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INTRODUCTION TO ISO 9001 : 2015

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Overview Of ISO 9001:2015

ISO 9001:2015 is an International Standard on Quality Management System (QMS) requirements necessary for Quality Assurance.

It sets out requirements suitable for an organization to demonstrate its Quality Assurance capability and for the assessment of that capability by an audit or review process.

Emphasis in ISO 9001:2015

- ✓ The emphasis on leadership
- ✓ The focus on risk management
- ✓ Emphasis on objectives, measurement and change
- ✓ Communication and awareness
- ✓ DOCUMENTED INFORMATION

Leadership and Business Context

- The organization will need to determine external and internal issues that are relevant to its purpose, i.e. what are the relevant issues, both inside and out, that have an impact on what the organization does, or that would affect its ability to achieve the intended outcome(s) of its management system.
- Top management now have a greater involvement in the system. They have to make sure that the requirements of the management system are integrated into the organization's processes and that the policy and objectives are compatible with the strategic direction of the organization.
- Strategic Planning and SWOT analysis

Focus on Risk Management

- Senior management must be able to demonstrate an understanding business risks and how they could impact on the ability to meet customer requirements. An effective risk management process will be critical for successful certification to the new version.
- It must ensure the management system can achieve its intended outcomes and achieve continual improvement. **Clause 6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities**, is where this is covered and it addresses the 'what, who, how and when of risk management.
- The organization should plan actions to address these risks and opportunities, how to integrate and implement the actions into its management system processes and evaluate the effectiveness of these actions.
- Risk Management replaces preventive action.

Risk Based Thinking

- Preventive tools
- No requirements in terms of standard methods to be used. Organization can decide whether or not to develop a more extensive risk management methodology
- NOT ALL of the processes represent the same risk level. Effect of uncertainty ARE NOT the same for all organizations.

Objectives and Measurement

- The requirements around quality objectives have also been made more detailed. They need to be consistent with the quality policy, measurable (if practicable), monitored, communicated, and updated as appropriate. They also have to be established at relevant functions and levels.
- Objectives should include plans on how to achieve them as well as how the results will be evaluated. The organization must determine who will be responsible for the delivery of the objectives, resources required, what needs to be done and by when.
- When establishing quality objectives you need to demonstrate how you plan to achieve them.
- The quality objectives (results to be achieved) – can be technical, strategic or operational.

Communication and Awareness

- **Clause 7.3 Awareness** is now a clause in its own right: people under an organization's control should be aware of the quality policy, objectives, their contributions to QMS, implications of non-conformities etc. There is an increased emphasis on awareness to ensure that everyone knows the implications of not conforming to the management system requirements.
- **Clause 7.4 Communication** – internal and external communications are now a requirement. It's up to organization to decide what/who/when and how you are communicating. Communication is important for both internal and external stakeholders and an organization must develop a communication plan. It is important to decide who will own the communication and ensure that they have the appropriate authority, competencies and knowledge.
- The communication plan can include a variety of mediums including briefings, meetings, seminars, conferences and newsletters

Documented Information

- ISO 9001:2015 has no requirements for procedures but it does have requirements for documentation. **Clause 7.5 Documented Information** deals with documented information and is split into 3 sub-clauses – general, creating and updating and control.
- An organization must decide what information they wish to retain, how these are updated and controlled and adequately protected

