

# QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN THE SPD

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## Why You Need It and How to Get There

Lena Cordie, Qualitas Professional Services, LLC.

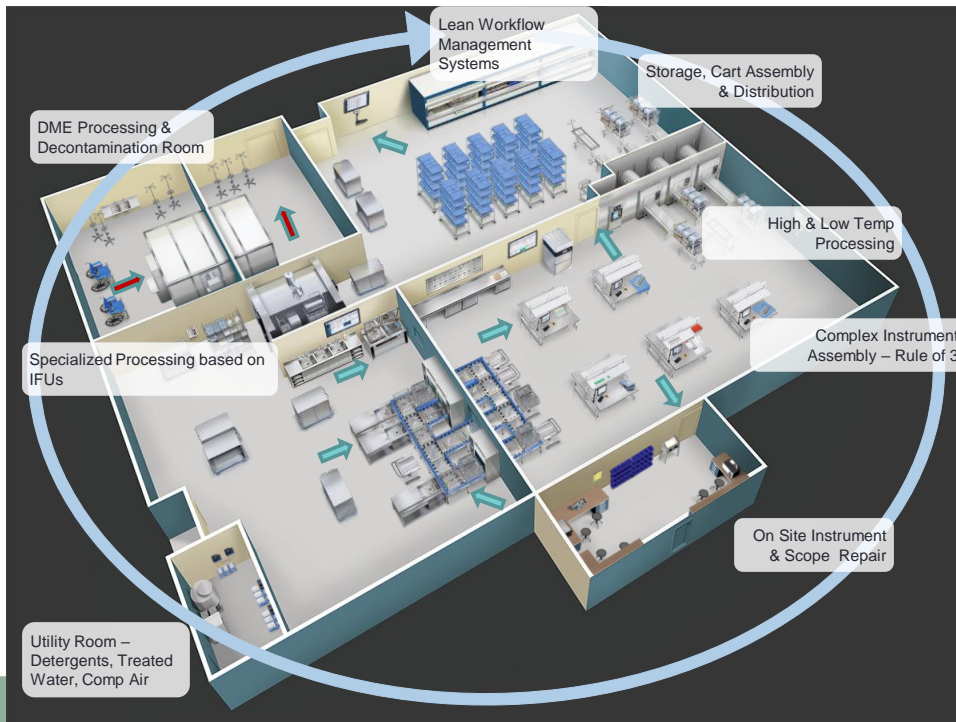
Richard Schule, STERIS Corporation



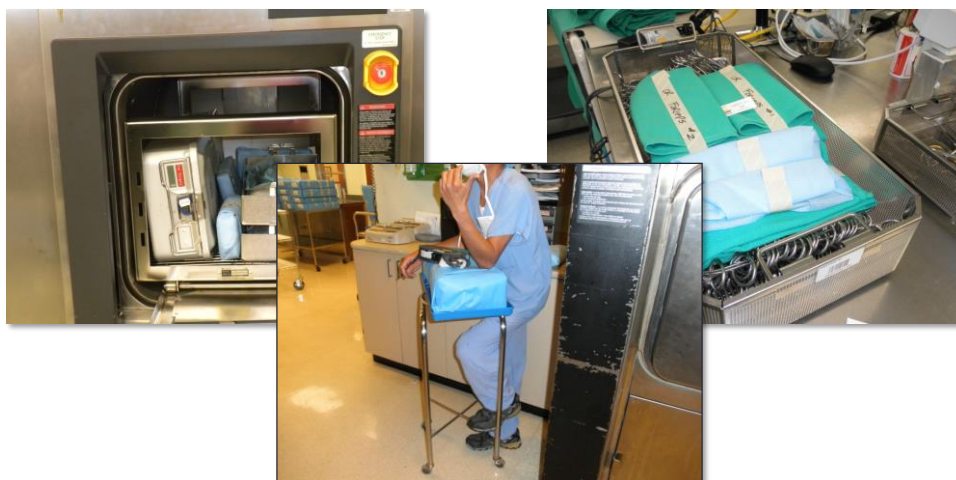
## Learning Objectives

- ❑ **Understand concept** of quality management systems (QMS):
  - What are they
  - Why are they important for sterile processing
  - What are the benefits of implementing a QMS
  - How can a QMS be implemented in SPD
- ❑ **Learn strategies** for shifting to a quality approach for sterile processing and how to manage that change in your SPD
- ❑ **Gain awareness** of the new ANSI/AAMI ST90 as an important resource to operationalize QMS in the SPD





## How Well Does Your Department Support Patient Safety?



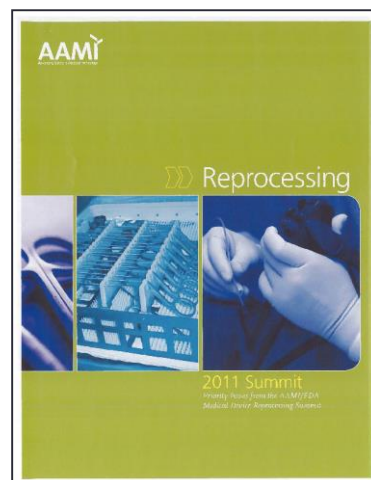
## The Story Behind ST90: From Concept to Draft to Standard



## The Spotlight on Reprocessing

“No one group can do this alone, and the answer is not as simple as “more standards” or more “regulations.”

