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Quality Management
System Manual
for ISO 13485:2016

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0.1 General

Product Resources is a product design, engineering and manufacturing company with expertise in designing and building complex scientific and industrial equipment.

Product Resources

4 Mulliken Way

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This Quality Manual specifies requirements that Product Resources uses to address customer satisfaction, to meet customer and applicable regulatory and statutory requirements and to meet ISO 13485:2016 requirements and is supported by additional procedures where necessary. The quality management principles stated in ISO 9000, and ISO 9004, have been taken into consideration during the development of this Quality Policy Manual.

This Quality Manual specifies the general requirements for Product Resources' competence towards a management system for quality, administrative and technical operations

Recognizing the importance of quality, Product Resources has earned and maintained the following quality certifications:

ISO 9001-approved for engineering design, development, manufacturing, and service

0.2 Process Approach

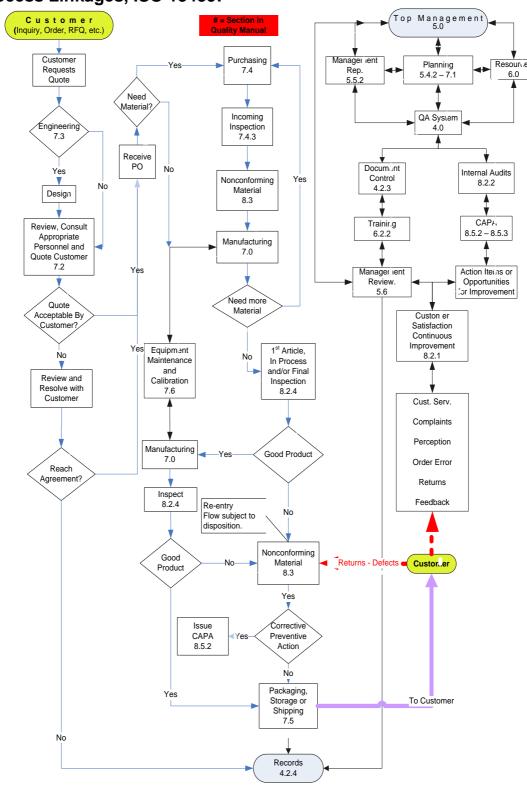
This Manual has adopted the process approach to quality management. Figure 1, is a conceptual illustration of the process approach of the system aimed towards Consistent Compliance to the Standard and illustrates the process linkages presented in clauses 4 to 8 of ISO 13485.

For Product Resources' processes, their flow, and their linkages, please refer to 91-9003, Processes and Flow of Processes. **[91-9003]**

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Figure 1: Process Linkages, ISO 13485:





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1.1 General

Product Resources, hereinafter referred to as "organization", developed and implemented the Quality Management System (QMS) described in this manual to help our organization operate with increased effectiveness, consistency and to;

 demonstrate our ability to provide medical devices and related services that consistently meet customer requirements and regulatory requirements applicable to medical devices and related services to regulatory requirements per ISO 13485

Scope of Organization's Quality Management System is:

Manufacture and Service of Custom Instrumentation, Robotics, Controls, and Integrated Systems Using Embedded Systems, Electronic, Precision Mechanical, Optical, Pneumatic, and Fluid Technologies for application in the Medical Device Industry.

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1.2 Application

The organization has developed and implemented the Quality Management System (QMS) described in this manual to help our organization operate with increased effectiveness, consistency and customer satisfaction. Our QMS utilizes the process approach and quality management principles contained in the international standard ISO 13485 to create a customer focus while consistently meeting customer and regulatory requirements.

Our QMS encompasses all operations at our facilities. The following table identifies requirement(s) not applicable to our organization and provides a brief narrative justifying their exclusion from the scope of our QMS:

| Clause or Sub-clause | Non-Applicable Activities | Justification |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| 6.4.2 | Contamination control | does not manufacture any sterile medical devices |
| 7.5.2 | Cleanliness of product | does not have any requirements for sterilization |
| 7.5.3 | Installation activities | does not perform any installation activities |
| 7.5.5 | Particular requirements for sterile medical devices | does not manufacture and sterile medical devices |
| 7.5.7 | Particular requirements for validation of processes for sterilization and sterile barrier systems | does not manufacture sterile medical devices |
| 7.5.9.2 | Particular requirements for implantable medical devices | does not manufacture implantable devices |
| 8.2.3 | Reporting to regulatory authorities | does not have any direct reporting responsibilities |
| Clause or Sub-clause | Excluded Activities | Justification |
| 7.3 | Design and development | builds product to customer's specification |

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 13485:2016, Quality management systems — Requirements for regulatory purposes

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this manual, the terms and definitions given in ISO 13485 apply, together with the following terms, used to describe the supply chain:

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| SUPPLIER | ORGANIZATION | CUSTOMER |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Our Subcontractors | Product Resources | Our Customers |

Throughout the text of this Quality Manual, wherever the term "product" occurs, it can also mean "service".

