Transition Policy

ISO 9001:2015 - Quality Management System

NOTE: All audits in 2018 will be to ISO 9001:2015

The following sets out the transition plan for both existing and potential ISO 9001 Clients.

Please refer to the NSAI website from time to time to review updates to this document. This document is controlled under the NSAI QMS for ease of reference as updates occur.

Upgrading to ISO 9001:2015?

It is important that you maintain your ISO 9001:2008 certified system until certification to ISO 9001:2015 is granted.


- ISO/DIS 9001 - open for public comment: 10th July to 10th September 2014
- FDIS 9001 - final vote by Standards Bodies worldwide: July 2015
- ISO 9001:2015 – Published on 23rd September 2015

Publication of ISO 9001:2015 23rd September 2015

- Three year transition period to 15th September 2018, also known as period of co-existence
- NSAI current working date for withdrawal of ISO 9001:2008 is 15th September 2018
- Certification to ISO 9001:2015 only possible after the publication date
- Ongoing certification to the existing standard (ISO 9001:2008), reassessment and or surveillance, can take place during period of co-existence, but all ISO 9001:2008 certificates will have expiry dates of 15th September 2018 regardless of reassessment date
- Clients are encouraged to upgrade at their existing reassessment cycle
- NSAI auditors will comment on application of ISO 9001:2015 during all audits to the existing standard from October 2015
- Non-conformance categories will remain unchanged in ISO 9001:2015
- Clients should maintain their existing Certification up to the end of the period of co-existence, assuming ongoing conformity, while attempting to upgrade
- No claim of conformity to ISO 9001:2015 can be made until the appropriate certificate is issued
- Certification expiry to ISO 9001:2008 will be 15th September 2018
• The following sets out 3 upgrade options:

- Upgrade at reassessment in the normal three year cycle of certification. This option is the preferred one and is recommended to all Clients where possible. This audit will cover all aspects of both reassessment and upgrade including audit planning and commentary on performance over time.

- Upgrade in one of the two surveillance years with additional time (typically the same audit days provided for a reassessment) to review changes to the standard. This may be done as a surveillance audit with additional time to review changes as one audit event, or, separated by no more than 3 months as a surveillance audit visit and then an audit review of upgrade changes as a separate visit – additional time as above. Certification will be within the current cycle starting from the last reassessment.

- Special reassessment and upgrade audit in any one of the two surveillance years with additional time (typically the same audit days provided for a reassessment), resulting in a new three year certificate. This audit will cover all aspects of both reassessment and upgrade including audit planning and commentary on performance over time.

• Clients are required to fill in the dedicated questionnaire (AD-01-44) for the 2015 version of the standard in advance of the upgrade audit together with the process clause matrix form (CL-02-16). These will be provided by your NSAI auditor.


To view presentations given at NSAI Roadshows on the revision to ISO 9001 please visit www.nsai.ie/management-systems.aspx and choose ‘Quality Management ISO 9001’ from the list

To purchase a copy of ISO 9001:2015 please refer to www.standards.ie