



QUALITY PRACTITIONERS™ - STANDARDS INTELLIGENCE

Quality Practitioners™ - Where Excellence is Non-negotiable
Daily Feed - 5 October 2026

1. Today's Lead Signal - AS9145 revision is under way

The International Aerospace Quality Group says AS9145, the aerospace standard for Advanced Product Quality Planning and Production Part Approval Process, is being revised

The Group states that the revision is meant to improve clarity and applicability based on industry feedback. It is expected to address gaps and errors, separate mandatory from optional deliverables, and streamline change management and release processes. The edition in force remains the November 2016 issue, and no publication date for the revised edition has been confirmed. Industry commentary also lists the standard among those in the IA9100 series scheduled for revision and renaming during 2026, but exact timing should be checked against official IAQG announcements.

AS9145 - Aerospace Series - Requirements for Advanced Product Quality Planning and Production Part Approval Process

Why it matters: AS9145 applies again whenever an approved product or process changes (clause 0.2), so any change in the text on mandatory deliverables will reach every supplier that has it flowed down by a customer.

2. Case Studies - AS9145 in Practice

- **Cyient (India, September 2021) - a supplier PPAP platform built around AS9145 (older than one year)**: Cyient announced PPAP4Aero, a cloud platform described as an AS9145 supplier PPAP compliance framework. It replaces spreadsheet-based approval records with a single database, gives suppliers one login in place of several customer portals, and is hosted on an ITAR-compliant cloud. The stated purpose is to cut cost while protecting part quality, with quick access to process risk information for quality engineers dealing with supplier problems. *Why it matters*: a PPAP file is only as strong as the controlled records behind it, and the platform maps directly to the eleven file elements in Table 2 and the file maintenance duty in clause 5.1 d. Digital records still need the same customer agreement on submission content (clause 5.1 c).
- **Harrington Group International (United States, March 2023) - the platform offered to the wider supply chain (older than one year)**: Harrington Group International, based in Orlando, Florida, announced a cloud launch of the PPAP4Aero platform to support the global AS9145 supply chain. It brings design risk analysis, process flow, process risk analysis, control plans and gauge studies into one system, and was presented at an aerospace quality forum in Cape Canaveral in March 2023. The stated purpose is to reduce spreadsheet problems and repeated logins to multiple supplier portals. *Why it matters*: the platform links the Phase 3 and Phase 4 outputs (clauses 4.5.4, 4.5.6 and 4.6.3) into one traceable file, but a tool does not replace the multidisciplinary review of risk that clause 4.2 requires.
- **Aerospace Industries Association with NASA, Rolls-Royce, Boeing and BAE Systems (United States, June 2025) - an industry paper that points to AS9145 (older than one year)**: The Aerospace Industries Association published a white paper on contracting quality early in the program lifecycle, written with experts from NASA, Rolls-Royce, Boeing and BAE Systems. It presents AS9145 as a proven way to reduce late-stage quality cost and rework, and recommends five new standard data item descriptions covering supply chain risk, manufacturability, engineering adequacy, design-to-manufacturing planning and statistical process control. *Why it matters*: this ties customer contracting directly to the Phase 1 planning inputs and risk work in clauses 4.3.2.2 and 4.3.3, which means suppliers should expect quality planning deliverables to be requested earlier in a program.

3. Major Developments

- **Revision under way, no date confirmed**: the International Aerospace Quality Group states that AS9145 is undergoing revision to clarify the text based on industry feedback, with focus on mandatory versus optional deliverables and on change management and release. No publication date has been confirmed. The Group has also published its October 2026 meeting week and 60th General Assembly for 12 to 15 October 2026, where standards work may be discussed.
- **Current edition is the November 2016 issue**: the published standard carries the title Requirements for Advanced Product Quality Planning and Production Part Approval Process, and integrates with the 9100, 9102, 9103 and 9110 standards (clause 1). It is complementary to contractual and regulatory requirements, and where they conflict the statutory or regulatory requirement takes precedence. A secondary guide advises treating any references to a newer revision as forward-looking until confirmed with SAE International or IAQG.
- **Part of the IA9100 series revision (June 2025 report)**: an industry magazine reported that during 2026 the Group is undertaking a comprehensive revision and renaming of IA9100, IA9110, IA9120 and IA9145. A trade news report from September 2025 adds that the IA9100 revision is expected to integrate Advanced Product Quality Planning and Measurement System Analysis. Both reports are secondary, and the official IAQG texts and announcements should be checked for scope and timing.
- **How the standard becomes binding**: a secondary guide notes that AS9145 is not itself a certification scheme and becomes binding through customer flow-down in purchase orders, supplier quality clauses or contract references. Clause 4.1.2 requires the scope of products to be established when it is flowed down, and clause 5.1 requires the organization to agree with the customer which of the eleven PPAP elements in Table 2 apply.
- **Streamlined PPAP structure (April 2024 commentary)**: commentary comparing aerospace and automotive practice describes the aerospace approach as a condensed eleven-element PPAP rather than a long checklist, and mentions a maturity model for assessing supplier competence in quality planning. Organizations should confirm any maturity model or submission level against the customer requirement and the standard itself.