Wherever requirements are specified as applying to "medical devices", the requirements apply equally to related services as supplied by the organization.

Definitions provided in national regulations can differ slightly and take precedence.

Document Note: For the following document sections and elements of the standard, Product Resources' related Tier 2 procedures / how Product Resources has implemented the requirements, will be given in [brackets] in bold. More detailed references to sections of the Tier 2 procedures may follow in (parentheses).

4 Quality management system

4.1 General requirements

4.1.1 The organization shall document a quality management system and maintain its effectiveness in accordance with the requirements of this International Standard and applicable regulatory requirements.

The organization shall establish, implement and maintain any requirement, procedure, activity or arrangement required to be documented by this International Standard or applicable regulatory requirements.

The organization shall document the role(s) undertaken by the organization under the applicable regulatory requirements.

4.1.2 The organization shall: [91-9001, 91-9003]

- a) determine the processes needed for the quality management system and the application of these processes throughout the organization taking into account the roles undertaken by the organization;
- b) apply a risk-based approach to the control of the appropriate processes needed for the quality management system;
- c) determine the sequence and interaction of these processes.
- **4.1.3** For each quality management system process, the organization shall: [91-9005]
- a) determine criteria and methods needed to ensure that both the operation and control of these processes are effective;

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- b) ensure the availability of resources and information necessary to support the operation and monitoring of these processes;
- c) implement actions necessary to achieve planned results and maintain the effectiveness of these processes;
- d) monitor, measure as appropriate, and analyses these processes;
- e) establish and maintain records needed to demonstrate conformance to this International Standard and compliance with applicable regulatory requirements (see 4.2.5).
- **4.1.4** The organization shall manage these quality management system processes in accordance with the requirements of this International Standard and applicable regulatory requirements. Changes to be made to these processes shall be: [91-9005]
- a) evaluated for their impact on the quality management system;
- b) evaluated for their impact on the medical devices produced under this quality management system;
- c) controlled in accordance with the requirements of this International Standard and applicable regulatory requirements.
- **4.1.5** When the organization chooses to outsource any process that affects product conformity to requirements, it shall monitor and ensure control over such processes. The organization shall retain responsibility of conformity to this International Standard and to customer and applicable regulatory requirements for outsourced processes. The controls shall be proportionate to the risk involved and the ability of the external party to meet the requirements in accordance with 7.4 The controls shall include written quality agreements.
- **4.1.6** The organization shall document procedures for the validation of the application of computer software used in the quality management system. Such software applications shall be validated prior to initial use and, as appropriate, after changes to such software or its application. **[91-9001]**

The specific approach and activities associated with software validation and revalidation shall be proportionate to the risk associated with the use of the software.

Records of such activities shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

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4.2 Documentation requirements

4.2.1 General [91-6001, 91-9001, 91-9002, 91-9004]

The quality management system documentation shall include

- a) documented statements of a quality policy and quality objectives,
- b) a quality manual,
- c) documented procedures required by ISO 13485,

Refer to the 91-XXXX series of procedures as explained in 91-9001, which explains the tiering model of Product Resources' QMS.

Note also that our QMS software holds the master list of documents; refer to 91-6001.

- d) documents, including records, determined by the organization to be necessary to ensure the effective planning, operation, and control of its processes
- e) other documentation specified by applicable regulatory requirements

4.2.2 Quality manual [91-9001, 91-9003]

The organization shall establish and maintain a quality manual that includes

- the scope of the quality management system, including details of and justification for any exclusion and/or non-application (see 1.2),
- b) the documented procedures established for the quality management system, or reference to them, and
- c) a description of the interaction between the processes of the quality management system.

The structure of the documentation used in the quality management system is described in 91-9001, Context of the Organization.

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4.2.3 Medical device file [91-6004]

For each medical device type or medical device family, the organization shall establish and maintain one or more files either containing or referencing documents generated to demonstrate conformity to the requirement of this International Standard and compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.

The content of the file(s) shall include, but is not limited to:

- a) general description of the medical device, intended use/purpose, and labelling, including any instructions for use;
- b) specifications for product;
- c) specifications or procedures for manufacturing, packaging, storage, handling and distribution;
- d) procedures for measuring and monitoring;
- e) as appropriate, requirements for installation;
- f) as appropriate, procedures for servicing.

