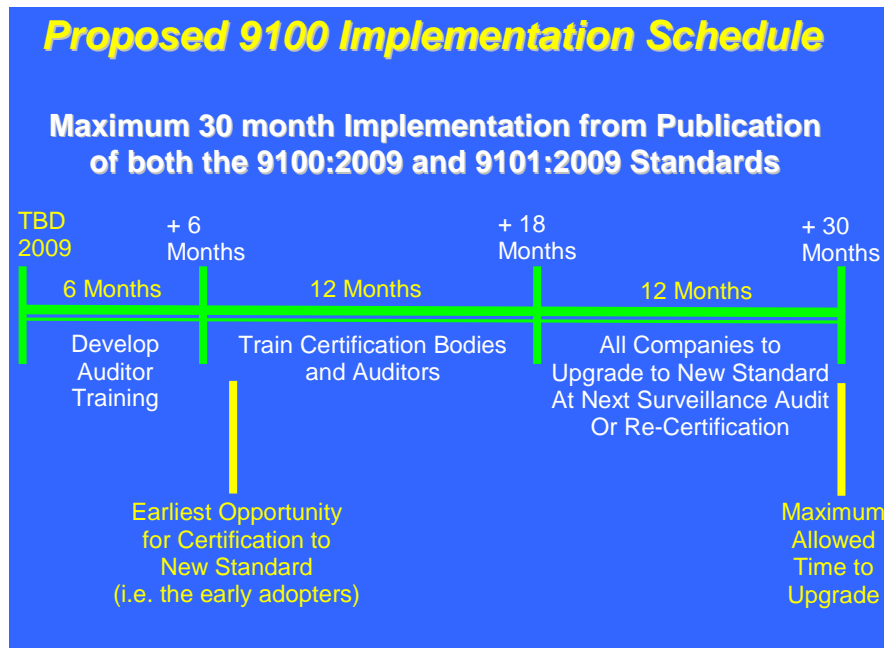
As an OASIS user you are most likely familiar with certifications of organizations to AQMS standards 9100, 9110, and 9120 (published as EN9100, AS9100, etc.) Did you know these certifications are overseen by the Aerospace Industry Members of the IAQG? The purpose of this memo is to share with you a little background on the ICOP process, the OPMT, and improvement activities underway in 2009. We will be updating the status on these activities throughout 2009 and will share these updates with OASIS users throughout the year.

First, a little background, the process of certification to AQMS standards is defined by the International Aerospace Standard 9104 (Published as EN9104, AS9104, etc.). This process includes direct oversight of the AQMS certification process by Aerospace Industry Members of the IAQG, this is where the term ICOP (Industry Controlled Other Party) comes from. The term was developed in order to distinguish our sector scheme as including industry engagement and something more than just third party certification. The OPMT is a committee comprised of IAQG member representatives responsible for the management and oversight of the ICOP process. The OPMT's role is to ensure that the requirements of the 9104 standard are met in each IAQG Sector (AAQG – Americas Aerospace Quality Group; APAQG – Asia Pacific Aerospace Quality Group; EAQG – European Aerospace Quality Group). For more information on the IAQG and the IAQG sectors please visit www.iaqg.org. There is also a link to the OPMT web page where you can find more information about the mission of the OPMT, its membership, and upcoming meetings.

Over the last few years the IAQG has developed the infrastructure to manage the ICOP process and provide online access to AQMS certified companies, auditors, certification bodies, and accreditation bodies through the OASIS database. Over the last year the OPMT has assessed the effectiveness of the ICOP process and developed improvement initiatives focused on improving the ICOP process by reducing variation in the certification process. Starting in 2009 the OPMT is working to implement a number of these improvement initiatives. At the same time, the publication of the 2009 revision of the 9100, 9110, and 9120 AQMS standards in alignment with the publication of ISO9001:2008 requires the OPMT to work with all ICOP stakeholders to effectively transition to the updated AQMS standards. The new ISO 17021 will reinforce this process. In addition, in support of the updated AQMS standards the IAQG is close to

sending for publication an update to the 9101 audit standard. When the new revision of the audit standard is published 9101 will become the single standard for certification audits of AQMS standards under the ICOP process. This will make 9111 and 9121 assessment questionnaires obsolete. The following outlines these improvement initiatives and the AQMS transition plans for the new 2009 revisions.

- Specific transition milestones will be published as soon as all three sectors publish the updated 9100 and 9101 standards. Until then we can share with you the following transition timeline.



- All currently approved ICOP Aerospace Auditors (AA and AEA) conducting certification audits will be required to complete a supplemental auditor training course for the transition to the new AQMS standards and for the new audit process as outlined in the revised 9101 audit standard. This supplemental training must be completed prior to conducting AQMS audits for ICOP certifications purposes. This supplemental training will be developed and sanctioned by the IAQG OPMT. The goal is for the training to be available to training providers within six months of the publication of the 9101 audit standard.
- The 9104 Standard for AQMS certification management is currently being updated in support of the transition to the 2009 revision of 9100, 9110, and 9120. In addition, key changes to the 9104 standard will include:
 - Improved definition of certification requirements for multiple site organizations
 - Simplified audit day requirements for AQMS audits. Currently audit days are calculated by a combination of ISO, IAF, and 9104 requirements. The new audit day table in 9104 will define minimum audit days that include requirements and guidance from ISO and IAF documents and the current 9104 standard. The goal is to reduce the variation in audit day calculations currently observed in the ICOP process.

- Performance expectations for certification bodies and AQMS auditors
- Supplemental oversight by Accreditation Bodies based on the CB activity
- Updates to the 9104-2 – Oversight requirements for ICOP and 9104-3 – Aerospace Auditor Competency and Training requirements for ICOP standards are also underway.

As we work to transition to the 2009 revision of 9100, 9110, and 9120 and implement the revised 9101 audit standard there are sure to be ongoing clarifications and decisions published regarding the initiatives outlined above. To formally communicate clarifications and decisions the OPMT uses formal, published resolutions. These resolutions are publicly available on the OASIS web site. Select the help/guidance link and scroll down to the IAQG ICOP and OASIS resolutions log link.

Another important OASIS tool is the OASIS feedback process. The feedback process provides for an electronic means of sharing feedback with certification bodies and certified organizations regarding certification or performance issues. Users can use the feedback process to request emphasis by certification bodies on specific issues at certified organizations and/or request corrections or clarifications of certified organizations certification status and scope. Responses to feedback input can also be requested and the requestor can leave the feedback open or closed as appropriate. All information placed into the feedback system is access controlled and is not made available for any public viewing. To utilize the feedback process go to the certified organizations OASIS certificate data page in OASIS and select the contact issuing CB link. Use of the feedback process is an important tool for users to communicate with certifications bodies to help them in there role of auditing and certifying organizations to AQMS standards. In addition, feedback entries are used by the OPMT and sectors to review opportunities for improvement in the ICOP process.

As you can see, 2009 will be busy and important year for the ICOP process and the OPMT. Hopefully this update has been helpful in keeping you up to date on OPMT activities. We will continue to update you going forward, probably on a quarterly basis, to keep you abreast of our improvements and changes in the ICOP process. In addition, please be sure to monitor the IAQG ICOP and OASIS resolutions log on OASIS for additional information and visit the OPMT's web page at www.iaqg.org.

Sincerely,

Rick Downs
OPMT Chair