*Mary Logan  
AAMI President  
2011 Summit Publication*



## AAMI/ST/WG86: Quality systems for device reprocessing

- ✓ **Support** quality management systems for reprocessing of reusable medical devices in hospitals and other health care facilities
- ✓ **Promote** quality processes and methods
- ✓ **Assist** health care personnel in the proper application of a QMS
- ✓ **Achieve** acceptable reproducible events



## ANSI/AAMI ST90

“This document is intended for **sterile processing personnel** and specifies a minimum requirement for a quality management system (QMS) in a health care organization to effectively, efficiently, and consistently process medical devices to prevent adverse patient events and non-manufacturer related device failures.

AAMI News, September 2017  
Page 22



# Committee Representation

AAMI defines 4 categories of representation:

- Users
- Regulators
- Industry
- General Interest

**Committee representation**


**Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation**  
**Quality Systems for Device Processing Working Group**

This standard was developed by the AAMI Quality Systems for Device Processing Working Group under the auspices of the AAMI Sterilization Standards Committee. Approval of the standard does not necessarily mean that all working group members voted for its approval.

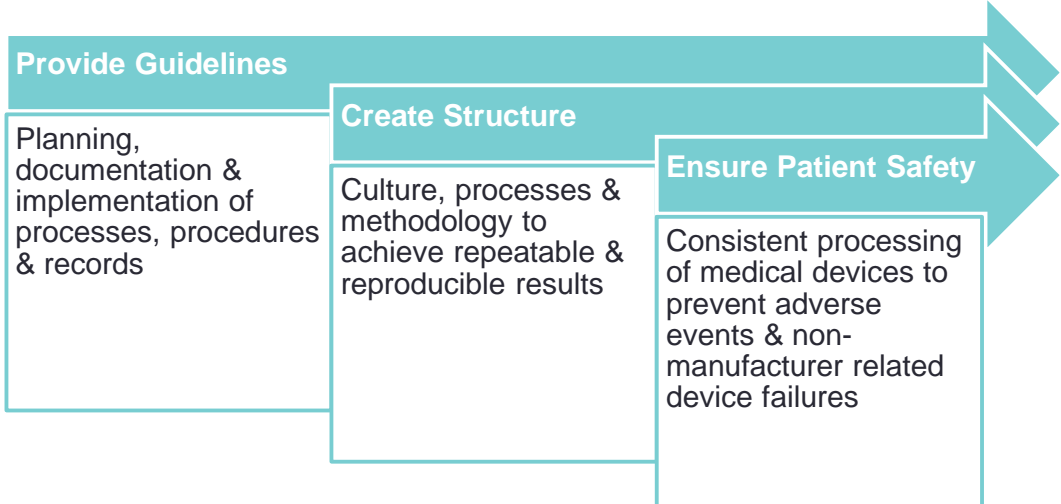
At the time this standard was published, the **AAMI Quality Systems for Device Processing Working Group** had the following members:

**Cochairs:** Damien Berg, CRCST  
 Richard William Schule, MBA, CST, FCS

**Members:** Damien Berg, CRCST, St. Anthony Hospital  
 Angela H. Brightwell, Medtronic Inc  
 Nancy Chobin, RN, CSPM, CFER, Sterile Processing University LLC  
 Sean Colwell, WuXi AppTec Inc  
 Linda Condon, Johns Hopkins Hospital  
 Corinne M. Connor (Independent Expert)  
 Lena Cordie, Qualitas Professional Services LLC  
 Michael D Onofrio, Presage Health  
 Mary Dadone, Noxizer Inc  
 Jacqueline Daley, Sharp Metropolitan Medical Campus  
 Gordon Ely, MMedx Group  
 Lisa Foster, Aduvo Q3 & SA Consulting  
 Sarah Friedberg, Stryker Instruments Division  
 Brent Geiger, MS RAC, Mediators Inc  
 Besky Gilford, Healthmark Industries Company Inc  
 William A. Grey-McLaren (Independent Expert)  
 Seth Hendee, The University of Vermont Medical Center Inc  
 Brent Huberty, Boston Scientific Corporation  
 Nupur Jain, Intuitive Surgical Inc  
 Jackie Daly Johnson, Flexible Packing Association  
 Ed R. Kinnelman, BME, JD, Kinnelman Consultancy  
 Susan G. Klack, CCSCM, FCS, ACE, International Association of Healthcare Central Service  
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 Kasey Koenig, Key Surgical Inc  
 Marguerite D. Kolb, CSPDM, MA, Carle Foundation Hospital  
 Marcy Konja, CRCST, CSPDT, CHL, CSPDM, SpecialtyCare  
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 Tania Lupu, Case Medical Inc  
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 Silas McAghon, 3M Healthcare  
 Emily Mitzel, MS, Nelson Laboratories LLC  
 Susan Pelton, Getinge USA  
 Cesar Perez, FDA/CDRH  
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 Cynthia Spry, MA, MS, RN, CNOR(E), CSPDT, Independent Clinical Consultant  
 Donna Swenson (Independent Expert)  
 Lynne A. Thomas, Integrated Medical Systems  
 Jania Torreblanca, University of Michigan Health System  
 Sharon Van Wicklin, MSN, RN, CNOR/CRNFA, Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
 Eric Varty, Stryker Instruments Division  
 Lisa Wakeman, Indiana University Health  
 John Whelan, University of Michigan Health System