4.2.4 Control of documents [91-6001]

Documents required by the quality management system shall be controlled. Records are a special type of document and shall be controlled according to the requirements given in 4.2.4.

A documented procedure shall be established to define the controls needed (reference 91-6001)

- a) to review and approve documents for adequacy prior to issue,
- b) to review and update as necessary and re-approve documents,
- c) to ensure that changes and the current revision status of documents are identified,
- d) to ensure that relevant versions of applicable documents are available at points of use,
- e) to ensure that documents remain legible and readily identifiable,
- f) ensure that documents of external origin, determined by the organization to be necessary for the planning and operation of the quality management system, are identified and their distribution controlled
- g) prevent deterioration or loss of documents;
- h) prevent the unintended use of obsolete documents and apply suitable identification to them.

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The organization shall ensure that changes to documents are reviewed and approved either by the original approving function or another designated function which has access to pertinent background information upon which to base its decisions.

The organization shall define the period for which at least one copy of obsolete controlled documents shall be retained. This period shall ensure that documents to which medical devices have been manufactured and tested are available for at least the lifetime of the medical device as defined by the organization, but not less than the retention period of any resulting record (see 4.2.5), or as specified by relevant regulatory requirements.

4.2.5 Control of records [91-6002, 91-6005]

Records shall be maintained to provide evidence of conformity to requirements and of the effective operation of the quality management system.

The organization shall document procedures (reference 91-6002) to define the controls needed for the identification, storage, security and integrity, retrieval, retention time and disposition of records.

The organization shall define and implement methods for protecting confidential health information contained in records in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements.

Records shall remain legible, readily identifiable and retrievable. Changes to a record shall remain identifiable.

The organization shall retain the records for at least the lifetime of the medical device as defined by the organization, or as specified by applicable regulatory requirements, but not less than two years from the medical device release by the organization.

5 Management responsibility

5.1 Management commitment [91-9002, 91-9005]

Top management shall provide evidence of its commitment to the development and implementation of the quality management system and maintaining its effectiveness per ISO 13485 by

- a) communicating to the organization the importance of meeting customer as well as statutory and regulatory requirements,
- b) establishing the quality policy,
- c) ensuring that quality objectives are established,
- d) conducting management reviews,
- e) ensuring the availability of resources.

5.2 Customer focus [91-1003, 91-9005]

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Top management shall ensure that customer requirements and applicable regulatory requirements are determined and met.

5.3 Quality policy [91-9002, 91-9005]

Top management shall ensure that the quality policy

- a) is appropriate to the purpose of the organization,
- b) includes a commitment to comply with requirements and to maintain the effectiveness of the quality management system
- c) provides a framework for establishing and reviewing quality objectives,
- d) is communicated and understood within the organization
- e) is reviewed for continuing suitability.

Product Resources' Quality Policy is documented in 91-9002.

5.4 Planning

5.4.1 Quality objectives [91-9004, 91-9005]

Top management shall ensure that quality objectives (reference 91-9004 and supporting documents), including those needed to meet applicable regulatory requirements and requirements for product, are established at relevant functions and levels within the organization. The quality objectives shall be measurable and consistent with the quality policy.

When the quality objective is a significant change to the QMS, see also **[91-9001]** for guidance that Product Resources has put in place.

5.4.2 Quality management system planning [91-9001, 91-9005]

Top management shall ensure that

- a) The planning of the quality management system is carried out in order to meet the requirements given in
 4.1, as well as the quality objectives, and
- b) the integrity of the quality management system is maintained when changes to the quality management system are planned and implemented.

5.5 Responsibility, authority and communication

5.5.1 Responsibility and authority

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Top management shall ensure that responsibilities and authorities are defined, documented and communicated within the organization.

Top management shall establish the interrelation of all personnel who manage, perform and verify work affecting quality, and shall ensure the independence and authority necessary to perform these tasks. This is achieved via any or combination of the Quality Systems Manual, Procedures, Work Instructions, Job Descriptions, Organizational Chart, and other means suitable for the organization.

5.5.2 Management representative [91-9001]

Top management appointed a member of management (reference 91-9001) who, irrespective of other responsibilities, shall have responsibility and authority that includes

- a) ensuring that processes needed for the quality management system are documented
- b) reporting to top management on the performance of the quality management system and any need for improvement, and
- b) ensuring the promotion of awareness of applicable regulatory requirements and quality management system requirements throughout the organization

5.5.3 Internal communication

Top management shall ensure that appropriate communication processes are established within the organization and that communication takes place regarding the effectiveness of the quality management system.

