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Questions and answers on IRIS / ISO/TS 22163

Our experts answer important questions about IRIS certification and the new version of ISO/TS 22163.

Do you have any other questions? **Feel free to contact us!**

1. WHICH COMPANIES ARE SUITABLE FOR IRIS CERTIFICATION?

IRIS certification is aimed at companies that develop or manufacture products for the railway industry. In addition, companies that perform maintenance work on railway vehicles or work with signaling technology can be certified in accordance with the IRIS standard.

2. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF IRIS CERTIFICATION?

Your processes will become more effective, faster and more cost-efficient just by introducing the IRIS standard. Today, the IRIS standard is a core element of procurement requirements for companies and is supported by all the most important and largest system manufacturers worldwide.

These include, for example, Siemens, AnsaldoBreda, Bombardier and Alstom. You thus fulfill the requirements for approval as a supplier for the railway industry.

3. WHAT ARE THE MAIN COMPONENTS OF IRIS CERTIFICATION?

In principle, IRIS is based on ISO 9001 quality standard requirements, but it has been expanded by aspects specific to the sector. Extended points of the IRIS standard include, for example:

- configuration management
- project management, order processing management and series management
- management of procurement by tender
- reliability, availability, maintainability, and safety (RAMS)
- technical safety policy of the product portfolio
- life-cycle costs (LCC)
- obsolescence management
- first article inspection (FAI)

4. WHAT REQUIREMENTS DOES THE IRIS STANDARD DEMAND OF COMPANIES?

If you are seeking IRIS certification as a company, you must present comprehensive documentation. 16 procedures and 25 processes must be specified and documented to a reasonable extent. Using IRIS guidelines, you develop your company processes from a quality management system to a business management system.

5. WHAT IS THE REASON BEHIND THE IRIS REVISION IN MAY 2017?

The standard is being adapted to incorporate updates to ISO 9001:2015. The revision will elevate the former private-sector industry standard to the status of an ISO/TS standard, thus allowing it to achieve international acceptance. Detailed information on the changes can be found on our webpages on IRIS certification and in the linked leaflet.

6. WHAT DO COMPANIES HAVE TO BEAR IN MIND AS A RESULT OF THE IRIS REVISION IN MAY 2017?

The new guidelines are scheduled to be available in Germany from May 2017. We recommend you transition to the new ISO/TS 22163 standard by Sept. 14, 2018 at the latest. This can be implemented, e.g., as part of the surveillance audit. If you conduct the transitional process outside the audit, this could result in a period of time without IRIS certification.

Source: UNIFE IRIS Group; www.iris-rail.org

OUR EXPERTS WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU WITH ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

ONLINE CONTACT

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www.tuv.com/iris

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