The key to long-term competitiveness in today’s global marketplace includes products of optimum quality, at competitive prices, delivered in record time. Today, the ability to meet rigid quality standards is an expectation rather than a competitive advantage. A supplier in the Aerospace Supply Chain must have an in-depth Quality Management System; one that will meet and exceed the demands of Aerospace customers. The Aerospace Standard, AS9100:2016 Revision D provides requirements to which a Quality Management System must be developed and maintained. These new requirements help guide companies to increasingly higher levels of quality through process improvement, risk reduction and a greater focus on key process metrics resulting in continual process improvement.

**BENEFITS OF AS9100 IMPLEMENTATION**

- Significant improvements in quality and cost reductions throughout the key processes
- Increases focus on Customer Satisfaction
- Increases focus on Continuous Improvement
- Ensures that the organization has systems in place to identify and mitigate risks throughout the contract review and product realization process
- Significant focus in Product Planning and Project Management to improve success of new contracts and system improvements through the AS 9145 Advanced Product Quality Planning / Production Part Approval Process
- Increases visibility of key process effectiveness
- Thorough and effective root cause analysis and corrective action
- Emphasis on special requirements and critical product characteristics:
  - “Special requirements” are requirements identified by the customer or requirements which have high risk to the organization.
  - “Critical Items” are for example processes, characteristics, parts and software which have significant impact on the product realization and use of product.
- Major changes in the auditing from a “checklist focus” to Performance Auditing
- All processes will be evaluated for compliance and effectiveness (how well the system is deployed as demonstrated by the measures defined by the organization to meet customer satisfaction and objectives)
- Top Management engagement of Customer Issues and solutions
- Greater focus on evaluation of process effectiveness - Use of the Process Effectiveness Assessment Report (PEAR) form for each audited product realization process

**WORKING WITH IMEC**

To assist companies, IMEC works on-site to instruct and guide all implementation activities to ensure a full understanding of the requirements of Revision D, and to maximize the benefits of the Quality Management System. Additionally, IMEC serves as a catalyst to lead its clients through an initial implementation or full transition from revision C to revision D.

For more information, contact IMEC at 888-806-4632 or info@imec.org.