

July 24, 2017

Dear Valued SQA Client,

As you might be aware, SN9001:2016 was released last August. Just this month ANAB has issued Heads Up Document 370 for the transition of accreditation bodies to SN9001:2016.

The deadline for this transition is 9/15/2018, same as ISO9001:2015. Smithers Quality Assessments' goal is to transition everyone by August 31, 2018. There will be an additional ½ day of audit time for the transition audit, regardless of whether you transition during your surveillance audit or recertification audit, for the ISO9001:2015 portion of the transition. Please work with your auditor at your next scheduled assessment to determine the best path for you.

SQA plans to complete application to ANAB for this transition by 8/18/2017. SQA will begin to conduct transition audits as soon as ANAB approves us to issue certificates for the SN9001:2016. However, we feel it is best that you begin to review these changes now to give these changes thoughtful consideration as you prepare for implementation within your organization.

Meanwhile, we want to share some key changes in SN9001:2016. These are the changes in addition to the changes from ISO9001:2008 to 2015 which are more numerous and significant. The ISO9001:2015 changes were communicated back in 2015 when the ISO9001:2015 was released.

Key changes in the 2016 version of SN9001 include:

- The standard is based on ISO9001:2015. Much of the 2016 requirement is the same as the 2012 but the requirements have been reorganized to align with the ISO9001:2015 numbering.
- In both the internal training of employees and the training of external providers, the standard now specifies the requirements of this training.
- The 2016 version of SN9001 now references ANSI/ASCA A1000-2014.

For any organization, the degree of change necessary will be dependent upon the maturity and effectiveness of the current management system, as well as the organization's structure and practices. Therefore, we at Smithers Quality Assessments encourage our clients to begin now by taking the following actions:

- Identify organizational gaps which need to be addressed to meet new requirements, as well as their impact on time and resources;
- Develop an implementation plan;
- Provide appropriate training and awareness for all parties that have an impact on the effectiveness of the organization;
- Update the existing quality management system (QMS) to meet the revised requirements and provide verification of effectiveness;
- As always, please coordinate with our office for transition readiness and final arrangements.



SQA will be sending out a follow up communication to inquire about your organizations transition plans and timing.

It is our pleasure to work with you. We want you to know how much we appreciate your business and look forward to serving you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Aaron Troschinetz'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'A' and 'T'.

Aaron Troschinetz
General Manager
Smithers Quality Assessments