



# AQA INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

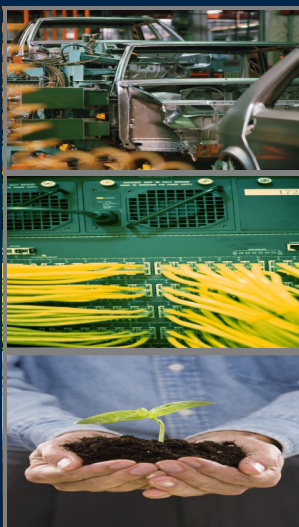
Volume V, Issue X

October 2010



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## Featured Client:



Founded by Ronald A. Vaughn in 1963, Vaughn Industries is one of the leading specialty contractors, ranked 263 out of 600 specialty contractors by McGraw Hill ENR. Vaughn Industries operates as a merit shop specialty trade's contractor specializing in electrical, mechanical and high voltage construction. Their services have grown into the industrial/commercial sectors including electrical, mechanical, plumbing, high voltage substation, high voltage transmission and distribution construction. Vaughn Industries has also been working for several years in the renewable energy field. With renewable energy now coming into the list of demands and requests, Vaughn Industries Renewable Energy Team has expanded their experience in developing additional turnkey products and services in the renewable energy industry.

Vaughn Industries is a family operated business with leadership focused on providing outstanding customer service and continued growth. Over the last four years, they have increased employment by more than 90% and currently employ over 400 fulltime employees between the corporate office in Carey, Ohio and their central office in Lewis Center, Ohio. All of Vaughn Industries employees receive the most up to date education and training available within their respective trades as the company takes pride in giving their customers quality work.

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## The Auditor with a Dragon Tattoo

*Article Written by: Bill McCalla, AQA Auditor*

You might have read the best-selling book or seen the foreign movie *Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Steig Larsson. The opening chapters of the book deal with a magazine co-owner who has just lost a libel lawsuit because he received bad information and did not verify the facts before publishing. In the audit world, this can also happen. It may not necessarily result in a lawsuit, but inputs into every process include data and information that must have some integrity in order to support effective decision-making. Poor decisions based on poor data can put a company and jobs at risk. During an audit most process owners and auditors focus on the process measures and the outputs. However, the wrong or misleading inputs can lead to ineffective measures or skewed results (outputs).

As an example, some manufacturing companies may use Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) as a measure of plant performance. OEE is a measure of how much success a manufacturing plant has in using the machines it has to their maximum designed capability. In its generic form, it is expressed as a percentage that allows comparisons in manufacturing performance, even across different product lines or industries.

Typically OEE takes into account inputs for monitoring which include availability, performance or quality may paint a misleading picture. If changeover times are not included or if time spent producing scrap is not accounted for, the resultant reported OEE will be misleading. Many years ago, one client reported OEE in the management review but measured it only as scheduled machine time less unscheduled downtime. The plant was reporting world-class OEE although the machines were typically not running or were underutilized. The results made the plant appear to be performing admirably, but they were not getting the needed support to address the ongoing manufacturing issues.

As an input into the Management review, the misleading data was flagged as a nonconformity under ISO 9001 section 8.4 Analysis of Data, where the requirement states "The organization shall determine, collect and analyze appropriate data." In summary, determining the appropriate measure is an important part of measuring the processes in quality management systems, but ensuring that the data that feeds into those measures is appropriate and accurate is just as critical.

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Vaughn Industries continues to strive for excellence on every job adhering to the Vaughn philosophy of: "safety, quality and customer satisfaction." the company is currently ISO 9001:2008 certified and received star approval from the United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for meeting and exceeding the voluntary protection programs (VPP) requirements. This award highlights Vaughn Industries' organizational, safety and health programs, and through interviews with employees and a complete audit of the company's corporate facility and project sites within the four OSHA are offices in Ohio.



For more information on Vaughn Industries and the services they provide, please check out their website at the following address: [www.vaughnindustries.com](http://www.vaughnindustries.com)

## Key Aerospace Transition Dates to AS9100 Rev C

- **May 18, 2010**  
IAQG SR 001 released
- **Current through April 2012**  
AQA continues to provide our clients with certification to AS9100 Rev. B. Auditors to receive recertification to Aerospace 2009 standards.
- **June 1, 2010**  
Accreditation bodies to submit their transition plan to IAQG.
- **September 28, 2010**  
AQA approved to conduct Aerospace upgrades and certification audits.
- **April 1, 2012**  
No new AS9100 Rev. B certifications.
- **July 1, 2012**  
AS9100 Rev. B expires

## Benefits of Aerospace Certification

Whether your organization is a small or large manufacturer, distributor or service provider to the aerospace industry, AQA can give your customers confidence that you actively comply with the highest quality standards through AS9100, AS9110 or AS9120 certification. Benefits include but are not limited to the following:

- Provides a framework and systematic approach to managing business processes.
- Improved consistency.
- Demonstrate commitment to quality and continual improvement.
- Reduce waste and rework, shortened cycle times, improved problem tracking and resolution.
- Enhanced supplier relations.
- Demonstrate compliance to customer and regulatory requirements of the Aerospace industry.
- Provide for the improvement of business processes.



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## Material Certification for PED Vendors

*Article Written by: Ahmet Faruk Taka*

Vendors providing materials to pressure equipment manufacturers are subjected to have their materials certified according to the requirements of the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED). Annex 1 section 4.3 of the Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) requires that the material manufacturer must prepare documentation affirming compliance with the specification required by the equipment manufacturer. Material properties used in design of the equipment, e.g. yield strength and impact properties, must be based on those of the specification which are affirmed by the material manufacturer. It is generally sufficient for the material manufacturer's certificate to make reference to the specification where the appropriate values are included.

For this specific activity, the objective of traceability is to avoid any concern about the material specification used for a type of equipment. The conforming means shall be determined according to the type of equipment and its manufacturing conditions: for instance, complexity of the product, unitary or serial products, risk of mixing of material grades, etc. These means range from physical marking of individual items by stamping or color coding to procedural methods. It is not always necessary for the identification of material to be linked to a specific delivery. The traceability system should be proportionate to the risk of mixing material grades during the manufacturing process. When there is no such risk, the system may be limited to administrative means.

The specific assessment of the quality system shall properly cover all the relevant processes and material properties referred to in the material specifications, and at-tested in the material certificates. A single reference to section 4.3 of Annex I of PED is not sufficient to validate the quality system of the material manufacturer. Materials should be traced from beginning to end and the results of the assessments should be recorded as a single attachment to the main quality system assessment report.

## Technical Tip: OHSAS 18001

OHSAS 18001 is the internationally recognized assessment specification for occupational health and safety management systems. This standard is a certification specification which demonstrates a commitment to implement, maintain and improve the way in which health and safety systems are managed. OHSAS 18001 is compatible with ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 to help organizations meet their health and safety obligations in an effective manner. The OHSAS specification gives requirements for an occupational health and safety management system to enable an organization to control its health and safety risks and improve performance. It does not state specific health and safety performance criteria, nor does it give detailed specifications for the design of a management system.

OHSAS 18001 addresses many key points such as planning for hazard identification, risk control, risk assessment, training, awareness, operational control, emergency preparedness, and performance measuring to name a few. OHSAS is becoming increasingly popular and is being utilized by companies to protect their workforce as well as address changing legislation. This standard can be adopted by any organization wanting to implement a proper procedure to reduce the risks associated with health and safety in the working environment for employees, customers and the general public.

For more information regarding the OHSAS 18001 standard, please contact an AQA sales representative and they will be happy to assist you with any additional information which you may require.