5.6 Management review [91-9005]

5.6.1 General

The organization shall document procedures for management review. Top management shall review the organization's quality management system at documented planned intervals to ensure its continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness. The review shall include assessing opportunities for improvement and the need for changes to the quality management system, including the quality policy and quality objectives.

Records from management reviews shall be maintained

5.6.2 Review input

The input to management review shall include, but is not limited to, information arising from

- a) feedback; (91-9005: 4.6.4, 4.6.5, 4.6.6)
- b) complaint handling; (91-9005: 4.6.4, 4.6.5)
- c) reporting to regulatory authorities; (91-9005: 4.6.9, 4.6.10)
- d) audits; (91-9005: 4.6.2, 4.6.3)
- e) monitoring and measurement of processes; (91-9005: 4.6.5)
- f) monitoring and measurement of product; (91-9005: 4.6.6)

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- g) corrective action; (91-9005: 4.6.4, 4.6.5, 4.6.7)
- h) preventive action; (91-9005: 4.6.7)
- i) follow-up actions from previous management reviews; (91-9005: 4.6.1)
- j) changes that could affect the quality management system; (91-9005: 4.6.8, 4.6.9, 4.6.10)
- k) recommendations for improvement; (91-9005: 4.6)
- l) applicable new or revised regulatory requirements. (91-9005: 4.6.8, 4.6.9, 4.6.10)

5.6.3 Review output

The output from the management review shall include any decisions and actions related to

- a) improvement needed to maintain the suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness of the quality management system and its processes;
- b) improvement of product related to customer requirements,
- c) changes needed to respond to applicable new or revised regulatory requirements;
- d) resource needs.

6 Resource management

6.1 Provision of resources [91-9005]

The organization shall determine and provide the resources needed

- a) implement the quality management system and to maintain its effectiveness
- b) meet applicable regulatory and customer requirements.

6.2 Human resources [91-8002]

Personnel performing work affecting product quality shall be competent based on appropriate education, training, skills and experience.

The organization shall document the process(es) for establishing competence, providing needed training, and ensuring awareness of personnel.

The organization shall (reference 91-8002)

- a) determine the necessary competence for personnel performing work affecting product quality,
- b) provide training or take other actions to achieve or maintain the necessary competence

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- c) evaluate the effectiveness of the actions taken,
- d) ensure that its personnel are aware of the relevance and importance of their activities and how they contribute to the achievement of the quality objectives,
- e) maintain appropriate records of education, training, skills and experience (see 4.2.5)

6.3 Infrastructure [91-4004, 91-7005, 91-8001]

The organization shall document the requirements for the infrastructure needed to achieve conformity to product requirements, prevent product mix-up and ensure orderly handling of product. Infrastructure includes, as appropriate

- a) buildings, workspace and associated utilities,
- b) process equipment (both hardware and software), and
- supporting services (such as transport or communication or information systems).

The organization shall document requirements for the maintenance activities, including the interval of performing the maintenance activities, when such maintenance activities, or lack thereof, can affect product quality. As appropriate, the requirements shall apply to equipment used in production, the control of the work environment and monitoring and measurement.

Records of such maintenance shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

6.4 Work environment and contamination control

6.4.1 Work environment [91-4004]

The organization shall document the requirements for the work environment needed to achieve conformity to product requirements.

If the conditions for the work environment can have an adverse effect on product quality, the organization shall document the requirements for the work environment and the procedures to monitor and control the work environment.

The organization shall:

- a) document requirements for health, cleanliness and clothing of personnel if contact between such personnel and the product or work environment could affect medical device safety or performance;
- b) ensure that all personnel who are required to work temporarily under special environmental conditions within the work environment are competent or supervised by a competent person.

6.4.2 Contamination control

Note that this element of the standard is not applicable to Product Resources' products or services.

7 Product realization

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7.1 Planning of product realization [91-6004, 91-7006]

The organization shall plan and develop the processes needed for product realization. Planning of product realization shall be consistent with the requirements of the other processes of the quality management system.

The organization shall document one or more processes for risk management in product realization. Records of risk management activities shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

In planning product realization, the organization shall determine the following, as appropriate:

- a) quality objectives and requirements for the product;
- b) the need to establish processes and documents (see 4.2.4) and to provide resources specific to the product, including infrastructure and work environment;
- required verification, validation, monitoring, measurement, inspection and test, handling, storage, distribution and traceability activities specific to the product together with the criteria for product acceptance;
- d) records needed to provide evidence that the realization processes and resulting product meet requirements (see 4.2.5).

The output of this planning shall be documented in a form suitable for the organization's method of operations.