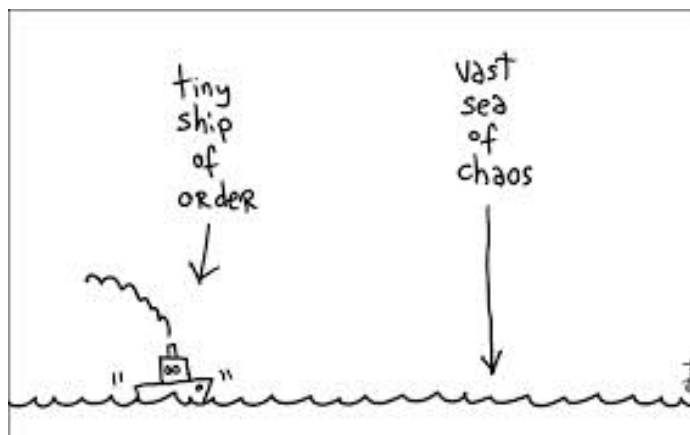


## What is the Intended Purpose of ST90?



## Quality Management Systems 101

### What is a Quality Management System?



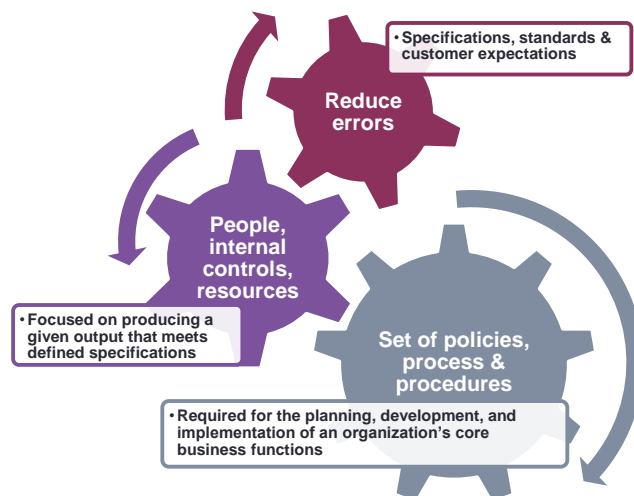
## What is a Quality Management System?

A set or network of **defined processes** that **interact** throughout an organization to **achieve uniformity** of a product [service] in order to satisfy specific customer or user [facility] requirements

AND

That **coordinate** through **controlled** and **defined activities**, the continual **efficiency** and **effectiveness** of an organization, towards a mutual, **measurable** end.

## What is a Quality Management System?



## Incorporates 7 Principles of Quality Management



## QMS Basics

- **Process Model**
- Plan-Do-Check-Act Cycle
- Overview of Sections in ST90



# The Process Model in Concept

An organization is a system of interlinked processes

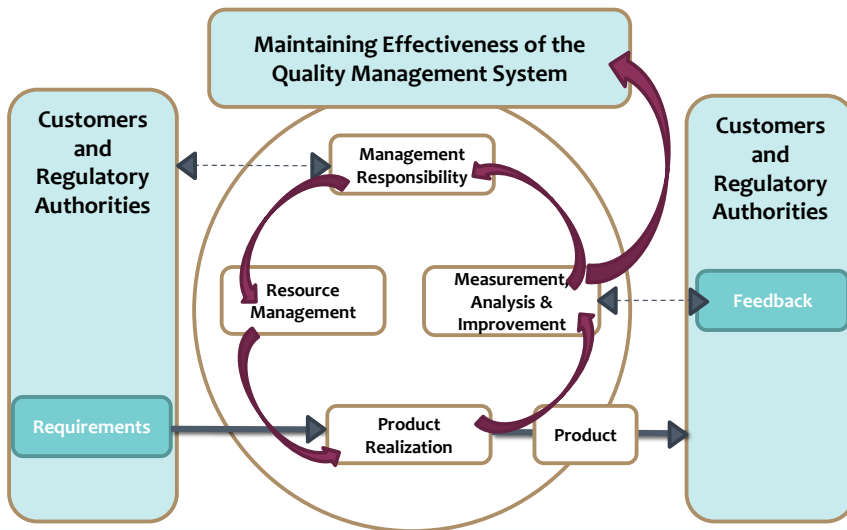
Key processes – those that lead to products and services – must be identified

