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# IATF 16949:2016 – Questions and Answers

Our experts answer important questions about IATF 16949 and the certification of the extended sites.

## 1. WHICH COMPANIES CAN BE CERTIFIED ACCORDING TO IATF 16949?

The standard can be applied to the entire supply chain of the automotive industry including all related production and support sites. Certification is possible in the following areas:

- Automobile manufacturing
- Series and spare parts production according to automotive customer orders
- Value-added processes in the automotive supply industry such as surface treatments
- Other products required by customers in the automotive industry

## 2. WHICH DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE FOR THE AUDIT AND AUDIT PLANNING ACCORDING TO IATF 16949?

- Current status of customer complaints
- Internal audit program with results, action plans and a list of qualified auditors
- Quality management (QM) – Evaluation of the last 12 months
- Basic requirements for the quality management system
- Proof that all requirements of IATF 16949 have been met
- Quality management (QM) manual from each site
- A list of customers and customer-specific requirements
- Operational performance trends for the last 12 months

### 3. WHAT CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE WITH THE LATEST MODIFICATIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION REGULATIONS AND THE IATF 16949:2016?

#### ▪ **Extended Sites**

Through the modification initiated by the OEM (communicated at the CB Conference 2015-008 (October 2015) and the "Sanctioned Interpretations" SI 13, valid since April 1, 2016), extended sites can again be certified together with the production site. Under particular conditions (listed in Annex 4 of the SI 13), "Extended Sites" of TÜV Rheinland Cert have been certified in conjunction with their respective production sites since July 1, 2016.

#### ▪ **Advisor participation in the audit**

Under the new rules, advisors are not permitted to participate in any versions of audits in accordance with IATF 16949 (they may provide neither physical nor electronic support e.g. via Web-Ex, SMS).

#### ▪ **Audit time in production**

Under the new regulations, time spent in production must fulfill at least one-third of the total audit time.

#### ▪ **Changes in the company**

Significant changes within your company must be immediately reported to the certification institution. If changes are not reported, the audit time may at the very least be extended; in the worst case, the company may be faced with revocation of the IATF 16949 certificate.

#### ▪ **Calculation of temporary and unskilled workers and day laborers**

As a business responsible you must provide the certification body with the average number of temporary and unskilled workers, as well as day laborers, employed during the last six months before the next audit. This information is used to calculate the required number of audit days (man days on-site).

### 4. WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES FOR COMPANIES ALREADY CERTIFIED ACCORDING TO VDA 6.1 AND ISO 9001?

If an organization is certified according to VDA 6.1 and ISO 9001:2015, the audit days of the Stage 2 audit can be reduced by a maximum of 50% when upgrading to IATF 16949. However, if the scope is extended, a reduction is no longer possible and 100% of the audit time required for the Stage 2 audit must be provided.

In conjunction with ISO 9001, you also have the option of a combined certification, thus avoiding unnecessary multiple certifications.

### 5. IS IT STILL NECESSARY TO SEPARATELY CERTIFY SO-CALLED "EXTENDED SITES"?

No. Since April 1, 2016, it is again permitted to certify a production site in accordance with ISO/TS or IATF 16949 together with extended sites in accordance with "Sanctioned Interpretations" 13 (SI 13). Due to a decision from the IATF made in the year 2014, it was previously necessary to certify extended sites separately. Each site was awarded its own ISO/TS 16949 certificate and was registered in the International Automotive Task Force (IATF) database as a complementary production site.

This was corrected through the modification initiated by the OEM (communicated at the CB Conference 2015-008 and the SI 13, valid starting April 1, 2016). Under particular conditions (listed in Annex 4 of the SI 13), the "Extended Sites" of TÜV Rheinland Cert have been certified in conjunction with their respective production sites since July 1, 2016.

## 6. UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS CAN EXTENDED SITES BE CERTIFIED TOGETHER?

The International Automotive Task Force (IATF) has listed the conditions to be fulfilled in order to have extended sites certified together with the production site. These conditions include:

- Expanded sites have no independent decision-making power and are subordinate to the assigned production site.
- Extended sites are located in reasonable proximity to the production site.
- Extended sites receive support functions exclusively from the assigned production location.
- Top management of the assigned production site has the authority and responsibility for the quality management system of the extended site.

## 7. WHAT INFORMATION IS REQUIRED WHEN EXTENDED PRODUCTION SITES ARE INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CERTIFICATION?

A new certification contract is inevitable. This includes the "Questionnaire for extended sites", which addresses topics such as:

- Hierarchy and collaboration between the main site and other sites, including a detailed description of individual staff positions and an organizational chart for each site.
- Workflow within and/or between the assigned production site and extended sites.
- Depiction of the process landscape and a clear classification of individual process status.

**CONTACT US TO SPEAK WITH OUR EXPERTS FREE OF CHARGE!**

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