7.2 Customer-related processes

7.2.1 Determination of requirements related to the product [91-1001]

The organization shall determine

- a) requirements specified by the customer, including the requirements for delivery and post-delivery activities;
- b) requirements not stated by the customer but necessary for specified or intended use, as known;
- c) applicable regulatory requirements related to the product;
- d) any user training needed to ensure specified performance and safe use of the medical device;
- e) any additional requirements determined by the organization.

7.2.2 Review of requirements related to the product [91-1002]

The organization shall review the requirements related to the product. This review shall be conducted prior to the organization's commitment to supply a product to the customer (e.g. submission of tenders, acceptance of contracts or orders, acceptance of changes to contracts or orders) and shall ensure that

- a) product requirements are defined and documented;
- b) contract or order requirements differing from those previously expressed are resolved;
- c) applicable regulatory requirements are met;

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- d) any user training identified in accordance with 7.2.1 is available or planned to be available;
- e) the organization has the ability to meet the defined requirements.

Records of the results of the review and actions arising from the review shall be maintained (see 4.2.5). When the customer provides no documented statement of requirement, the customer requirements shall be confirmed by the organization before acceptance.

When product requirements are changed, the organization shall ensure that relevant documents are amended and that relevant personnel are made aware of the changed requirements.

7.2.3 Communication [91-1003]

The organization shall plan and document arrangements for communicating with customers in relation to:

- a) product information,
- b) enquiries, contracts or order handling, including amendments,
- c) customer feedback, including complaints
- d) advisory notices (see 8.5.1).

The organization shall communicate with regulatory authorities in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements.

7.3 Design and development

Note that these elements of the standard are excluded from Product Resources' scope.

7.4 Purchasing

7.4.1 Purchasing process [91-3001, 91-3002]

The organization shall establish documented procedures (reference 91-3001, 91-3002, and 91-3003) to ensure that purchased product conforms to specified purchase requirements.

The organization shall establish criteria for the evaluation and selection of suppliers. The criteria shall be:

- a) based on the supplier's ability to provide product that meets the organization's requirements;
- b) based on the performance of the supplier;
- c) based on the effect of the purchased product on the quality of the medical device;
- d) proportionate to the risk associated with the medical device.

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The organization shall plan the monitoring and re-evaluation of suppliers. Supplier performance in meeting requirements for the purchased product shall be monitored. The results of the monitoring shall provide an input into the supplier re-evaluation process.

Non-fulfilment of purchasing requirements shall be addressed with the supplier proportionate to the risk associated with the purchased product and compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.

Records of the results of evaluation, selection, monitoring and re-evaluation of supplier capability or performance and any necessary actions arising from these activities shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

7.4.2 Purchasing information [91-3002]

Purchasing information shall describe or reference the product to be purchased, including as appropriate:

- a) product specifications;
- b) requirements for product acceptance, procedures, processes and equipment;
- c) requirements for qualification of supplier personnel;
- d) quality management system requirements.

The organization shall ensure the adequacy of specified purchasing requirements prior to their communication to the supplier.

Purchasing information shall include, as applicable, a written agreement that the supplier notify the organization of changes in the purchased product prior to implementation of any changes that affect the ability of the purchased product to meet specified purchase requirements.

To the extent required for traceability given in 7.5.9, the organization shall maintain relevant purchasing information in the form of documents (see 4.2.4) and records (see 4.2.5).

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7.4.3 Verification of purchased product [91-3003]

The organization shall establish and implement the inspection or other activities necessary for ensuring that purchased product meets specified purchasing requirements. The extent of verification activities shall be based on the supplier evaluation results and proportionate to the risks associated with the purchased product.

When the organization becomes aware of any changes to the purchased product, the organization shall determine whether these changes affect the product realization process or the medical device.

When the organization or its customer intends to perform verification at the supplier's premises, the organization shall state the intended verification activities and method of product release in the purchasing information.

Records of the verification shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

7.5 Production and service provision

7.5.1 Control of production and service provision [91-1004, 91-4001, 91-6004]

Production and service provision shall be planned, carried out, monitored and controlled to ensure that product conforms to specification. As appropriate, production controls shall include but are not limited to:

- a) documentation of procedures and methods for the control of production (see 4.2.4);
- b) qualification of infrastructure;
- c) implementation of monitoring and measurement of process parameters and product characteristics;
- d) availability and use of monitoring and measuring equipment;
- e) implementation of defined operations for labelling and packaging;
- f) implementation of product release, delivery and post-delivery activities.

The organization shall establish and maintain a record (see 4.2.5) for each medical device or batch of medical devices that provides traceability to the extent specified in 7.5.9 and identifies the amount manufactured and amount approved for distribution. The record shall be verified and approved.

