



Oxebridge Q019

ISO 9001 & AS9100 Reciprocal Bridge Audits

Ver. 1.0

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If you are interested in offering Oxebridge Q001 certification, contact Oxebridge today by writing to accreditation@oxebridge.com.

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Revision History

Ver.	To be used for audits after:	Nature of Changes
1.0	09 Oct 2020	• Original release.

1.0 Purpose

This document defines the requirements for allowing a Q001 certification to be issued to a company that undergoes a traditional ISO 9001 or AS9100 audit by an accredited conformity assessment body, through reciprocal Q001 “Bridge Audits.”

2.0 References

Oxebridge Q001 – Quality Management System Requirements

Oxebridge Q002 – Quality Management System Certification Audit Minimum Evidence Requirements

Oxebridge Q003 – Quality Management System Certification Audit Requirements

Oxebridge Q005 – Quality Management System Certification Audit Terms and Definitions

Oxebridge Q006 – Quality Management System Certification Body Accreditation Requirements

Oxebridge Q007 – Quality Management System Certification Audit Minimum Audit Duration

Oxebridge Q008 – Quality Management System Certification Audit Report

Oxebridge Q009 – Post-Audit Verification Form

Oxebridge Q012 – Acceptable Use for Q001 Certification Marks and References

Oxebridge Q020 – Reciprocal Audit Report

3.0 Terms and Definitions Specific to this Document

Reference *Oxebridge Q005*.

4.0 Reciprocity Overview

Oxebridge built the Q001 standard to ensure simultaneous compliance with ISO 9001, and near-total compliance with AS9100. With this in mind, it is logical to also develop a “reciprocity bridge” which allows companies certified to ISO 9001/AS9100 to claim some level of Q001 certification.

Difficulties arise because of significant differences between the Q001 and ISO 9001/AS9100 certification schemes:

- Q001 is a graded certification, while ISO 9001/AS9100 are pass/fail
- Q001 has minimum audit evidence requirements, while ISO 9001/AS9100 do not
- Q001 has different audit duration expectations from those of traditional ISO 9001/AS9100 audits

This document intends to provide a path for accredited certification bodies (CBs) to issue Q001 certificates simultaneously with their ISO 9001/AS9100 certificates, provided the rules herein are met.

These reciprocal audits are called “Q001 Bridge Audits.”

5.0 Bridge Audit Requirements

5.1 Certification Body Requirements

Only ISO 9001/AS9100 certificates issued by a certification body accredited by an IAF MLA signatory member will be allowed. The accreditation must be current at the time of the Bridge Audit. The CB's accreditation body must also have its MLA signatory status with the IAF as a full member in effect as of the time of the Bridge Audit.

For AS9100 audits, the CB's accreditation must also comply with the rules under the IAQG AS9100 scheme, and both the CB and its accreditation body must be listed in IAQG OASIS at the time of the Bridge Audit.

The CB must agree to be listed in the Oxebridge Directory as an official Q001 certification body, and to receive its official Q-Number for recordkeeping purposes. The scope of the body's activities shall be limited to the issuance of Level 1 certifications, per 4.2 below, unless the CB otherwise pursues full Oxebridge accreditation.

No Q001 certificates will be issued by any CB not listed in the Oxebridge Directory with an active Q-Number.

Oxebridge can provide free training to any CB interested in offering Bridge Audits. The training will go over the requirements provided in this document, but in detail.

5.2 Level Limitations

A client organization who pursues simultaneous ISO 9001/AS9100 and Q001 certification may only receive a maximum Q001 level of "Q001 Quality System Certified Level 1." This is because the Q001 levels of 2 through 4 require more robust auditing than that provided for under the typical ISO 9001/AS9100 schemes.

For clients wishing to pursue a Q001 level of 2 through 4, these organizations must undergo a full Q001 audit per Q003, using a certification body that has been fully accredited by Oxebridge.

5.3 Conducting Bridge Audits

Assuming the rule in 4.2 to be true, the CB shall conduct its audit as follows:

The audit shall be conducted per the CBs normal rules per the specific scheme (ISO 9001 or AS9100.) This must be in compliance with the applicable rules of ISO 17021, the IAF mandatory documents, and other scheme requirements.

The Q001 review may be done as part of any audit, whether initial, surveillance or recertification.

In order to qualify the ISO 9001 or AS9100 audit to include Q001, the CB shall perform the following additional steps:

- A. The CB shall perform an Incident Investigation per the applicable rules in Q003 to identify any possible incidents affecting the organization. This shall be done per the Incident Investigation rules put forth in Q003 and the minimum audit duration requirements for the Incident Investigation stage as defined in Q007.
- B. The CB shall ensure the client has a corrective action in place, either completed or underway with a valid justification, for each identified incident.

- C. The CB shall perform a Statistical Data Review of the client organization's process quality objectives (possibly known only as "quality objectives" under ISO 9001/AS9100.) This shall be done per the SDR rules put forth in Q003 and the minimum audit duration requirements for the SDR stage as defined in Q007.
- D. The CB shall complete a form **Q020 Reciprocal Audit Report**, which provides a truncated version of the typical Q001 audit, in order to capture the required information related to the Incident Investigation and Statistical Data Review activities.
- E. Using the Q020 form as a prompt, the CB shall verify a selection of additional requirements not defined in ISO 9001 or AS9100, but which are required by Q001. This includes the presence of a Quality Culture definition document, statement of quality commitment by top management, and other required procedures.
- F. This shall also require the CB to review each corrective action filed by the client organization in response to each of the CBs audit findings, and approve the planned actions as per the rules of Q003 on "corrective action submission and CB review."
- G. The CB shall leave the client with the **Q009 Post Audit Verification Form**, and instruct them to complete it and return it to Oxebridge.

5.4 CB Reporting / Certificate Issuance

As per the Q001 scheme, CBs must have their audit results validated by Oxebridge prior to issuance of the certificate. In order to do this, the CB shall submit their completed Q020 form to Oxebridge for review. Oxebridge will conduct its review of the Q020 form and the client's Q009 submission, to determine if the certificate will be authenticated. This is done per the steps defined in Q003.

Oxebridge will make its final decision per Q003, and notify the CB. If the certificate is authenticated, the CB may then issue a Q001 Level 1 certificate to the client. If the certificate is not authenticated, the CB shall be notified that the client shall not receive Q001 certification, or if there are any mitigations the CB and/or client must take to clear the certificate.

If the certificate is authenticated, the client shall then be listed in the Oxebridge Directory as a Q001 Level 1 certified organization.

5.5 Bridge Audit Frequency

Q001 bridge audits must be performed every two years. The audit requirements for the subsequent audits are identical to those of the first Q001 bridge audit, as defined herein.

5.6 Reciprocity with Other Standards

As of this publication, only ISO 9001 and AS9100 may receive reciprocal bridge audits with Q001. Oxebridge will amend this document, or devise new ones, to allow for other quality system standards to receive bridge audits if it deems appropriate.