

Special regulation COVID-19 to maintain the validity of auditor certificates by VDA QMC and license partners with an expiry date until June 30, 2021

→ Special regulation extended until September 30, 2021

Berlin, March 2021

Auditor certificates or auditor cards by VDA QMC and its license partners are valid for three years, so auditors must apply for an extension or their re-qualification before the expiry date. To maintain the auditor qualification, a regular performance of audits as well as participation in further trainings or examinations are usually necessary.

This procedure affects certificates and cards issued by VDA QMC directly or its license partners on the subject of "VDA 6.3 - Process audit in the product life cycle" and the QM system standard IATF 16949 (1st/2nd party). In both cases, a certain number of audits in companies (currently no Remote Audits) must be proven to maintain the qualification.

Due to the current outbreak of the coronavirus SARS CoV 2 (COVID-19), several measures to slow down the further spread of the virus are being taken. These include, for example, travel restrictions by employers or the cancellation of training courses.

To relieve the auditors during this situation, the VDA QMC states the following special regulation:

Remote-/Hybrid-Audits for VDA 6.3 Renewal

On behalf of the QMA (Quality Management Committee), the VDA 6.3 project group has developed a recommendation for the performance of remote audits. A maximum of two (2) remote audit(s)/hybrid audit(s) are recognized for the VDA 6.3 extension. The regulation applies retroactively for the year 2020 and is valid until further notice. The VDA recommendation on VDA 6.3 audits and further details can be found here:

[RecommendationVDA_Remoteaudits_EN.pdf](#)

By using this letter, it can be **proven that certificates for the topics VDA 6.3 and IATF 16949 1st/2nd party**, which have a validity date until June 30, 2021 remain valid until **September 30, 2021**.

This special regulation is effective immediately and will be implemented worldwide, for it is expanded to all regions of the license partner network of the VDA QMC. The VDA QMC will continue to monitor the global situation and depending on the development of the COVID-19 spread may initiate further measures.



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