7.5.2 Cleanliness of product

Note that this element of the standard is not applicable to Product Resources' products or services.

7.5.3 Installation activities

Note that this element of the standard is excluded from Product Resources' scope.

7.5.4 Servicing activities [91-5001]

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If servicing of the medical device is a specified requirement, the organization shall document servicing procedures, reference materials, and reference measurements, as necessary, for performing servicing activities and verifying that product requirements are met.

The organization shall analyse records of servicing activities carried out by the organization or its supplier:

- a) to determine if the information is to be handled as a complaint;
- b) as appropriate, for input to the improvement process.

Records of servicing activities carried out by the organization or its supplier shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

7.5.5 Particular requirements for sterile medical devices

Note that this element of the standard is not applicable to Product Resources' products or services.

7.5.6 Validation of processes for production and service provision [91-7006]

The organization shall validate any processes for production and service provision where the resulting output cannot be or is not verified by subsequent monitoring or measurement and, as a consequence, deficiencies become apparent only after the product is in use or the service has been delivered.

Validation shall demonstrate the ability of these processes to achieve planned results consistently.

The organization shall document procedures for validation of processes, including:

- a) defined criteria for review and approval of the processes;
- b) equipment qualification and qualification of personnel;
- c) use of specific methods, procedures and acceptance criteria;
- d) as appropriate, statistical techniques with rationale for sample sizes;
- e) requirements for records (see 4.2.5);
- f) revalidation, including criteria for revalidation;
- g) approval of changes to the processes.

The organization shall document procedures for the validation of the application of computer software used in production and service provision. Such software applications shall be validated prior to initial use and, as appropriate, after changes to such software or its application. The specific approach and activities associated with software validation and revalidation shall be proportionate to the risk associated with the use of the software, including the effect on the ability of the product to conform to specifications.

Records of the results and conclusion of validation and necessary actions from the validation shall be maintained (see 4.2.4 and 4.2.5).

7.5.7 Particular requirements for validation of processes for sterilization and sterile barrier systems

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Note that this element of the standard is not applicable to Product Resources' products or services.

7.5.8 Identification [91-6003]

The organization shall document procedures for product identification and identify product by suitable means throughout product realization.

The organization shall identify product status with respect to monitoring and measurement requirements throughout product realization. Identification of product status shall be maintained throughout production, storage, installation and servicing of product to ensure that only product that has passed the required inspections and tests or released under an authorized concession is dispatched, used or installed.

If required by applicable regulatory requirements, the organization shall document a system to assign unique device identification to the medical device.

The organization shall document procedures to ensure that medical devices returned to the organization are identified and distinguished from conforming product.

7.5.9 Traceability [91-6003]

7.5.9.1 **General**

The organization shall document procedures for traceability. These procedures shall define the extent of traceability in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements and the records to be maintained (see 4.2.5).

7.5.9.2 Particular requirements for implantable medical devices

Note that this element of the standard is not applicable to Product Resources' products or services.

7.5.10 Customer property [91-1003]

The organization shall identify, verify, protect, and safeguard customer property provided for use or incorporation into the product while it is under the organization's control or being used by the organization. If any customer property is lost, damaged or otherwise found to be unsuitable for use, the organization shall report this to the customer and maintain records (see 4.2.5).

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7.5.11 Preservation of product [91-4003]

The organization shall document procedures for preserving the conformity of product to requirements during processing, storage, handling, and distribution. Preservation shall apply to the constituent parts of a medical device.

The organization shall protect product from alteration, contamination or damage when exposed to expected conditions and hazards during processing, storage, handling, and distribution by:

- a) designing and constructing suitable packaging and shipping containers;
- documenting requirements for special conditions needed if packaging alone cannot provide preservation.

If special conditions are required, they shall be controlled and recorded (see 4.2.5).

7.6 Control of monitoring and measuring devices [91-7004]

The organization shall determine the monitoring and measurement to be undertaken and the monitoring and measuring devices needed to provide evidence of conformity of product to determined requirements.

The organization shall establish documented procedures (See P-012) to ensure that monitoring and measurement can be carried out and are carried out in a manner that is consistent with the monitoring and measurement requirements.

As necessary to ensure valid results, measuring equipment shall:

- a) be calibrated or verified at specified intervals, or prior to use, against measurement standards traceable to international or national measurement standards; where no such standards exist, the basis used for calibration or verification shall be recorded;
- b) be adjusted or re-adjusted as necessary: such adjustments or re-adjustments shall be recorded
- c) have identification in order to determine its calibration status;
- d) be safeguarded from adjustments that would invalidate the measurement result;
- be protected from damage and deterioration during handling, maintenance and storage.

