



TL 9000 Informational Alert

1. Originating Workgroup: Workgroup: Integrated Global Quality (IGQ) Contact: contact@questforum.org	2. Alert Number: 13-002A
3. Documentation Affected: TL 9000 Quality Management System Requirements Handbook	4. Issue Date: 01 July, 2013
5. Reason for Alert: Clarify the rules for the implementation of the R5.5 Release of the TL 9000 Requirements Handbook	
6. Description: The newly released R5.5 Requirements Handbook has a publication date of December 31, 2013 to ensure adequate time for organizations to complete delta training and seamlessly upgrade to the new release. Section 1.7 of the Handbook states: “When a new release of this handbook is published, all changes become effective on the date of publication shown below. Organizations seeking to achieve or maintain certification may continue to use the previous release of the handbook for 12 months after the date of publication of the new release. At that point, the old release becomes obsolete and may no longer be used for any certification or surveillance activities.” Release 5.5 effective December 31, 2013 Release 5.0 obsolete December 31, 2014 This means organizations may continue to use and be audited to the R5.0 Requirements Handbook for audits completed prior to January 1, 2015. All audits completed after that date must be performed to the R5.5 Requirements. There is no requirement stating the organization must be compliant with or upgrade to R5.5 Requirements prior to January 1, 2015, although they may choose to do so to more quickly gain the benefits of the new version. Whenever the organization chooses to upgrade to R5.5, then at a minimum, all requirements changes between R5.0 and R5.5 which impact the organization’s QMS must be assessed during the next audit of the organization (surveillance, certification or recertification) in order for the organization to become certified to the R5.5 version.	



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In order to conduct an audit to the R5.5 Requirements Handbook, the Certification Body auditor must have completed the TL 9000 Release R5.0 to R5.5 Requirements Delta training class available through the TL 9000 web-site at

http://www.tl9000.org/training/delta_training.html.

This class will be available on 1 July, 2013.

In addition, Site licenses and printed copies of R5.5 will also be available to be purchased from the web-site at http://www.tl9000.org/handbooks/buy_handbooks.html on 1 July, 2013.

7. Comments:

The new Handbook will be translated into Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish.