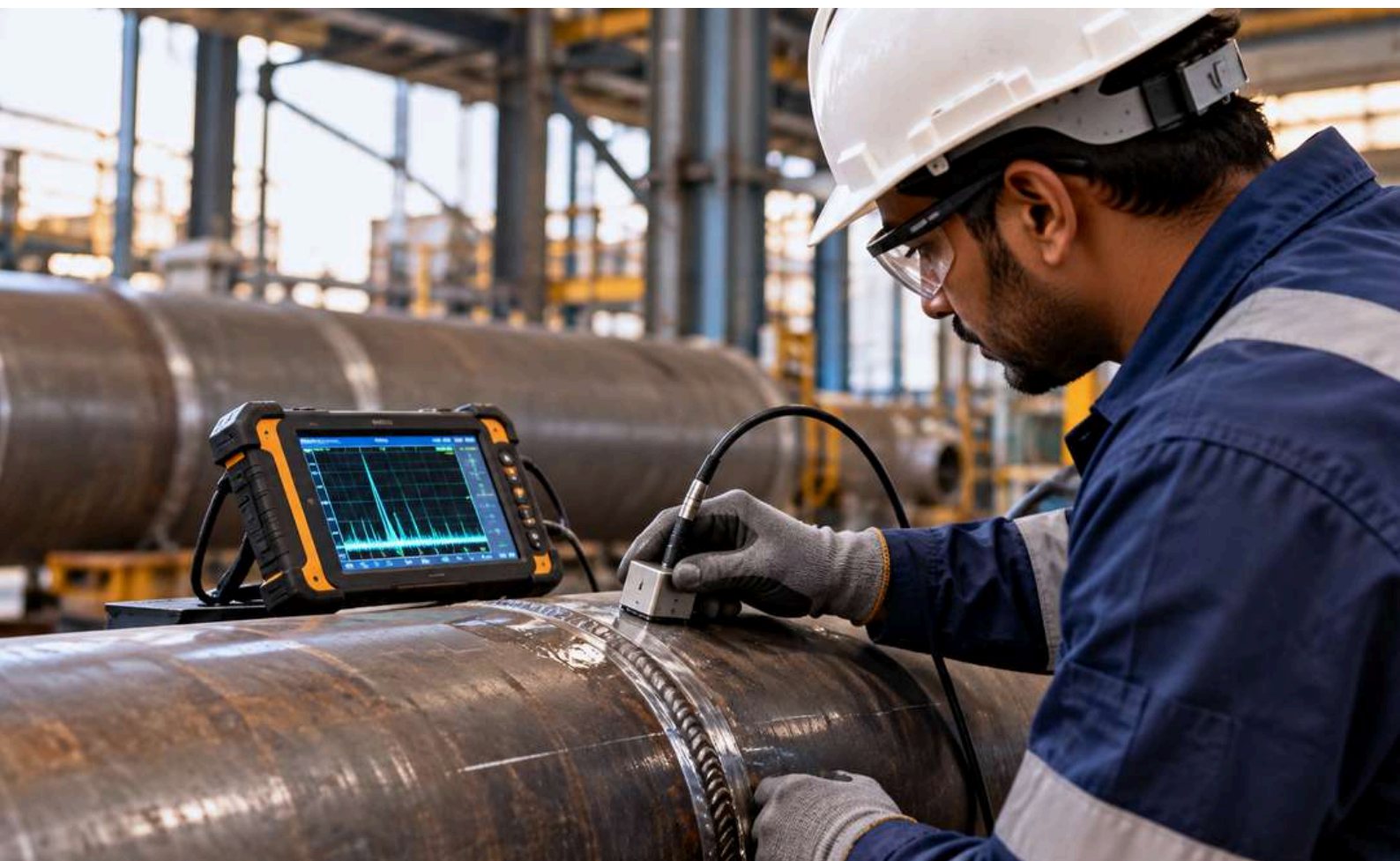


ISO 9001:2026 Quality Management Systems

ISO 9001:2026 Certification *Requirements, Certification Process, QMS & 2026 Transition*

**Practical Overview of Quality Management Systems, Key
Requirements, Certification Process, Audit Readiness & Certification**



First Welding Certification Pvt Ltd (PRVÁ ZVÁRAČSKÁ, a.s.)
ISO 9001 Quality Management System Certification
Notified Body No. 2408
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ISO 9001:2026 Certification

Quality Management Systems – Requirements, Certification Process & 2026 Transition

A practical overview for organizations seeking internationally recognized ISO 9001 certification.

