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STANDARDS & GUIDANCE BRIEF · UNITED STATES · MILITARY SPECIFICATION (CANCELED)

MIL-Q-9858A

Quality Program Requirements

DOCUMENT	QES-WP-136, Rev B	DATE	November 7, 2026
ISSUED BY	US Department of Defense	PREPARED BY	Conner Davidson
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INDUSTRIES	Aerospace & Defense, Government & Defense Suppliers	ONLINE	qesisbest.com/standard-mil-q-9858a.html

CANCELED Canceled in 1996 without a direct replacement. ISO 9001 and AS9100 took its place on most contracts, but it is still cited on some older contracts and drawings.

What It Covers

The original US defense requirement for a contractor quality program: planning, documentation, inspection, corrective action, purchasing and records.

Who It Applies To

Only where an existing contract, drawing, or purchase order still invokes it.

Key Requirements

- A cited canceled specification can still bind you if the contract invokes it; check the contract, not the specification's status.
- Most of its intent is met by an ISO 9001 or AS9100 system, but the mapping should be written down.
- Ask the contracting officer or customer to modernize the clause at the next modification.

What an Auditor Asks to See

- How you meet the cited requirement, and the mapping to your current system.

Where Systems Fall Short

- Assuming a canceled specification no longer applies because it is canceled.

How QES helps. Flowdown reviews that map legacy clauses to your current system and draft the modernization request. See the gap assessment: qesisbest.com/services.html#gap-assessment · +1 (401) 246-3204 · mweeden@qesisbest.com

Sources, checked October 24, 2026. ASSIST Quick Search — Defense specifications and standards, status records — quicksearch.dla.mil.

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