The organization shall perform calibration or verification in accordance with documented procedures. In addition, the organization shall assess and record the validity of the previous measuring results when the equipment is found not to conform to requirements. The organization shall take appropriate action in regard to the equipment and any product affected.

Records of the results of calibration and verification shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

The organization shall document procedures for the validation of the application of computer software used for the monitoring and measurement of requirements. Such software applications shall be validated prior to initial use and, as appropriate, after changes to such software or its application. The specific approach and activities

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associated with software validation and revalidation shall be proportionate to the risk associated with the use of the software, including the effect on the ability of the product to conform to specifications.

Records of the results and conclusion of validation and necessary actions from the validation shall be maintained (see 4.2.4 and 4.2.5).

8 Measurement, analysis and improvement

8.1 General [91-4001, 91-7001, 91-9004]

The organization shall plan and implement the monitoring, measurement, analysis and improvement processes needed

- a) to demonstrate conformity of the product,
- b) to ensure conformity of the quality management system, and
- c) to maintain the effectiveness of the quality management

This shall include determination of applicable methods, including statistical techniques, and the extent of their use.

8.2 Monitoring and measurement

8.2.1 Feedback [91-9004]

As one of the measurements of the performance of the quality management system, the organization shall gather and monitor information relating to whether the organization has met customer requirements. The methods for obtaining and using this information shall be documented. The methods for obtaining and using this information shall be determined.

The organization shall document procedures for the feedback process. This feedback process shall include provisions to gather data from production as well as post-production activities.

The information gathered in the feedback process shall serve as potential input into risk management for monitoring and maintaining the product requirements as well as the product realization or improvement processes.

If applicable regulatory requirements require the organization to gain specific experience from postproduction activities, the review of this experience shall form part of the feedback process

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8.2.2 Complaint handling [91-1003]

The organization shall document procedures for timely complaint handling in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements.

These procedures shall include at a minimum requirements and responsibilities for:

- a) receiving and recording information;
- b) evaluating information to determine if the feedback constitutes a complaint;
- c) investigating complaints;
- d) determining the need to report the information to the appropriate regulatory authorities;
- e) handling of complaint-related product;
- f) determining the need to initiate corrections or corrective actions.

If any complaint is not investigated, justification shall be documented. Any correction or corrective action resulting from the complaint handling process shall be documented.

If an investigation determines activities outside the organization contributed to the complaint, relevant information shall be exchanged between the organization and the external party involved.

Complaint handling records shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

8.2.3 Reporting to regulatory authorities [91-1003]

If applicable regulatory requirements require notification of complaints that meet specified reporting criteria of adverse events or issuance of advisory notices, the organization shall document procedures for providing notification to the appropriate regulatory authorities.

Records of reporting to regulatory authorities shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

Note that this element of the standard is directly applicable to Product Resources' customers, as Product Resources' customers are the manufacturers of record, put product in the market, and have the direct reporting responsibility. Product Resources is responsible for reporting to our customers.

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8.2.4 Internal audit [91-7001]

The organization shall conduct internal audits at planned intervals to determine whether the quality management system:

- a) conforms to planned and documented arrangements, requirements of this International Standard, quality management system requirements established by the organization, and applicable regulatory requirements;
- b) is effectively implemented and maintained.

The organization shall document a procedure to describe the responsibilities and requirements for planning and conducting audits and recording and reporting audit results.

An audit program shall be planned, taking into consideration the status and importance of the processes and area to be audited, as well as the results of previous audits. The audit criteria, scope, interval and methods shall be defined and recorded (see 4.2.5). The selection of auditors and conduct of audits shall ensure objectivity and impartiality of the audit process. Auditors shall not audit their own work.

Records of the audits and their results, including identification of the processes and areas audited and the conclusions, shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

The management responsible for the area being audited shall ensure that any necessary corrections and corrective actions are taken without undue delay to eliminate detected nonconformities and their causes. Follow-up activities shall include the verification of the actions taken and the reporting of verification results.

8.2.5 Monitoring and measurement of processes

The organization shall apply suitable methods for monitoring and, as appropriate, measurement of the quality management system processes. These methods shall demonstrate the ability of the processes to achieve planned results. When planned results are not achieved, correction and corrective action shall be taken, as appropriate.

8.2.6 Monitoring and measurement of product [91-4001]

The organization shall monitor and measure the characteristics of the product to verify that product requirements have been met. This shall be carried out at applicable stages of the product realization process in accordance with the planned and documented arrangements and documented procedures.