ST90 is geared to managing and improving the processes

Methods to measure and control processes must be included



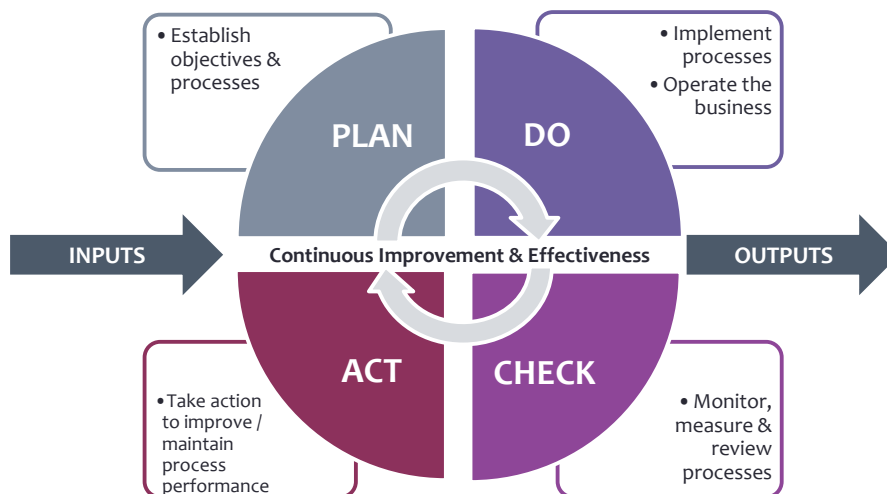
# The Process Model in Illustration



## QMS Basics

- Process Model
- **Plan-Do-Check-Act Cycle**
- Overview of Sections in ST90

## The “Plan Do Check Act” Cycle



## QMS Basics

- Process Model
- Plan-Do-Check-Act Cycle
- **Overview of Sections in ST90**

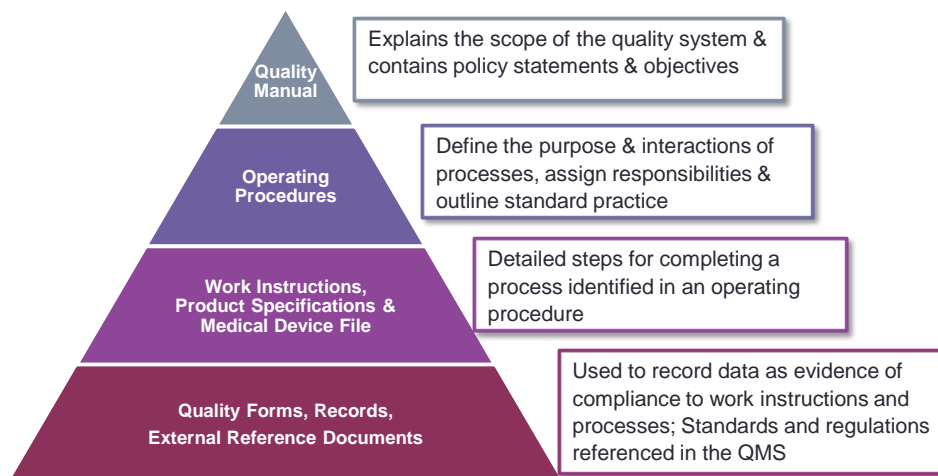
## ST90 Standard – by Section

Clause*	Description
<b>1 Scope</b>	Defines the 'boundaries' of the standard Identifies what is included & excluded from the standard
<b>2 Normative references</b>	Lists other documents that are indispensable to the application of the standard
<b>3 Definitions and abbreviations</b>	Lists terms, abbreviations and their meanings as used in the context of the standard

## ST90 Standard – Section 4

Clause	Description
4 Quality management system	<p>Defines the minimum requirements for establishing a QMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for the 'SHALL' statements</li> </ul> <p>Required documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality policy</li> <li>Quality objectives</li> <li>Quality manual</li> <li>Documented procedures               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>required of the standard (6)</li> <li>required of the health care organization</li> </ul> </li> <li>Records</li> </ul> <p>Includes requirements for control of documents &amp; records to prevent unauthorized use or revision</p>

## Documentation System



## ST90 Standard – Section 5

Clause	Description
<b>5 Management responsibility</b>	<p>Requires <b>top management</b> show evidence of a <b>commitment to the</b> development, implementation &amp; maintenance of a <b>QMS</b></p> <p>Top management needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create the department's quality policy &amp; objectives</li> <li>• Conduct management reviews of the QMS</li> <li>• Provide any necessary resources</li> <li>• Ensure that all changes to the QMS are planned</li> </ul>



CONFIDENCE  
starts at the  
TOP!

## Top Manager Confidence



- Drives a clear focus on department quality & productivity objectives
- Improves ability to accurately understand and consistently meet customer requirements
- Directs alignment of employees and processes to the same objectives

## Middle Manager Confidence

- Reduces variability & increases consistency through standardization
- Enhances communication between management, employees, and departments
- Encourages clarity of responsibility, authority, and accountability



## Frontline Staff Confidence



- Provides consistency to better perform daily activities
- Increases confidence that work meets quality standards & performance expectations
- Empowers employees to make process improvements when results are not meeting requirement

## ST90 Standard – Section 6

Clause	Description
<b>6 Resource management</b>	<p>Requires that adequate resources are determined and provided to implement and maintain a QMS and all of its processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human resources</li> <li>• Equipment</li> <li>• Competency, Education &amp; Training</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Work Environment</li> </ul> <p>Requires management to be aware of both the QMS and the processes it supports</p>

## ST90 Standard – Section 7

Clause	Description
<b>7 Product realization</b>	<p>Processes are required to design, test and produce safe &amp; effective products</p> <p>Allows for repeatability &amp; reproducibility</p> <p>Includes considerations for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning for new devices, equipment, and materials</li> <li>• Determining customer requirements</li> <li>• Developing surgical sets and other device processing techniques</li> <li>• Purchasing</li> <li>• Processing and servicing</li> <li>• Control of monitoring and measuring equipment</li> </ul>

## ST90 Standard – Section 8

Clause	Description
<b>8 Measurement, analysis, and improvement</b>	<p>Requires that outputs of the QMS be monitored &amp; reviewed to determine the effectiveness of the processes and identify opportunities for improvement</p> <p>On-going review of the QMS creates a living system</p> <p>Ensures that objectives are consistent with organization's philosophy &amp; expectations</p>





## Benefits of a QMS to SPD



## Why is a QMS Important to SPD?

It defines **how** a **Sterile Processing Department** *and* device processing areas can **work together** to **meet requirements** of the customers and other stakeholders affected by their work.