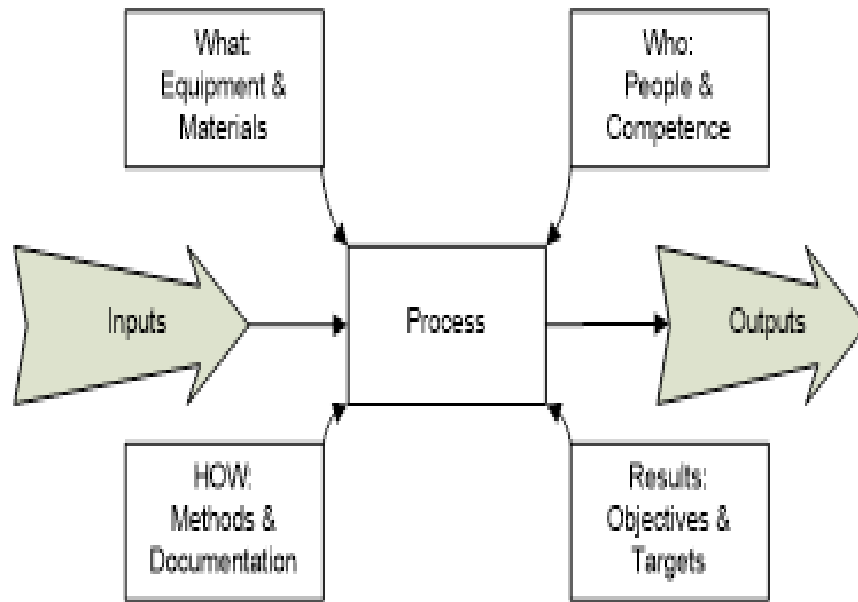
Management Principles

- Customer Focus
- Leadership, Importance of Top Management
- Engagement of People
- The Process Approach
- Improvement
- Evidence-based Decision Making
- Relationship Management

Process Approach

- The process approach is one of the management principles behind the ISO 9001:2015 standard
- Using the process approach facilitates organization to define, understand, and control your QMS processes
- The process approach is a way of applying the processes as a system, defined as the network of the processes and their interactions, and thereby creating added value.
- Organization can better monitor how the process is performing, identify and implement improvements in the processes, and know that you are maintaining those improvements after changes are made.

PROCESS APPROACH



Sample of Process Diagram (Turtle Diagram)

- **A process** is a set of interrelated or interacting activities that transforms inputs into outputs. These activities require allocation of resources such as people and materials.
- Processes can be divided into three basic groups: management processes, basic and supporting processes, and outsourced processes.

Process Approach

- **Management processes** are the processes of planning and providing resources for basic and supporting processes, and monitoring and measuring overall performance of the quality management system and customer satisfaction. EG: Management responsibility, Resource Management and Measurement, Analysis and Improvement
- **Basic and supporting processes** are the processes providing the added value; they meet customer requirements and provide customer satisfaction. EG: Curriculum Development, Academic Management and Student Management
- **Outsourced processes** are the processes that the organization needs for its quality management system and which the organization chooses to have performed by an external party. EG: Facilities Contractor and Food Caterer

Process Approach

- Intent: Control interrelationship and interdependencies among the processes of the system so that the overall performance of an organization can be enhanced.
- Application of process approach will enable an organization to achieve :
 - a) Understanding & consistency in meeting requirements
 - b) Consideration of processes that provide added value
 - c) Effective process performance
 - d) Improvement of processes based on evaluation of data & information

Structure of ISO 9001 : 2015

- 1. Scope**
- 2. Normative reference**
- 3. Terms and definition**
- 4. Context of the organization**
 - 4.1 Understanding the organization and its context
 - 4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties
 - 4.3 Determining the scope of QMS
 - 4.4 Quality management system and its processes
- 5. Leadership**
 - 5.1 Leadership and commitment
 - 5.2 Quality Policy
 - 5.3 Organizational roles, responsibilities and authorities

Structure of ISO 9001 : 2015

6. Planning for the QMS

- 6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities
- 6.2 Quality objectives and planning to achieve them
- 6.3 Planning of changes

7. Support

- 7.1 Resources
- 7.2 Competence
- 7.3 Awareness
- 7.4 Communication
- 7.5 Documented Information

8. Operation

- 8.1 Operational planning and control
- 8.2 Determination of requirement for products and services
- 8.3 Design and development of products and services
- 8.4 Control of externally provided products and services
- 8.5 Production and service provision
- 8.6 Release of products and services
- 8.7 Control of non conforming process outputs, products and services

Structure of ISO 9001 : 2015

9. Performance evaluation

- 9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis, and evaluation
- 9.2 Internal audit
- 9.3 Management review

10. Improvement

- 10.1 General
- 10.2 Non-Conformity and corrective action
- 10.3 Continual improvement

