



22 February, 2017

To: All External Production and Service Suppliers to Ford Motor Company

**RE: Transition of Automotive Quality Management System Certification to New International Standard**

This letter is intended to inform all Ford Motor Company Production and Service suppliers of the need to prepare for certification to a new automotive Quality Management System standard.

The current requirement is to be certified to ISO/TS 16949:2009 by a Certification Body (registrar) under contract to the IATF (International Automotive Task Force). A cross-functional automotive industry team has prepared an autonomous automotive quality management system (QMS) standard as a replacement for ISO/TS 16949:2009. This new standard – IATF 16949:2016 – was released in October, 2016. All suppliers certified to ISO/TS 16949:2009 must transition to IATF 16949 by September 14, 2018.

Why is this necessary? Revision of ISO/TS 16949 was needed to retain alignment with ISO 9001. The third edition of ISO/TS 16949 contains ISO 9001:2008 in its entirety. However, ISO 9001 has been completely revised and reissued as ISO 9001:2015. ISO 9001:2008 will be withdrawn on September 14, 2018.

IATF 16949:2016 is fully aligned with the ISO 9001:2015 structure and requirements. This alignment permits incorporation of risk-based thinking and all other ISO 9001:2015 enhancements. Suppliers who certify to IATF 16949:2016 may also certify to ISO 9001:2015 through the IATF 16949 certification scheme.

Supporting the release of this new automotive International Standard, requirements for certification to IATF 16949 and the associated customer-specific requirements of Ford Motor Company and all other IATF-subscribing OEMs will be revised to align with the new automotive International Standard. Ford Motor Company documentation supporting IATF 16949:2016 will be published in February 2017.

Please work with your IATF-recognized Certification Body to develop and execute a plan to transition to the new QMS standard by September 14, 2018. Information on the release of IATF 16949:2016 and guidance on the transition from ISO/TS 16949 to IATF 16949:2016 including training sources may be obtained from the IATF web site (<http://www.iatfglobaloversight.org>).

If you have additional questions on Ford Motor Company certification requirements, please contact:

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