4. Regional and Sector Notes

- **United States - industry and government:** the Aerospace Industries Association paper, written with NASA and prime contractor experts, positions AS9145 as the quality planning framework to request early in a program, which affects defense and space suppliers first.
- **India - engineering services and suppliers:** a major engineering services company built a supplier PPAP platform around the standard, showing demand for digital PPAP records from suppliers serving global prime contractors.
- **United States - quality software:** cloud PPAP platforms offered from Florida target suppliers that must submit approval packages to several customers through separate portals.
- **United Kingdom - training and certification community:** NQA offers a one-day virtual introduction to APQP and PPAP for aerospace, covering the five phases, control plans and PPAP file requirements, and BSI offers an on-demand course on the standard.
- **Europe - supplier development:** Omnex Europe runs a two-day seminar on aerospace APQP and PPAP with discussion of organizational gaps after each phase, aimed at senior managers and teams introducing new products.
- **Sector - production, maintenance and distribution suppliers:** the standard generally excludes standard parts and commercial off-the-shelf items (clause 0.2), so suppliers of designed or manufactured parts, rather than catalogue items, are the main audience for flow-down.

5. Gap Analysis - Areas to Focus

Area	AS9145 (2016) today	Focus
Scope and roles (4.1.2, 4.1.3)	Establish which products the standard covers and define roles, responsibilities and resources	Write down the applicability criteria and name the project owner for each product
Design risk and characteristics (4.4.4, 4.4.4.2)	Design organizations run a design risk analysis and carry key and critical characteristics into the design records	Confirm the design authority role and that characteristics flow into the control plan
Process risk and control plan (4.5.4, 4.5.6, 4.5.7)	Process risk analysis and a control plan listing characteristics, control methods and a reaction plan	Align process flow, PFMEA and control plan so changes update all three
Measurement, first article and capability (4.6.3, 4.6.4, 4.6.5)	MSA on key characteristic measurement, a first article inspection report, and capability studies using Table 1 criteria	Plan study sample sizes with the customer before the study and record any approved exceptions
Capacity verification (4.6.6)	Demonstrate ability to meet the customer demand profile	Test equipment uptime, planned downtime and defect rates against demand
PPAP file, disposition and resubmission (5.1 to 5.4)	Eleven file elements in Table 2, dispositions of approved, interim approval or rejected, and resubmission on change	Maintain the file, name authorized approvers (5.2.2) and trigger resubmission on every change

Clause references are to AS9145 issued November 2016. Expected changes in the revision, such as a clearer split between mandatory and optional deliverables, must be rechecked against the published text.

6. Notes for Quality Managers and Organisational Heads

- **Quality managers:** list every customer that flows the standard down, compare their submission requirements against the eleven Table 2 elements, and keep one controlled PPAP file per product so that a resubmission after any change (clause 5.4) is quick. Check that process capability results use the Table 1 criteria unless the customer says otherwise, and that exceptions have customer approval on record.
- **Organisational heads:** the standard asks for management commitment and a project owner with resources (introduction 0.1, clause 4.2). Decide which programs need the full five-phase approach, fund measurement and capability studies early, and watch IAQG announcements so the revision does not arrive as a surprise in customer contracts.

7. Documentation Framework - Key Considerations

- Keep a product quality plan covering scope, project owner, timing of APQP activities, status reporting and review records (clauses 4.2 and 4.3.3).
- Link the design record, process flow diagram, process risk analysis and control plan in one controlled set with shared revision control.
- Retain measurement system analysis, first article inspection report and capability study records, with customer approvals for exceptions (clauses 4.6.3 to 4.6.5).
- Maintain the PPAP file, the PPAP approval form and disposition records, and a change log that triggers resubmission (clauses 5.2 to 5.4).
- Prepare a change log between the 2016 edition and the revision once it is published.

8. Call to Action

Quality Practitioners Consultancy: implementation of the AS9145 strategy, clause-level gap assessment, and documentation support for APQP plans, control plans and PPAP files.

Mind Enablers Academy: formal training on AS9145 for managers, engineers, supplier quality teams and auditors.

Contact: Email: muazzam@qualitypractitioners.com | Mobile: +92-320-5739787

