

# ISO/TS 16949

Recognize improvements – prevent errors – increase performance

*The automotive industry with its global activities stands for excellent process quality, continual improvement, and the power of innovation. ISO/TS 16949 is the Technical Specification for Quality Management Systems applicable to suppliers in this industry sector. It was developed by a joint working group, the International Automotive Task Force (IATF), with the objective of improving both the quality capability and the entire certification process throughout the supply chain.*



Most of the OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) require evidence of a quality management system. Whether for SMEs or large corporations, a certificate to ISO/TS 16949 is practically an entry ticket to this globally active industry. Companies certified to ISO/TS 16949 improve the reliability and process-capability throughout the value-chain and help to avoid waste throughout the supply chain. That is why ISO/TS 16949 is relevant for anybody working in the production, assembly, or maintenance fields of the automotive industry, or who is listed as a potential supplier.

ISO/TS 16949 is based on the process-oriented ISO 9001, which facilitates the integration of other important major management systems such as ISO 14001 for environmental management or BS OHSAS 18001 for occupational health and safety management. To customers, employees, investors, and the general public, implementation and certification of an (integrated) management system demonstrates the continuous improvement of an organization's performance in the areas of quality, environmental protection, and workplace safety. In addition, it helps to have an independent Third Party look over the strategies, processes, and results.

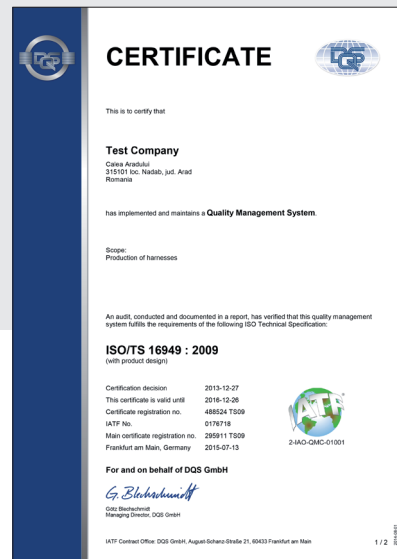
## **Conformity and value generation**

The independent and expert assessment of a management system provides top management with assurance that the system conforms to the requirements of the standard. Our auditors identify potential room for improvement and provide guidance for decision-making processes by analyzing all aspects of people, processes and results.

## Benefits

A certified management system according to ISO/TS 16949

- enjoys global acceptance with all major automotive manufacturers,
- improves your overall competitive ability,
- ensures uniform performance quality on a global scale,
- helps to optimize processes and to make them transparent,
- can be combined with ISO 14001 and BS OHSAS 18001 to an integrated management system.



## The certificate - demonstrating your efficiency

The certificate is valid for three years. After three years, the re-certification audit must be scheduled so as to leave enough time for the certification decision, to include the closing of any possible non-conformities, before the previous certificate has expired. All related activities must be finalized before the certificate has expired.

It is recommended to start the re-certification audit three months before the current certificate's expiration date.

## Timeframe for a site certification process in accordance with ISO/TS 16949

