

Introduction

Forum. The Defence Industries Quality Forum (DIQF) is a Defence stakeholder environment that enables mutual consultation between the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and Industry Partners on issues relating to MOD quality policies, processes and standards.

Bulletin. The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide the Forum's stakeholder community with a summary of the key points recorded in the Minutes of the Quarterly Forum Meetings.

Invitation. In addition, the Bulletin is produced to promote the Forum's activities and invite all UK Defence Industry Partners to become active stakeholders. The Bulletin is distributed to Industry by all DIQF members and Government Quality Assurance Representatives.

Key personalities:

- MOD Co-chair: Christopher Elliott, QCM Pol DepHd.
- Industry Co-chair: Andrew McEvoy Babcock.

Key contacts:

- Secretary: Craig Feltham - email 'Craig.Feltham449@mod.gov.uk'.
- Dr PR Ocess: Anon – however, email 'kevin.mulloy273@mod.gov.uk'.



Classifieds

Classified section. This section of the Bulletin is reserved for announcements and questions from our stakeholder community. Questions will be answered by the Forum's resident agony uncle 'Dr P.R. Ocess'.

Dr P.R. Ocess. The agony uncle section of the classified section is intended as a light hearted approach within our partner community addressing topical subjects. It is hoped this can be achieved through the medium of relatively humorous questions that will be responded to in-kind by Dr PR Ocess; who retains unabated editorial rights over both questions and answers.

Dear Dr P.R. Ocess: *'I am Dr F Oyster and having returned from Gloucester, never to return again, but whilst in a fuddle negotiating around a muddle, I was reminded of an AS9100 cut-off date, where I can't afford to be late.'*

The Dr P.R. Ocess cogitates and replies: *'Dear F Oyster, you may be referring to aerospace domain organisations that are required to submit any AS9100 Declaration of Transition to 3rd party certification bodies by September 2017.'*

Editorial note: Dr F Oyster is purely a fictional character used to convey the existence of the AS9100 declaration requirement. Any resemblance to actual events, persons (living or dead), other fictional characters, films and works; is entirely coincidental.

Key point summary

Minutes: The following key points are summarised from the minutes of Forum Meeting No 69 dated 16 March 2017.

Boeing internship programme presentation.

Boeing's programme encourages younger people into quality with their early careers programme. It consists of Apprentices, Internships and Graduates. Boeing target universities across the UK.

DQAFF update – Field Force process change.

Changes are currently being implemented across the Field Force organisation who are changing their ways of working by shifting focus from 'deficiency to performance' and from 'risk to capability and escalation'. It is anticipated that the changes will be implemented by September 2017.

Workstream-1 (counterfeit avoidance)

update. Raytheon and Boeing have established e-learning courses that are open to anyone in the field.

Workstream-2 (Defence specific quality

competencies) update. The existing courses have been consolidated and six volunteers are being sought to attend the new "Introduction to MOD and Quality" course. The volunteers will be encouraged to provide constructive feedback.

Workstream-3 (Talent management for the Defence sector) update.

This workstream is establishing an objective view to see what demand exists across Defence for quality people. John Bullock will be taking over as the Chair of this workstream.

Key point summary – continued

Workstream-4 (Review of Quality Performance Indicator (QPI) Flow Down from MOD to Industry) update.

The workstream members have been producing a guide to establishing QPI's for a project and gave a PowerPoint presentation at the meeting.

Workstream-5 (Confidence in third party certification) update. A new QCMPol staff member has been recruited and will be responsible for reinstating this workstream.

Communications. The Secretary stated that this tri-fold has been produced to provide the DIQF with another communication medium that will be distributed to all DIQF members electronically. Members are encouraged to print copies and for distribution amongst their customers.

CQI updates. CQI have published a Green Paper for Improvement (Lean, 6 Sigma) and are reviewing how more rigour can be implemented for issuing training certificates.

In addition to the MOD quality awards, the CQI have separate awards e.g. Quality Professional of the Year and Emerging Talent Award.

Policy update. MOD is now participating in BSI's QS/1 Standards Committee which addresses a number of Quality Management and Quality Assurance standards.

Next meeting. The meeting is planned for 15 June 2017 at MOD Abbey Wood Bristol.

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Organisations and Groups

Aerospace Defence and Security Industries (A|D|S):

- Association of British Certification Bodies (ABCB).
- Federation of Small Businesses (FSB).
- International Independent Organisation for Certification (IIOC).
- Submarine Enterprise Quality Group (SEQG).
- TechUK.
- The Chartered Quality Institute (CQI).
- United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS).
- Individual company representation(s).

MOD:

- Quality Configuration Management Policy (QCM Pol)
- Defence Quality Assurance Field Force (DQAFF).

Practitioners' Corner

Are quality practitioners' waxing poetic?

*Still hiding behind your professional main
Having failed to wax and not wane
Following the invitation from the poetic domain
You can still tickle your fancy with a lyric or two
Where the challenge remains with YOU!*

Please send your submissions to Dr P.R. Ocess, who retains unabated editorial rights.