



Quality Management System

The ISO 9001



ISO 9001 Quality Management System

ISO 9001 is THE international standard for quality management systems. In order to be certified to the ISO 9001 standard aspiring companies must follow the requirements set forth in the ISO 9001 standard rigorously. The standard allows organisations to broadcast their ability to consistently provide products and services that not just meet but exceed customer and regulatory requirements.

A few details about ISO 9001

The ISO 9000 family is a large one – there are several different documents that make up the standards, but ISO 9001 is the only standard in the 9000 series that requires certification. Business owners normally want the entire organisation to be able to boast the certification – but the scope of the quality management system can be tailored specifically to improve the performance of just a particular team or department.



It doesn't matter your size – be it 1 person or 100,000, any can achieve the certification.

The industry sector you are in doesn't matter, be it servicing or manufacturing – a restaurant, government entity, or manufacturing company - the list is endless.



A few details about ISO 9001.



It does NOT define product quality. It is a standard designed around process which is used solely to control your processes, with the goal of achieving your end product to the desired result.

It is an organisational standard, rather than a personal one. A person cannot get certified to ISO 9001, however they can become an ISO 9001 certified lead auditor after a five-day training course – meaning they can then audit other companies.



Look out for scams when searching for details about the certification – there is no such thing as ISO Certification or ISO 9000 Certification; the only real one is ISO 9001 Certification.

An organisation cannot 'join' ISO 9001. There are steps that need to be followed to achieve the certification, so let's list those steps now.

Implementing the ISO 9001 QMS.

The Certification Body (CB or Registrar) audits the performance of your organisation against the latest version of the ISO 9001 Requirements. Upon passing the audit, the Registrar issues your organisation with an ISO 9001 Certificate, which demonstrates that your organisation is not only registered to ISO 9001 for a three-year period but also that you take the security of your organisation seriously. You must re-certify every three years in order to maintain your status as ISO 9001 certified.

The ISO 9001 standard requires your organisation to address seven areas in order to achieve the certification and the continual improvement of your Quality Management System. They are as follows:

- Context of the organisation.
- Leadership.
- Planning.
- Support.
- Operation.
- Performance evaluation.
- Improvement.

How to Get the ISO 9001 Accreditation

The sole accreditation body in the UK is the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS). Not all certification bodies have to achieve UKAS accreditation, and that's good - because it isn't easy. Just as your certification will prove to your clients that you are competent and capable, the ISO 9001 accreditation shows that you can be trusted and can conduct your audits effectively.

How do I get ISO 9001: 2015 certification?

To achieve ISO 9001, you'll need to document evidence that your Quality Management System (QMS) is not only in place but that it meets the standards needed for certification. By getting in contact with our expert team, we can supply the tools and recommendations that help you to do this correctly.

You will need to use the services and experience of an external auditor. They then get to know your policies and procedures, identify gaps that need filling and in turn help you achieve certification. They will provide you with a full report of their findings, making it easy to deliver on the points that need improvement to achieve certification.

The auditor will then return for a stage two assessment to ensure that everything is as it should be, and, if so, they will reward you with your ISO 9001 certification.

How to Get the ISO 9001 Accreditation

How long does it take to get ISO 9001 certification?

This depends on many factors, including the size of your organisation, how much you already have in place and how much resource is available to work on your management system. On average, business owners say that it takes around 4-6 months – but some as little as a month. Each business is unique so there is no saying how long it is going to take.

Make preparations in advance to speed up the certification process.

How hard is it to implement ISO 9001 certification?

This is entirely dependent on the size and complexity of your organisation. Your auditor will provide you with a clear representation of processes and documents which, ideally, you should already have in place. This hopefully means that the certification process isn't as complex as first thought.

Your ISO 9001 assessment will be conducted in two stages, but the more you prepare the quicker and easier the certification process will be. We recommend taking a look at the requirements of ISO 9001 and putting in place as much of the required documentation as you can.

We also recommend taking a look at our free online course so you're familiar with ISO 9001 before the process starts. But preparation isn't essential, because that is what your auditor is for – they will provide you with a full report of their recommendations, as well as tools and information you can use to prepare your documentation.

Revolutionise your Organisation!

There is a way forward.

Cyber security guaranteed

Since our conception back in 2005, we at Vostron have operated under a series of predetermined guiding principles; agility, people, and approachability. With those principles adopted wholeheartedly throughout everything that we do, along with our progressive approach in helping our clients to achieve their business goals in the most cost-effective and secure way possible, we are proud to say that we have earned the trust of our loyal customer base across the UK (from our home in Southampton). Please don't hesitate to get in contact to find out how we can help you!

We welcome the opportunity to provide you with a free, no obligation discovery call – in which we'll offer guidance in helping you answer the questions contained within this article, and map-out solutions to tackle those challenges, quickly, before they become an issue.

A row of colorful beach huts (red, orange, yellow, blue) on a grassy dune at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and blue. The huts are arranged in a line, receding into the distance.

**click here to book
your free
discovery call.**



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