

AS9100 Implementation Techniques, Tips and Common Setbacks

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1. Establish Commitment

Implementation takes time and resources. Make sure you have commitment before starting the project.

Tips:

- Know why you are implementing AS9100. Is it because a client or market is asking you to register? Is it for the internal benefits?
- Is the motivation coming from executive management?
- Keep the reasons for implementation visible during your project to retain commitment and stay focused on the end goal.
- Assign an AS9100 Steering Team. This team should be made up of management from the different areas of the facility. Include the Management Representative and people that have the authority to devote resources to the project and remove roadblocks.

Common Setbacks:

- Assigning responsibility for implementation to one person or department:
- The AS9100 Quality Management System is a Management System.
- It is not a quality control program, and cannot be implemented by Quality Assurance alone.
- Losing commitment during the project:
- During implementation other projects come up that compete for people's time and resources. Ask decision makers if AS9100 implementation is still a goal.

2. Prepare an implementation plan and timeline

A good project plan is a key part of a successful project.

Tips:

- Conduct a Gap Analysis. Compare your current system to the requirements of the standard. Determine what is already in place, and what needs to be implemented. From this you can prepare a task list for each of the sections of the standard.
- Have the AS9100 Steering team create "Point Teams" for each of the sections that apply to your organization.
- Determine team membership and the timeline for each team. Use information from the Gap Analysis and task lists to determine the appropriate people for the team, and estimate the timeline.