

EASA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TOR Nr:	21.042
Issue:	1
Date:	21 November 2007
Regulatory reference:	21A.139(a) of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1702/2003 ¹ (Part 21) and related AMC and GM
Reference documents:	EN 9104 standards which documents the process for oversight of the AS/EN/JISQ 9100-series certification of aerospace quality management systems program. FAA Order 8120.12 Production Approval Holder Use of Other-Parties To Supplement Their Supplier Control Program.

1. Subject: Part 21 Other party supplier control.
2. Problem / Statement of issue and justification; reason for regulatory evolution (regulatory tasks): <p>A Production Organisation Approval (POA) holder is responsible for determining and applying acceptance standards for physical condition, configuration status and conformity of supplied products, parts or appliances. To discharge this responsibility the POA holder needs to have procedures to adequately control external suppliers (Refer to Part 21A.139). In accordance with GM No. 2 to 21A.139(a), this control could be based upon use of <u>qualification</u> and <u>auditing</u> of the supplier's quality system. If this method is used, the auditing of the suppliers quality system is expected to be exercised by the POA holder. This leads to a multitude of similar audits when the same supplier is used by several POA holders, which is considered a waste of resources.</p> <p>The manufacturing industry has initiated development of supplier auditing schemes and standards which could achieve an equivalent level of confidence in a supplier's quality system oversight. These audits would not necessarily be performed by the POA holder.</p> <p>However, the current requirements do not provide the option for acceptance of supplier auditing by a party independent from the POA holder as an alternative to direct audits by the POA holder.</p> <p>There are in the current requirements only alleviations for the supplier quality system oversight if the supplier is also a POA holder.</p>
3. Objective: <p>The objective of this rulemaking task is to amend AMC/GM to Part 21 and if required Part 21 to accept oversight of suppliers' quality management systems by an independent supplier oversight system as an alternative method for the POA holder to fulfil his supplier surveillance responsibilities.</p>

¹ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1702/2003 of 24 September 2003 laying down implementing rules for the airworthiness and environmental certification of aircraft and related products, parts and appliances, as well as for the certification of design and production organisations (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 6.) Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 375/2007 (OJ L 94, 4.4.2007, p. 3).

4. Specific tasks and interface issues (Deliverables):

- Review Part 21A.139 to determine if the concept of other party supplier control meets the current requirement.
- Draft an amendment proposal for Part 21A.139 if that is concluded to be necessary from the previous tasks.
- Amend the GM to Subpart G Part 21A.139 to provide the possibility of supplier quality system oversight by third parties as an alternative method for the POA holder to fulfil his supplier surveillance responsibilities;
- Develop AMC to Part 21A.139 specifying the conditions for accepting supplier quality system oversight by other parties as an alternative method for the POA holder to fulfil his supplier surveillance responsibilities;

Due to the global character of this subject, harmonisation with other aviation authorities is considered essential.

5. Working Methods (in addition to the applicable EASA procedures):

Group

6. Time scale, milestones:

NPA to be published 3rd quarter 2008, Opinion/Decision* 1st quarter 2009

* If an amendment to Part 21 is found necessary for this task, the planning for the Decision amending AMC and GM to Part 21 Planning is dependent on adoption of that opinion.