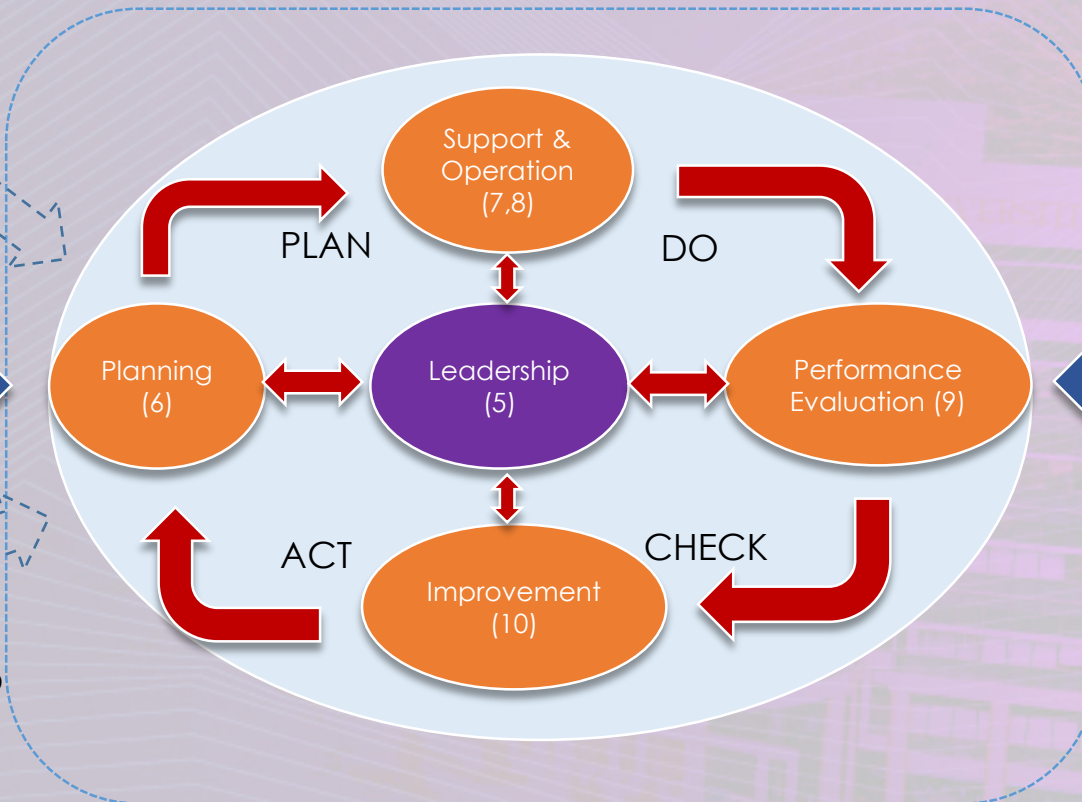
PDCA Cycle

Quality Management System (4)

ORGANIZATION
& ITS CONTEXT
(4)



NEEDS & EXPECTATIONS
OF RELEVANT INTERESTED
PARTIES (4)



CUSTOMER
SATISFACTION



PRODUCTS &
SERVICES



UNDERSTANDING ISO 9001:2015 REQUIREMENTS



4. CONTEXT OF THE ORGANIZATION

4.1 Understanding organization and its context

This clause brings new requirements compared to the 2008 version of the standard, and requires the organization to determine all internal and external issues that may be relevant to the achievement of the objectives of the QMS itself. This includes all elements that are, and may be capable of, affecting these objectives and outcomes in the future.

4. CONTEXT OF THE ORGANIZATION

4.2 Understanding needs and expectations of interested parties

Due to the effect that interested parties may have on the organization in terms of quality of products and services, customer satisfaction, and statutory and regulatory requirements, the standard requires the organization to determine interested parties relevant to the QMS and their needs and expectations.

4. CONTEXT OF THE ORGANIZATION

4.3 Determining the Scope of Quality Management System

Determining the scope of the QMS is one of the main milestones in the implementation. The scope must be examined and defined considering the internal and external issues, interested parties and their needs and expectations, as well as legal and regulatory compliance obligations. Additional required considerations for the QMS scope are products, services, and organizational size, nature and complexity. The scope and justified exclusions must be kept as documented information.