## How Do We Know that QMS Works?



**STANDARDS**  
are created to positively change  
**QUALITY**

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**QUALITY**  
results from efforts to achieve uniformity through  
**STANDARDS**



## The Precedent Has Been Set

### Standard

#### ISO 9001:2015

Quality management systems — Requirements

#### ISO 13485:2016

Medical devices – Quality management systems – Requirements for regulatory purposes

#### IATF 16949:2016

Automotive quality management

#### ISO/FDIS 19443

Specific requirements for the application of ISO 9001:2015 by organizations in the supply chain of the nuclear energy sector supplying products and services important to nuclear safety (ITNS)

## Benefits of a QMS to SPD



## 1 Patient Safety

### “QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN HEALTH CARE - CONTRIBUTING TO PATIENT SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY OF BUSINESS OPERATION”

*Nevenka Kovač, M.D., M.B.A., M.Sc. C.C.*

Special hospital for orthopaedics, neurology and physical medicine and rehabilitation St. Catherine in Zabok, Republic of Croatia

- Healthcare Services - required to establish, develop and maintain a system for assuring and improving quality in healthcare
- Ensures efficient, effective, high quality & accessible health care across the entire Croatian territory
- QMS are equally important to the provision of cross-border healthcare

## 2 Efficiency

### “IMPROVING EFFICIENCY AND VALUE IN HEALTH CARE: INTRODUCTION”

*Health Services Research (HSR), 2008 Oct*

- On average hospitals could increase outputs 26% by eliminating inefficiency
  - About 3% of inefficiency due to productivity loss associated with patient safety problems
  - Inefficiencies also due to unused resources (i.e. idle personnel)
- Two most frequent categories of operational failures: equipment/supplies and facility issues
  - Posed safety risks and diminished staff efficiency
- Prioritize quality improvements to increase safety & efficiency of hospitals



## 3 Culture of Quality

### “ROADMAP TO A CULTURE OF QUALITY IMPROVEMENT”

*National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)*

- Drives the policies, practices, and processes used to accomplish an organization's work
- All employees (senior leadership to staff) incorporate Quality Improvement into daily work
  - continuous consideration for how processes can be improved becomes second nature
- Requires leadership commitment, employee empowerment, patient focus, teamwork, collaboration, and continuous process improvement



## 4 Financial

- **Cost Reduction** – especially in the areas of rework, patient safety costs, and damaged/lost medical devices and equipment
- **Error Reduction** – reduces amount of time and resources spend reprocessing instruments, rescheduling of cases due to unavailability of equipment, costs associated with hospital acquired infections and rehospitalization
- **Morale** – improvement in employee morale, which in turn reduces employee turnover, and therefore reduces the cost of hiring and training new employees

## 5 Business Growth

- **Patient Safety = Patient Satisfaction** – increased patient satisfaction can lead to increased market share, as existing patients recommend the organization to other patients
- **Improved Relations with Suppliers** – integration of mutually beneficial success leads to increased supplier loyalty and supplier controls
- **Access to Foreign Markets** – organizations with QMS certification receive more recognition and have more competitive potential in foreign markets (i.e. medical tourism)

## The Risk-Based Approach



### **Risk-Based Approach**

Consistent application of the risk-based approach leads to a risk-based culture focused on constant, sustainable progress rather than spending time in a reactive, corrective state.



## Risk-Based Approach

- Integration of risk throughout all QMS, organizational, and departmental processes
- Direct correlation of application of risk-based approach to number of corrective and preventive actions needed
- Proactive and constant reduction of risk to prevent problems
- Scope of QMS activities is based on risk
- Controls required for QMS process are based on risk

## Quality vs Risk

<b>Quality</b> Achieve Objectives	<b>Risk</b> Failure to Achieve Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero defects</li> <li>• Customer satisfaction</li> <li>• Control of process variance</li> <li>• Reliability</li> <li>• Security</li> <li>• Fit for purpose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defects</li> <li>• Customer dissatisfaction</li> <li>• Uncontrolled process variance</li> <li>• Product unreliability</li> <li>• Security breach</li> <li>• Lack of fitness for purpose</li> </ul>

## How Quality Systems Reduce Risk

### Mitigates the Fear of Change

#### Status Quo

- Less effective
- Less competitive
- Less organized



#### Change

- More confident
- More stable
- More flexible

Why do we need to document processes?

How will we make changes?

What if I forget to follow a procedure?

Who can I ask for help?

How is this going to help me?



