



Configuration Management Guidelines

This is a brief introduction to the Configuration Management (CM) materials provided in this chapter.

Introduction:

The Aerospace Standards (e.g. 9100:2009) call for the implementation of Configuration Management (CM) and documents control throughout the entire life cycle of product realization. Configuration Management is a discipline widely used in the acquisition of defense systems, as well as commercial products and services. A disciplined CM process ensures that products conform to their requirements and are identified and documented in sufficient detail to support the product life cycle. CM assures accurate product configuration information and enables product interchangeability and safe product operation and maintenance to be achieved.

When Configuration Management principles are applied using effective practices, return on investment is maximized and product life cycle costs are reduced. The small investment in resources necessary for effective Configuration Management is returned many folds in cost avoidance.

Instructions for use:

The chapter includes the following materials:

- Configuration Management Introductory Presentation – Executive summary intended to introduce in general terms the reasons and benefits resulting from CM process implementation.
- Configuration Management Guidelines - a presentation describing Configuration Management functions and principles and defining CM terminology for use with AS&D product line. The guidelines recommend implementation of appropriate processes and tools to establish and maintain consistency between the product and the product requirements and attributes defined in product configuration information.
- CM Process Implementation Self Assessment checklist – a detailed checklist that can be used by an organization to validate that the implemented CM process complies with customer expectations and may provide clues for CM process improvement actions.

Note: Since there is a relationship between Configuration Management and engineering changes management, it is recommended that the reader be acquainted with the **Notification of Change** (AAQG AS9016) guidelines and tools. Those are included in the IAQG Supply Chain Management Handbook, Chapter 8.1.

Disclaimer:

The intention of this section is to assist organizations with understanding the concept and process of SRCI management and control and is not intended to be a requirement, nor auditable.

SCMH Strategy Committee and Project Team

October 2010