4. CONTEXT OF THE ORGANIZATION

4.4. Quality Management System and Its' Processes

The organization needs to establish, implement, maintain, and continually improve its QMS, including the processes needed and their interactions, in accordance with the requirements of the standard. This is where the process approach comes into action. The organization will need to determine inputs and outputs of the processes, sequence and interaction of the processes, resources needed, and responsibilities, and ensure the effectiveness of the processes. Also, the organization will have to maintain necessary documented information to support the operation of the processes and keep records to evidence that the processes were carried out as planned.

5. LEADERSHIP

5.1 Leadership and Commitment

QMS implementation is your strategic decision that demonstrates your commitment to development and application of the QMS and continual improvement of its effectiveness. This commitment must be demonstrated through informing the organization about the importance of fulfilling customer requirements, compliance with legal and other requirements, establishing a Quality Policy and objectives, conducting management reviews, and providing needed resources.

5. LEADERSHIP

5.2 Policy

The Quality Policy is a high-level document containing statements about the general direction of the organization, and its commitment to quality and customer satisfaction. It provides a framework for quality objectives. Meeting compliance and regulatory factors is obviously a key element. Finally and vitally, the policy must provide a commitment to the continual improvement of the QMS and its results. Critically, the Quality Policy must be maintained as documented information, be communicated within the organization, and be available to all interested parties.

5. LEADERSHIP

5.3 Organizational roles, responsibilities and authorities

Responsibilities and authorities must be precisely defined and communicated to all hierarchical levels of the organization. In specific situations (seasonal fluctuation of labor force, emergency situations, etc.), it is necessary to precisely document and communicate authorities, and especially the responsibilities of temporarily employed workers.

6. PLANNING

6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities

When planning the QMS, the organization will have to consider context of the organization (section 4.1) and the needs and expectations of interested parties (section 4.2) in order to determine risks and opportunities that need to be addressed. The purpose of addressing risks and opportunities is to ensure that the QMS will achieve the intended results, enhance desirable effects, and achieve improvements. The actions have to be planned and implemented in the QMS, and later evaluated for their effectiveness.

6. PLANNING

6.2 Quality objectives and planning to achieve them

The standard requires top-level management to establish quality objectives for appropriate functions and departments in the organization (HR, production, purchase, etc.). Quality objectives must be measurable, quantitative, and timed. They must be in line with the Quality Policy so it can be determined whether objectives are met, and if not, what should be done.

6. PLANNING

6.3 Planning changes

When the organization determines the need for changes to the QMS, the changes should be carried out in a planned manner. This includes considering their purpose and consequences, the integrity of the QMS, availability of resources, and allocation of responsibilities and authorities.

7. SUPPORT

7.1 Resources

The standard requires the organization to determine and provide resources for the establishment, implementation, maintenance, and continual improvement of the QMS, taking into account the capabilities and constraints of existing internal resources and the need to obtain additional resources from external providers. Resources to be obtained include people, infrastructure, environment for operation of the processes, monitoring and measuring resources, and organizational knowledge.

7. SUPPORT

7.2 Competence

The organization needs to determine the necessary competence of its employees, and ensure those employees are competent on the basis of appropriate education, training, and experience. This means that the organization will need to have a process for determining the necessary competence and achieving it through trainings and other means.

7. SUPPORT

7.3 Awareness

Awareness is closely related to competence in the standard. Employees must be made aware of the Quality Policy and its contents, any current and future impacts that may affect their tasks, what their personal performance means to the QMS and its objectives, including the positives or improved performance, and what the implications of poor performance may be to the QMS.

7. SUPPORT

7.4 Communication

Processes for internal and external communication need to be established within the QMS. The key elements that need to be decided and actioned are what needs to be communicated, when it needs to be communicated, how it should be done, who needs to receive the communication, and who will communicate. It should be noted here that any communication outputs should be consistent with related information and content generated by the QMS for the sake of consistency.

7. SUPPORT

7.5 Documented information

- QMS documentation is comprised not only of the documents and records required explicitly by the standard, but also of the documents and records the organization finds necessary to execute its activities and processes. The volume of the documentation is affected by many factors: it will depend on the size of the organization and the complexity of its processes, products, and services; the organization's compliance obligations; and also by the competence of the employees.
- The standard requires that documented information created or updated in the scope of the QMS must be properly identified and described, also considering its content presentation, and media used. All documented information must go under proper review and approval procedures to ensure it is fit for its intended purpose. For proper control of documented information, the organization must consider the provision of processes regarding the distribution, retention, access, usage, retrieval, preservation and storage, control, and disposition of such information. It should also be noted that there must be controls in place to prevent the unintentional use of obsolete information.

