

## Special regulation COVID-19 to maintain the validity of auditor certificates by VDA QMC and license partners with an expiry date until June 30, 2020

Berlin, March 2020

Auditor certificates or auditor cards by VDA QMC and its license partners are valid for three years, so auditors have to apply for an extension or their re-qualification before the expiry date. In order 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 has to be proven in order to maintain the qualification. In addition, further trainings or examinations may have to be completed through personal attendance.

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.

In order to relieve the auditors during this situation, the VDA QMC states the following special regulation:

Auditors who are unable to provide the necessary proofs for maintaining their qualification by the end of the first half of 2020 due to the current situation will be granted extension until end of the second half of 2020. 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, 2020 remain valid until December 31, 2020.

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.



Heinz Günter Plegniere  
Head of VDA QMC



Dr. Yuliya Prakopchyk  
Head of Training and Professional Development