# Provides a Documented System for Process Improvement

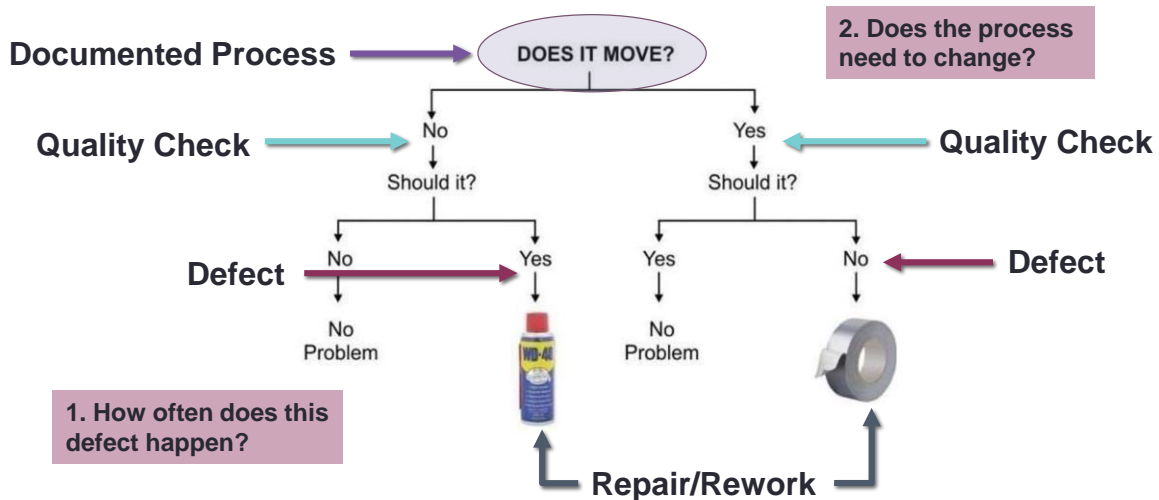
- Structured approach
- Effective deployment
- Improved control

Reduces risk through:

- CONSISTENCY:** Processes are optimized when best practices are documented
- REPEATABILITY:** Processes are not person-dependent; All employees can perform the work
- EFFICIENCY:** Activities are performed smoothly
- ACCOUNTABILITY:** Responsibilities are clearly assigned



## Measures Processes, Defects & Improvements



## Risk #1: Lack of continuous improvement process

Result of Risk	Benefit of QMS to Mitigate Risk
Processes will stagnate	QMS involves <u>discovering the deficiencies</u> that exist in a process & continuously looking for ways to improve
Defective products will reach customer/patient	Reduction in defects due to measurement of process, identification of issues, implementation of improvements
Increase costs from repair, rework and redundant production time	Decrease waste, improve efficiency, increase output

## Risk #2: Disengagement of Employees

Result of Risk	Benefit of QMS to Mitigate Risk
Decrease productivity	Employees are involved and engaged in processes from beginning to end
Increase in attrition	Increases morale by empowering employees to identify improvements and holding people at all levels accountable
Increased training & productivity costs	Involved and happy employees will leave less frequently, ensuring consistency of outputs and training

## Risk #3: Lack of Customer Satisfaction Program

Result of Risk	Benefit of QMS to Mitigate Risk
Customer needs are not known or understood	Customer focus is one of the quality principles incorporated in a QMS, and ensures that management aligns organizational objectives with customer needs and expectations
Customers (i.e. surgeons, nurses, patients) will go elsewhere for the services they need	Quality objectives are determined by top management, performance to the objectives is measured and reviewed, and improvements made to ensure objectives are met

## Risk #4: Lack of Document Control

Result of Risk	Benefit of QMS to Mitigate Risk
Hinders improvement	Controlled documents provide a formal starting point for process measurement and improvement
Inconsistency and unreliability of documentation leads to less confidence in processes & SPD	ST90 sets out requirements for the development, approval, control and periodic review of department procedures
Uncertainty about responsibility & accountability within SPD results in no standard methods or control	SPD operates according to proven best practices and guidelines from Joint Commission, AAMI, AORN & IAHCSMM

## Risk #5: Competitive disadvantage

Result of Risk	Benefit of QMS to Mitigate Risk
Not seen as “best in class”	An organization committed to continually improving the quality of the services provided will attract medical professionals with the same commitment and dedication

*“Quality management system focused organizations seek out other quality management system focused organizations”.*

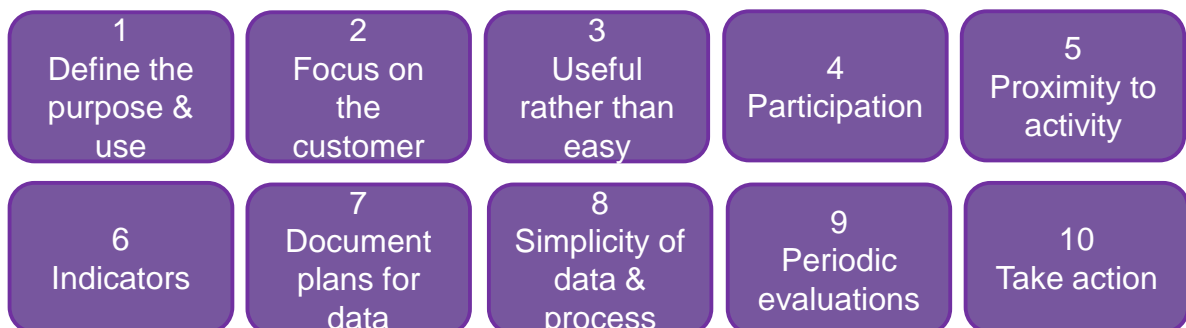
## Measuring Quality in SPD

## Principles of Effective Measurement

- Quality measurement is central to quality control and improvement
- Supplement measurements with resources & training to enable sterile processing technicians to achieve improvement

“What gets measured, gets done!”