8. OPERATION

8.1 Operational planning and control

In order to meet the requirements for delivery of products and services, the organization needs to plan, implement, and control its processes. The first step is to determine the requirements for products and services, meaning what features the product or service will have. Then, the organization needs to define how processes will be performed and what criteria the product or service needs to meet to be accepted for release. Finally, the organization needs to determine the resources needed for the processes and the records needed to demonstrate that the processes were carried out as planned.

8. OPERATION

8.2 Requirements for products and services

- Requirements for products and services are closely related to communication with customers. This communication must include information related to the products or services, handling inquiries, contracts or orders, customer feedback, handling and controlling customer property and, if needed, establishing specific requirements for contingency actions. Before offering the product or service to the customer, the organization needs to ensure that the requirements for the products and services are defined, and that the organization is able to deliver such products or services.
- Requirements for products and services include any applicable legislation and the requirements that the organization considers to be necessary. After receiving the order, the organization must, prior to delivery, review the requirements related to the product and keep records about the review. If the customer changes its requirements, these also must be reviewed and recorded. In case of changes, the organization must ensure that all documented information is amended and all relevant persons are aware of the changes.

8. OPERATION

8.3 Design and development of products and services

This clause refers to design and development management, from the initial idea to final acceptance of the product. ISO 9000 explains that the terms “design” and “development” are often used as synonyms, and sometimes define different phases of overall design and development. This means that design can't be used apart from development, and that they represent one single process.

8. OPERATION

During design and development planning, all its phases must be defined with appropriate activities of reviewing, verification, and validation for each phase. Considering that ISO 9001 refers to design and development of product (not design and development of processes), design and development inputs relate to product requirements that include:

- Functional requirements and product performance requirements
- Legal and regulatory requirements for product
- Information from previous similar projects
- Other requirements relevant to design and development, usually customer requirements, market information, package, etc.

8. OPERATION

- Design and development outputs must be in a form suitable for verification related to input elements, and must be approved before acceptance. They can be in the form of a drawing, engineering documentation, plans, etc.
- The organization also needs to define design and development review activities. The purpose of these activities is to determine whether the design and development process goes in the intended direction. The review can be done in appropriate phases or at the end of project. The review identifies problems during design and development and suggests actions to resolve them; it can include other interested parties. The design and development review must be documented.
- Also, the company needs to identify, review, and control changes during the design and development of products and services. Documented information should be kept regarding the changes, results of reviews, authorization of the change, and actions taken to prevent adverse effects.

8. OPERATION

8.4 Control of externally provided processes, products and services

This robust title of the clause refers to purchasing. The purchasing includes products and services you acquire from suppliers and outsourced processes. The organization needs to establish and document criteria for suppliers selection, which includes how crucial the purchased product or service is to the quality of your product. Results of the supplier evaluation must be kept.

8. OPERATION

In order to ensure that externally provided processes, products, and services do not have an adverse effect on the conformance of the organization's products and services, the organization needs to establish controls including verification and other activities. As part of the controls, the organization needs to communicate to external providers its requirements for:

- The processes, products, and services to be provided
- The approval of methods, processes, and equipment
- Competence
- Verification or validation activities that the organization intends to perform

8. OPERATION

8.5 Production and service provision

The production and services provision process needs to be performed under controlled conditions that will ensure that the product or service delivered is compliant with initial requirements. This includes a sufficient level of documentation, like procedures, work instructions and records, monitoring and measurement equipment, appropriate infrastructure, etc.

8. OPERATION

The organization must use suitable means to identify outputs when it is necessary to ensure products and services conformance. When the traceability is a requirement, the organization needs to control the unique identification of outputs and retain documented information necessary to enable traceability.

8. OPERATION

In cases when the organization uses property belonging to a customer or external provider, it is required to identify, verify, protect, and safeguard this property. When the property of the customer or external provider is lost or damaged, the organization will have to report to the owner and retain documented information on what has occurred.