Applicable to

- Manufacturing
- Engineering
- Welding & fabrication
- Construction
- Railway
- Automotive
- Pressure equipment
- Logistics
- Healthcare
- Education
- Information technology
- Professional services
- Other industrial and service organizations

Certification by

First Welding Certification Pvt Ltd

International Quality Management System Certification

[Request ISO 9001 Certification](#)

ISO 9001:2026

What Is ISO 9001 Certification?

ISO 9001 is an internationally recognized standard for Quality Management Systems (QMS).

It specifies requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and continually improving a quality management system so that an organization can consistently meet customer and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

ISO states that the 2026 edition is the current edition, published in September 2026. It replaces ISO 9001:2015.

ISO 9001 is applicable to organizations of different sizes and sectors. The requirements can be adapted to the organization's processes, products, services, risks and operational context.

ISO 9001 focuses on:

- Customer requirements
- Process control
- Leadership
- Quality objectives
- Risk and opportunity management
- Competence
- Documented information
- Operational controls
- Monitoring and measurement
- Internal auditing
- Management review
- Corrective action
- Continual improvement

What does certification demonstrate?

ISO 9001 certification demonstrates that an organization's QMS has been independently assessed against the applicable requirements of ISO 9001.

Internal link:

Why Do Organizations Choose ISO 9001 Certification?

Organizations operate through interconnected processes.

- Sales receives customer requirements.
- Engineering converts requirements into specifications.
- Purchasing selects suppliers.
- Production manufactures the product.
- Inspection verifies conformity.
- Management evaluates performance.

ISO 9001 provides a structured framework for managing these processes as a connected quality management system.

Key business outcomes

1. Process consistency

Controlled processes can reduce variation and improve repeatability.

2. Customer confidence

A certified QMS provides objective evidence that the organization operates within a structured quality management framework.

3. Risk-based management

Organizations identify relevant risks and opportunities and determine appropriate actions.

4. Performance monitoring

Organizations establish methods for monitoring and evaluating process performance.

5. Corrective action

Nonconformities can be analyzed and addressed systematically.

6. Continual improvement

The QMS provides a framework for evaluating performance and improving processes.

ISO 9001 is not only about documentation.

A documented system without effective implementation does not demonstrate an effective QMS.

The focus is on how the organization operates, controls processes, evaluates results and improves performance.

Is ISO 9001 Applicable to Your Organization?

ISO 9001 is designed to be applicable across sectors and organization sizes.

Manufacturing

- Steel manufacturing
- Engineering products
- Machinery
- Automotive components
- Industrial equipment
- Electrical products
- Fabrication
- Welding and manufacturing

Engineering & Construction

- Engineering organizations
- Structural fabrication
- Construction companies
- Infrastructure organizations
- Project-based businesses

Service Organizations

- IT companies
- Logistics
- Consulting organizations
- Education
- Healthcare
- Professional services

Other sectors

ISO 9001 can be applied wherever an organization has processes that need to be controlled, monitored and improved.

When can certification become particularly relevant?

Certification may be considered when:

- Customers request ISO 9001 certification.
- Tender requirements specify a certified QMS.
- International customers require quality-system evidence.
- The organization wants a structured QMS.
- Multiple departments need common process controls.
- The organization wants systematic internal auditing and management review.

Important: ISO 9001 certification is generally voluntary. Contractual, customer, industry or regulatory conditions may create a requirement in particular situations.

Understanding the ISO 9001 Requirements

The ISO 9001 framework establishes requirements covering the organization's context, leadership, planning, operational control, performance evaluation and improvement.

The process approach

ISO 9001 encourages organizations to understand their processes as an interconnected system.

Customer requirements → Planning → Resources → Operations → Monitoring → Product/Service → Customer feedback → Improvement

This approach allows organizations to identify where quality can be controlled and where process performance needs to be evaluated.

Core QMS areas

ISO 9001:2026 — Context of the Organization

Area	What the organization considers
Context	Internal and external issues
Interested parties	Relevant needs and expectations
Leadership	Commitment and responsibilities
Planning	Risks, opportunities and objectives
Resources	People, infrastructure and competence
Operations	Controlled processes
Performance evaluation	Monitoring, measurement and audits
Improvement	Corrective action & continual improvement

QUALITY MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

The Foundation of an Effective QMS

ISO 9001 is based on quality management principles that provide the foundation for effective quality management.