## 10 Principles of Effective Measurement



# Planning for Measurement and Data Collection

- Collect vs Generate data
  
- Ask the right questions
  - What is the goal?
  - What process or product is being monitored?
  - What question are you attempting to answer?

## Types of Quality Measures

### Classes of quality measures

1. Defect (deficiencies, failures)
2. Costs of poor quality
3. Product and process features
4. Customer needs
5. Customer behavior

# of Occurrences

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Opportunity for Occurrence

## Measuring Quality - Decontamination

- ✓ Point-of-use care of devices during the procedure
- ✓ Preparation for transport to the device processing area
- ✓ Availability of device IFUs for cleaning requirements
- ✓ Education, training, & competency of staff performing the cleaning process and equipment operation
- ✓ Verification process of cleaning or equipment performance
- ✓ CAPAs related to decontamination process
- ✓ 5S the work area at the end of shift



## Measuring Quality - Inspection & Assembly

- ✓ Equipment assisted device inspection
- ✓ Device performance verification testing
- ✓ Supplier, Input, Processor, Output, Customer (SIPOC)
- ✓ Education, training, and competency of staff performing the inspection & assembly process, and equipment operation
- ✓ 5S the work area at the end of shift



## Measuring Quality - Packaging

- Education, training, and competency of staff performing the packaging process & equipment operation
- Packaging defects and/or failures
- 5S the work area at the end of shift



## Measuring Quality - Sterilization & HLD

- Education, training, and competency of staff performing the sterilization & HLD process and equipment operation
- Sterilization failures
- 5S the work area at the end of shift





## Measuring Quality - Storage & Distribution

- Education, training, and competency of staff performing the storage and distribution process and equipment operation
- 5S the work area at the end of shift

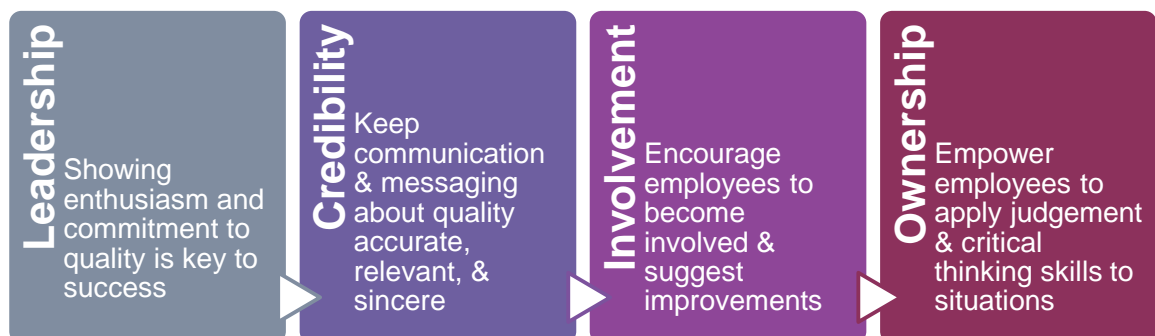
## Creating a Culture of Quality

## A Culture of Quality is Valuable

“A company with a highly developed culture of quality spends, on average, \$350 million less annually fixing mistakes than a company with a poorly developed one.”

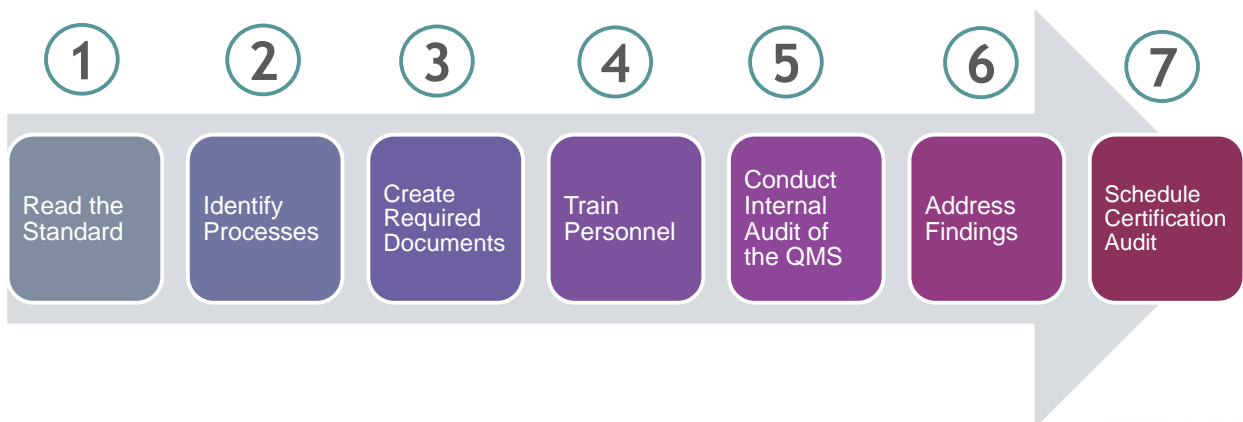
*Harvard Business Review*  
April 2014

## Four Essentials to a Culture of Quality





## Planning a QMS Implementation



## Implementing a Sustainable QMS in SPD

Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a vision and direction for the organization</li> <li>• Establish trust</li> <li>• Equip and empower employees</li> </ul>
Engage & Educate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable participation in continual improvement through open discussion of problems &amp; constraints</li> <li>• Evaluate individual performance &amp; enable learning and knowledge sharing</li> </ul>
Process Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify all SPD processes &amp; manage activities as processes</li> <li>• Measure the capability of activities</li> <li>• Determine sequence &amp; interaction of processes</li> </ul>
Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empower people to make improvements</li> <li>• Measure improvement consistently</li> <li>• Celebrate improvements</li> </ul>
Informed Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the accessibility of accurate and reliable data</li> <li>• Use appropriate methods to analyze data &amp; make decisions based on analysis</li> <li>• Balance data analysis with practical experience</li> </ul>
Customer Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align organizational objectives with customer needs and expectations</li> <li>• Meet customer requirements &amp; manage customer relationships</li> <li>• Measure customer satisfaction</li> </ul>