8. OPERATION

The decision on the extent of post-delivery activities will be affected by the following:

- Statutory and regulatory requirements
- Potential undesired consequences related to products and services
- Lifetime, use, and the nature of the products and services
- Customer requirements and feedback

In case of changes in the production and service provision process, the organization must review and control the changes in order to ensure continuing conformity with the requirements.

8. OPERATION

8.6 Release of products and services

Release of the products and services shouldn't be performed until the organization ensures that the products and services are conforming to the requirements. Demonstrating the conformance can be done by documenting evidence of the conformance, which includes criteria for the acceptance and information about the person who authorized release of the product or service.

8. OPERATION

8.7 Control of nonconforming outputs

Nonconforming outputs must be prevented from unintended use or delivery, so the organization must identify and control nonconforming outputs that emerge from any phase of production or service delivery.

Depending on the nature of the nonconformity, the organization can take one or more of the following actions:

- Correction
- Segregation, containment, return, or suspension of provision of products and services
- Informing the customer
- Obtaining authorization for acceptance under concession

8. OPERATION

Conformity to the requirements must be verified when the nonconforming output is corrected. The organization also needs to keep documented information that describes the nonconformity, the action taken, concessions obtained, and the authority deciding the action with respect to the nonconformity.

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation

This requirement should not be equated with the requirement for managing equipment for monitoring and measuring from clause 7.1.5 of the standard. This is about a wider aspect of monitoring and measuring. Information derived from monitoring, measurement, and analysis represents inputs in the process of improvement and management review.

The organization needs to determine what needs to be monitored and measured, how, and when, as well as when the results will be analyzed.

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

It is required to measure your own performance as a supplier in order to get information about users' observations, and the extent to which you fulfilled their requirements. Monitoring customer satisfaction levels must be a constant activity in order to determine trends, and because opinions about your performance can change. Information about customer satisfaction can be collected via phone, interview or questionnaire, direct contact with the user on the field, etc.

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Once the monitoring and measuring is performed and the results are gathered, the organization needs to analyze the results in order to evaluate conformity of products and services, degree of customer satisfaction, performance of the QMS, effectiveness of actions taken to address risks and opportunities, performance of external providers, and need for improvements to the QMS.

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

9.2 Internal audit

The goal of an internal audit is not to determine nonconformity; its goal is to check whether your QMS:

- ✓ Complies with the requirements of ISO 9001 and the requirements of your organization
- ✓ Is effectively implemented and maintained

At the end of the audit, you will get audit results by evaluating the data you collected during the audit. Audit results can be manifested as: praise, recommendations for improvements, and nonconformities (major and minor). Verification of actions taken may be needed, and in that case, the next step is a follow-up audit.

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

9.3 Management review

At least once a year, the top-level management must review the QMS in order to determine its:

- Appropriateness – does it serve its purpose and satisfy the needs of the organization?
- Adequacy – does the QMS conform to standard requirements?
- Applicability – are activities performed according to procedures?
- Effectiveness – does it accomplish the planned results?

9. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

This review must evaluate possibilities for improvement and needs for changing the QMS, Quality Policy, and objectives. Considering the inputs for the management review, such as the results of the previous management reviews, changes in the context, customer satisfaction survey results, performance of the QMS and suppliers, etc., the top management must make decisions regarding opportunities for improvement, need for changes in the QMS, and resources needed for the upcoming period.

10. IMPROVEMENTS

10.1 General

Based on the results of the management review, the organization must make decisions and take actions that will drive it towards continual improvement. Those actions can be in the form of corrective actions, trainings, reorganization, innovation, and so on.

10. IMPROVEMENTS

10.2 Nonconformity and corrective action

Any nonconformity needs to be reacted upon by taking actions to control it and deal with the consequences. Once identified, a nonconformity should trigger a corrective action in order to remove the cause of the nonconformity and prevent its recurrence.

The effectiveness of actions taken must be evaluated and documented, along with the originally reported information about the nonconformity / corrective action and the results achieved.

10. IMPROVEMENTS

10.3 Continual improvement

Continual improvement is a key aspect of the QMS, to achieve and maintain the Quality Management System's suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness regarding the organizations' objectives.

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