



## VDA 6, Part 1

### VDA Quality Management in the automotive industry

#### QM System Audit, Volume 6, Part 1 / 5<sup>th</sup> revised edition



#### Overview

Even though VDA 6.1 certification is very user friendly and is expressive in terms of the quality of the management system (as a “method based on measurement”), it is hardly ever required.

However, VDA 6.1 continues to be perfectly suited for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> levels of the sub-suppliers (tier 2 and 3 suppliers). In contrast to IATF 16949:2016, VDA 6.1, which is a “method based on measurement”, enables excellent expressiveness regarding the organization’s performance. A certificate according to VDA 6.1 can be combined with an ISO 9001 certificate if needed.

#### Objectives

- Statement about the efficiency of the organization and its partial areas
- Strategic business planning and its implementation on the basis of concrete business plans
- Optimized improvement process
- Secured project management, ensuring the start of production and absolute process control in series production (process capability)

- Reducing scatter and wastage in the supply chain
- Optimizing the value added chain

#### Target groups

- Automotive industry and its sub-suppliers
- The overall supply chain of the automotive industry; therefore referring to both direct and indirect suppliers of products that are installed in the vehicle

#### Criteria

##### Guidelines and directives of VDA 6, part 1

The VDA 6.1 Volume is an industry standard, but not an ISO Standard. It has been drawn up by a workgroup of the German automotive industry. It does **not** follow the structure of ISO 9001:2015. However, a relevant comparative table relating to the single clauses of ISO 9001 is stated in the volume. VDA 6.1 is broken down into two main areas:

- The “U part”, which refers to management (“Unternehmensführung”) and includes the Z1 part (Ziele = objectives and targets), which refers to corporate strategy;
- The “P part”, which refers to products and processes

Furthermore, the audit provides a measurement of efficiency in terms of the single clauses. This method based on measurement significantly differs from IATF 16949, as at VDA 6.1 the opportunities for improvement can be presented objectively (evaluated graphically). The requirements placed by VDA 6.1 are stated in the form of a catalogue of questions, which includes a precise definition and interpretation. Based on this catalogue, the requirements will be evaluated by using its own assessment key.

##### The most important changes of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition:

- The contents have been adapted to the prevalent requirements of ISO 9001:2015.
- The questions have been adapted to the contents of ISO 9001:2015.
- Important definitions of ISO 9001:2015 have been added to the list of requirements (e.g. opportunities and risks, interested parties or documented information).
- The topic of “risk management” has been emphasized even more.
- Requirements relating to qualification and maintenance of qualification for first-party and second-party auditors have also been incorporated (they used to be described in the VDA Volume 6).



- Each question has been broken down in a uniform manner: question, terms and definitions, explanations and requirements/supplements.
- Clause 5 "Financial deliberations about quality management systems" has been revised in connection with the VDA Volume "Quality related costs".
- Clause 20 "Service provision" has been newly described.
- The assessment system has been moved to the VDA Volume 6.

### Accreditation

Quality Austria - Trainings, Zertifizierungs und Begutachtungs GmbH has been accredited by for VDA 6.1 since 12/1996. For VDA 6.2 and for VDA 6.4, Quality Austria - Trainings, Zertifizierungs und Begutachtungs GmbH has been accredited since 03/1999. For each standard, Quality Austria - Trainings, Zertifizierungs und Begutachtungs GmbH is the first Austrian certification body to be accredited by VDA.

### Other relevant standards

Various VDA Volumes and the manufacturers' specifications, ISO 9001, IATF 16949

### Quality Austria introduces itself

Quality Austria - Trainings, Zertifizierungs und Begutachtungs GmbH is your competence partner for the Integrated Management System in the fields of Quality, Environment, Safety and Industry Standards as well as Business Excellence. The services provided by Quality Austria range from trainings in the field of international management trends and techniques via certification of management systems according to international standards, regulations, national guidelines, directives and assessments according to the EFQM Excellence Model to awarding the Austria Quality Seal. The Austrian Excellence Award will be presented to Austrian organizations in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy. Quality Austria is accredited by the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy and has numerous international registrations and accreditations.

Having more than 1.000 auditors, trainers, assessors and technical experts, Quality Austria secures successful implementation of standards and regulations within the organizations and provides sector and product specific know-how with a very high focus on practical work. Based on the competence network in the field of comprehensive sector specific, technical and methodological knowledge as well as comprehensive experience, trends will be influenced while innovations will be interpreted and tomorrow's requirements will be co-designed actively and consistently in corresponding bodies even on an international scale.

The close connection of Quality Austria as a national representative with international partner organizations as well as cooperations enable global know-how to be imparted and turn the organization into a competent partner. Quality Austria cooperates with some 50 partner and member organizations. Quality Austria is a stable factor when it comes to creating valuable synergies at the economic site of Austria.

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