

Five Ways Nadcap Has Improved Aerospace

SINCE NADCAP was launched in July 1990, it has steadily grown to become the premier cooperative industry program for improving aerospace manufacturing processes around the world. To mark the occasion, the Performance Review Institute* has compiled data that highlights five ways that the program has benefited the industry participants.

1. Nadcap has created a collaborative environment where aerospace OEMs and Suppliers come together to develop consensus process control criteria and requirements.

The number of subscribing OEMs has increased from 1 when the program started in 1990 to 53 in 2015. The number of active accreditations now exceeds 6900 from suppliers located in 50 countries. The program has grown to include active participation from companies in North America, Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, and Australia.

2. Nadcap provides a range of tangible and intangible benefits to OEM subscribers as well as accredited suppliers. Eighty-six percent of over 2,800 respondents to the supplier survey recognize that Nadcap has improved quality in the aerospace industry. Additional identified benefits were improved process efficiency, reduced escapes to customers, reduced defect rate, improved first time yield, increased revenue, and improved customer satisfaction.

OEM subscribers to Nadcap benefit through access to eAuditNet, a global comprehensive database of all supplier audit performance information. In-depth process capability assessments, conducted by subject matter experts selected by industry, enable OEM subscribers to effectively and efficiently manage their supply chain.

3. The Nadcap Program captures multiple subscribers' requirements in a single audit. Nadcap reduces redundancy for all, through the industry working together to create harmonized audit criteria, based on industry and OEM subscriber requirements. Audit criteria are developed in 19 different technologies such as Heat Treating, Non-Destructive Testing, Composites and Surface Enhancement.

4. Nadcap audits improve consistency across industry and across the supply chain.

According to a survey conducted in 2015 by the Nadcap Management Council (NMC), 93% of Nadcap subscribers reported that Nadcap audits improve consistency across industry and across the supply chain.

5. Nadcap augments OEM subscriber resources in overseeing the special process supply chain. In the 2015 NMC survey, 92% of subscribers stated that Nadcap augments their company resources in terms of managing special process suppliers. Feedback included "The data from Nadcap oversight is used readily when determining how often to engage with accredited suppliers" and "Allows us minimize number of on-site visits." ●

Free Training for Nadcap Meeting Attendees

Nadcap meetings take place three times per year in locations around the world, optimizing opportunity for attendance by the global supply chain. Since 2010, the Performance Review Institute* has offered free training to attendees at Nadcap meetings.

In the past five years, 2,182 aerospace industry professionals have benefited from improving their knowledge via these complimentary training sessions, saving the industry almost \$600,000 in training costs. Topics include subjects as varied as Nadcap Audit Preparation, Root Cause Corrective Action and Introduction to Pyrometry, some of which have been taught in different languages.

Joe Pinto, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of PRI, explains "PRI's goal is to be a global provider of customer-focused solutions designed to improve process and product quality and promote collaboration among stakeholders in industries where safety and quality are shared goals. "Professional development opportunities such as free training at Nadcap meetings is a key part of meeting our organizational objective. I am committed to continuing to listen to our customers and providing training on relevant topics to support continual improvement and knowledge transfer in the aerospace industry." ●

* The Performance Review Institute (PRI) is the not-for-profit organization that administers Nadcap.