## Summary & Conclusion

- QMS provide organizations with numerous advantages over their competitors
- Well developed & maintained QMS positively contribute to achieving goals, improving patient safety & trust, and improving overall results & performance
- Quality has two key performance impacts on an organization:
  - ✓ costs
  - ✓ revenue

# Summary & Conclusion

## Internal advantages

- Gains an organization obtains within its processes
  - greater employee satisfaction
  - increased employee and process efficiency
  - reduced operating costs
  - increased revenue

## External advantages

- Gains in relation to other organizations
  - more competitive marketing position
  - status as a more desirable employer
  - visibility of the organization's emphasis on quality & patient safety

# American Society for Quality (ASQ)

[www.asq.org](http://www.asq.org)

Quality Improvement Associate (CQIA)

Manager of Quality Organizational  
Excellence (CMQ/OE)

Quality Auditor (CQA)

# What are You Doing To Improve?

## 10 Things Your Organization Can Do Now to Improve Reprocessing

This top 10 list emerged from the presentations, audience discussions, and follow-up input to AAMI. It is intended to be inspiring, and serve as a refresher on some of the basics. It does not take the place of standards, regulations, or internal policies, nor is it intended to suggest a standard of care. While some priority items from the summit will take time to address, we want everyone to know that there are at least 10 things that an organization can begin to do immediately, without waiting for other actions, such as long-term standards and research.

- 1 The basics:**  
Cleaning and disinfection/sterilization of reusable devices are separate, equally important processes and must be performed before each patient use according to the device manufacturers' written instructions for use (IFU). For more information go to [www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Safety/AlertsandNotices/ucm190273.htm](http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Safety/AlertsandNotices/ucm190273.htm).
- 2 The right tools:**  
Have the IFU as well as all cleaning implements and equipment required by the IFU readily available in all the reprocessing areas.
- 3 Create a multidisciplinary committee:**  
To review the priority issues and set a plan for solving them throughout the organization. The following areas should be represented: OR, infection prevention and control, healthcare technology management (biomed), endoscopy, risk management, quality, safety, education, and materials management.
- 4 Share lessons learned:**  
Remind senior management and safety officers that it costs a lot less to "do it right the first time." Share lessons learned from other healthcare organizations that have had to inform patients of exposure to inadequately reprocessed reusable devices.
- 5 Written procedures:**  
Establish a formal program for reprocessing, including written standardized policies and procedures that include a chain of accountability. Expert guidance can be obtained from industry experts in order to resolve conflicts between the IFU and facility policies. Written procedures should also be developed and implemented for central sterile processing reporting of inadequate instructions, equipment problems, and in-service issues to the manufacturer and, when applicable, to the FDA's MedWatch program.

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- 6 Standards matter:**  
Know the current standards, recommended practices, and IFU.
- 7 Purchasing:**  
Central sterile processing should be included in purchasing decisions for medical devices, to provide input on whether the device can be reprocessed appropriately and with the facility's existing resources.
- 8 Separate and standardize functions and locations:**  
Separate central service (warehouse, stocking, etc.) from reprocessing; create standardized job descriptions and functions.
- 9 Training:**  
Train, train, and retrain. Ideas include: assess staff competencies; negotiate for training budget with cost/benefit analysis to prove value; partner with vendors for education; create a list of available continuing education units (CEUs) for easy access by staff; work with human resources to create career ladders for certification and promotion; promote the importance of certification. Note: In-service for loaner or new instruments should include reprocessing in-service areas that are separate from (or in) central sterile processing.
- 10 Assessment:**  
Conduct an audit of compliance with standards and regulations, using any number of available tools and resources. See References and go to: [www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/ReprocessingofReusableMedicalDevices/ucm252941.htm](http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/ReprocessingofReusableMedicalDevices/ucm252941.htm).

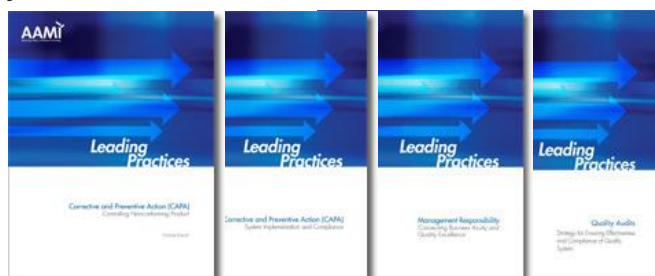
## AAMI Publications

### Corrective and Preventive Action (CAPA)

- Implementation
- Controlling non-conforming products

### Management Responsibility

### Quality Audits



## References

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# Questions