1. Customer focus

Understand customer requirements and work toward consistently meeting them.

2. Leadership

Top management establishes direction and demonstrates commitment to the QMS.

3. Engagement of people

Competent and involved people contribute to effective process performance.

4. Process approach

Activities are managed as interconnected processes rather than isolated tasks.

5. Improvement

Organizations continually evaluate opportunities to improve performance.

6. Evidence-based decision making

Relevant data and information are used when making decisions.

7. Relationship management

Organizations manage relevant relationships, including suppliers and other interested parties.

A strong QMS connects all seven.

Quality is not limited to final inspection.

It begins with customer requirements and continues through planning, purchasing, production, delivery, monitoring and improvement.

KEY ISO 9001 REQUIREMENTS

What Does ISO 9001 Require?

A QMS should address the organization's relevant processes and requirements.

- Context of the organization

The organization determines relevant internal and external issues and identifies relevant interested parties.

- Leadership

Top management establishes the quality policy, responsibilities and organizational direction.

- Planning

Quality objectives are established and relevant risks and opportunities are considered.

- Support

The organization determines resources, competence, awareness, communication and appropriate documented information.

- Operation

Operational processes are planned and controlled to achieve intended results.

- Performance evaluation

Organizations monitor, measure, analyze and evaluate QMS performance.

- Improvement

Nonconformities are addressed and opportunities for continual improvement are evaluated.

- Documented information

Required documented information is established and controlled according to the organization's QMS needs

ISO 9001 DOCUMENTED INFORMATION

What Documents and Records May Be Required?

ISO 9001 uses the broader concept of documented information.

The exact documentation required depends on the organization's:

- Size
- Processes
- Products
- Services
- Risks
- Operational complexity
- Regulatory environment

Typical documented information may include:

- Quality policy
- Quality objectives
- Process information
- Procedures
- Work instructions
- Inspection records
- Testing records
- Training and competence records
- Supplier evaluation records
- Internal audit records
- Corrective action records
- Equipment and measurement records
- Management review records

Important principle

More documents do not automatically mean a better QMS.

The objective is to maintain the information necessary to control processes and demonstrate conformity.

[Learn more : How Does Documented Information Support ISO 9001 Certification for Manufacturing Companies?](#)

What Changed in 2026?

ISO 9001:2026 is the latest edition of the standard.

ISO published the new edition in September 2026, replacing ISO 9001:2015.

The 2026 edition retains the established QMS framework while introducing targeted updates intended to improve clarity and relevance.

Areas receiving greater emphasis include:

- Quality culture
- Leadership
- Strategic alignment
- Risks and opportunities
- Organizational awareness
- Integration with other management-system standards
- Clearer interpretation of requirements

For organizations currently certified to ISO 9001:2015

The transition should be planned carefully.

Organizations should:

- Identify the applicable changes.
- Review the existing QMS.
- Identify gaps.
- Update relevant processes and documented information.
- Communicate applicable changes.
- Evaluate implementation.

Coordinate transition arrangements with the certification body.

Important

Transition dates and audit arrangements should be confirmed with the relevant certification body and applicable accreditation requirements.

[ISO 9001:2015 vs ISO 9001:2026: Key Changes, Transition and Certification Requirements Read the 2026 transition article](#)

ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION PROCESS

How Does ISO 9001 Certification Work?

A typical certification process involves several stages.

STEP 1 – Initial inquiry

The organization provides relevant information about its activities, locations, processes and proposed certification scope.

STEP 2 – Commercial offer

The certification body reviews the submitted information and determines the applicable certification arrangements.

STEP 3 – Order confirmation

The certification process proceeds following acceptance of the applicable commercial terms and order requirements.

STEP 4 – Registration

Relevant certification information is formally registered and audit arrangements are established.

STEP 5 – Stage 1 audit

The organization's QMS documentation and readiness are evaluated against applicable requirements.

STEP 6 – Final certification audit

The implementation and effectiveness of the QMS are assessed.

STEP 7 – Certification decision

Audit findings and applicable certification records are reviewed before the certification decision.

STEP 8 – Certificate release

When conformity is demonstrated and certification requirements are fulfilled, the ISO 9001 certificate is issued according to the applicable certification arrangements.

