

WEAPON QUALITY ASSURANCE (WQA) BULLETIN

NNSA WEAPON QUALITY DIVISION (NA-121.3)

November 2023



WQA PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS DEFINITIONS:

Commercial Commodities – Product that is available to anyone as described in a manufacturer's catalog or data sheet. Typically, 1W or 8xxxxx series part numbers; however, commercial product can also be defined as a six-digit part number (e.g., 1A, 2A, 3Axxxx, etc.) with no added requirements to the manufacturer or authorized distributor.

Complex Weapon Products – Custom-designed or modified commercial/public domain products that are considered Level 1 and Level 2 Weapon Products.

Level 0 Supplier – A supplier who does not have a Quality Management System (QMS) or whose QMS has not been verified to be compliant with AS9100 or ISO 9001 but is being utilized to provide weapon products to a Production Agency (PA). A Product Compensatory Action Plan (PCAP) is developed to apply additional controls by adding additional verification methods to the product when a Level 0 Supplier is being used.

Level 1 Supplier – A supplier that has a QMS that is compliant with ISO 9001.

Level 2 Supplier – A supplier that has a QMS that is compliant with AS9100.

Level 1 Weapon Product – Weapon product that can be fully verified by inspection and/or testing at the procured level.

Level 2 Weapon Product – Weapon product that has features that cannot be fully verified by inspection and/or testing at the procured level.

Original Component Manufacturer (OCM) – A company that manufactures a material, part, or assembly that it has designed and for which it owns the intellectual property rights.

Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) – A company that manufactures products that it has designed and sells those products under the company's brand name.

OEM Authorized Distributer – An authorized/franchised distributor of materials, parts, or assemblies under an agreement with an OCM or OEM.

PA Approved Supplier List – A list that indicates suppliers from which a PA can purchase Level 1 and Level 2 Weapon Products.

Procured level – The level at which the weapon product is procured.

Product Compensatory Action Plan (PCAP) – Action plan developed for a specific weapon product to document measures that will be taken by the PA to verify the product conforms to critical technical and quality requirements. PCAPs are used to compensate for weaknesses in the supplier's QMS or for suppliers whose QMS has not been verified.

Sub-tier supplier - The term used to designate an individual or organization supplying material, parts and/or services to the Tier 1 Supplier utilized by the PA.