A Structured Path to ISO 9001 Certification

ISO 9001 certification follows a structured process designed to evaluate an organization's Quality Management System (QMS) against the applicable requirements of the standard. From the initial inquiry and review of the organization's scope to the certification audit and final certification decision, each stage establishes the necessary foundation for an effective and independently assessed QMS.

ISO 9001 Certification Process



AUDIT READINESS

What Should an Organization Review Before the Certification Audit?

Before an external certification audit, organizations should evaluate whether their QMS is effectively implemented.

Audit-readiness checklist

- ☐ QMS scope is defined
- ☐ Relevant processes are identified
- ☐ Quality objectives are established
- ☐ Responsibilities are defined
- ☐ Applicable customer requirements are identified
- ☐ Operational controls are implemented
- ☐ Competence requirements are addressed
- ☐ Relevant documented information is controlled
- ☐ Supplier controls are established
- ☐ Monitoring and measurement activities are defined
- ☐ Internal audits have been conducted
- ☐ Management review has been completed
- ☐ Nonconformities have been addressed
- ☐ Corrective actions have been evaluated
- ☐ Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements are considered

Remember

Certification audit readiness is not only about preparing files.

Auditors may evaluate whether the QMS is implemented and effective in practice.

ISO 9001 FOR MANUFACTURING & WELDING COMPANIES

ISO 9001 in Manufacturing

For manufacturing organizations, quality management extends across the complete production chain.



For welding manufacturers

ISO 9001 establishes a general quality management framework. However, welding-specific quality requirements may require additional standards depending on the product, industry and applicable requirements.

For example:

ISO 3834 — quality requirements for fusion welding of metallic materials

EN 15085 — railway vehicle and component welding

EN 1090 — execution of steel and aluminium structures

ISO 9606 — qualification testing of welders

WPS / WPQR — welding procedure controls and qualification

ISO 9001 + welding-specific standards

These standards address different aspects of quality and technical conformity.

[**ISO 3834 vs ISO 9001: Why Welding Manufacturers Need More Than a General Quality Certificate Read the PZVAR comparison article**](#)

ISO 9001 and ISO 3834: What Is the Difference?

These standards should not be treated as interchangeable

ISO 9001	ISO 3834
Quality Management System	Welding quality requirements
Organization-wide framework	Focuses on fusion welding
Customer and process management	Welding-specific controls
Risk and opportunity management	Welding-related quality requirements
Internal audit and management review	Welding coordination and technical controls
Applicable across sectors	Specifically relevant to welding activities

Why does the distinction matter?

A welding manufacturer may need an organization-wide QMS while also requiring specific controls for welding activities.

ISO 9001 provides the broader QMS framework.

ISO 3834 addresses welding quality requirements.

Depending on the organization's activities, customer requirements and applicable standards, both may be relevant.

ISO 9001 Certification FAQs

1. What is ISO 9001 certification?

ISO 9001 certification demonstrates that an organization's Quality Management System has been independently assessed against applicable ISO 9001 requirements.

2. What is ISO 9001:2026?

ISO 9001:2026 is the sixth edition of the ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems standard and the current edition published by ISO in September 2026.

3. Is ISO 9001 certification mandatory?

ISO 9001 certification is generally voluntary. However, customers, contracts, tenders, industry requirements or other applicable conditions may require certification.

4. Who can obtain ISO 9001 certification?

Organizations across manufacturing, engineering, construction, services, healthcare, education, logistics, IT and other sectors can implement ISO 9001.

5. Is internal auditing required?

Internal auditing is an important part of evaluating whether the QMS is effectively implemented and maintained.

6. What is a management review?

Management review is the systematic evaluation of the QMS by top management, considering relevant performance information, audit results, customer feedback, objectives, nonconformities, risks and improvement opportunities.

Start Your ISO 9001 Certification Journey

A structured Quality Management System can provide an organization with a framework for consistent processes, customer-focused quality management, performance evaluation and continual improvement.

ISO 9001 Certification

First Welding Certification Pvt Ltd

Independent certification for Quality Management Systems based on ISO 9001 requirements.

Why choose First Welding Certification Pvt Ltd?

- International certification focus
- Independent assessment
- Technical certification expertise
- Certification across industrial sectors
- Quality management system assessment
- Internationally oriented certification approach

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