Evidence of conformity to the acceptance criteria shall be maintained. The identity of the person authorizing release of product shall be recorded (see 4.2.5). As appropriate, records shall identify the test equipment used to perform measurement activities.

Product release and service delivery shall not proceed until the planned and documented arrangements have been satisfactorily completed.

For implantable medical devices, the organization shall record the identity of personnel performing any inspection or testing.

8.3 Control of nonconforming product

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8.3.1 General [91-4002]

The organization shall ensure that product which does not conform to product requirements is identified and controlled to prevent its unintended use or delivery. The organization shall document a procedure to define the controls and related responsibilities and authorities for the identification, documentation, segregation, evaluation and disposition of nonconforming product.

The evaluation of nonconformity shall include a determination of the need for an investigation and notification of any external party responsible for the nonconformity.

Records of the nature of the nonconformities and any subsequent action taken, including the evaluation, any investigation and the rationale for decisions shall be maintained (see 4.2.5)

8.3.2 Actions in response to nonconforming product detected before delivery [91-4002]

The organization shall deal with nonconforming product by one or more of the following ways:

- a) taking action to eliminate the detected nonconformity;
- b) taking action to preclude its original intended use or application;
- c) authorizing its use, release or acceptance under concession.

The organization shall ensure that nonconforming product is accepted by concession only if the justification is provided, approval is obtained and applicable regulatory requirements are met. Records of the acceptance by concession and the identity of the person authorizing the concession shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

8.3.3 Actions in response to nonconforming product detected after delivery

When nonconforming product is detected after delivery or use has started, the organization shall take action appropriate to the effects, or potential effects, of the nonconformity. Records of actions taken shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

The organization shall document procedures for issuing advisory notices in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements. These procedures shall be capable of being put into effect at any time. Records of actions relating to the issuance of advisory notices shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

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8.3.4 Rework [91-4002]

The organization shall perform rework in accordance with documented procedures that takes into account the potential adverse effect of the rework on the product. These procedures shall undergo the same review and approval as the original procedure.

After the completion of rework, product shall be verified to ensure that it meets applicable acceptance criteria and regulatory requirements.

Records of rework shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

8.4 Analysis of data [91-9004]

The organization shall document procedures to determine, collect and analyse appropriate data to demonstrate the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the quality management system. The procedures shall include determination of appropriate methods, including statistical techniques and the extent of their use.

The analysis of data shall include data generated as a result of monitoring and measurement and from other relevant sources and include, at a minimum, input from:

- a) feedback;
- b) conformity to product requirements;
- c) characteristics and trends of processes and product, including opportunities for improvement;
- d) suppliers;
- e) audits;
- f) service reports, as appropriate.

If the analysis of data shows that the quality management system is not suitable, adequate or effective, the organization shall use this analysis as input for improvement as required in 8.5.

Records of the results of analyses shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

8.5 Improvement

8.5.1 General [91-7002, 91-7003, 91-9005]

The organization shall identify and implement any changes necessary to ensure and maintain the continued suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the quality management system as well as medical device safety and performance through the use of the quality policy, quality objectives, audit results, post-market surveillance, analysis of data, corrective actions, preventive actions and management review.

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8.5.2 Corrective action [91-7002]

The organization shall take action to eliminate the cause of nonconformities in order to prevent recurrence. Any necessary corrective actions shall be taken without undue delay. Corrective actions shall be proportionate to the effects of the nonconformities encountered.

The organization shall document a procedure to define requirements for:

- a) reviewing nonconformities (including complaints);
- b) determining the causes of nonconformities;
- c) evaluating the need for action to ensure that nonconformities do not recur;
- d) planning and documenting action needed and implementing such action, including, as appropriate, updating documentation;
- e) verifying that the corrective action does not adversely affect the ability to meet applicable regulatory requirements or the safety and performance of the medical device;
- f) reviewing the effectiveness of corrective action taken.

Records of the results of any investigation and of action taken shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).

8.5.3 Preventive action [91-7003]

The organization shall determine action to eliminate the causes of potential nonconformities in order to prevent their occurrence. Preventive actions shall be proportionate to the effects of the potential problems.

The organization shall document a procedure to describe requirements for:

- a) determining potential nonconformities and their causes;
- b) evaluating the need for action to prevent occurrence of nonconformities;
- c) planning and documenting action needed and implementing such action, including, as appropriate, updating documentation;
- d) verifying that the action does not adversely affect the ability to meet applicable regulatory requirements or the safety and performance of the medical device;
- e) reviewing the effectiveness of the preventive action taken, as appropriate.

Records of the results of any investigations and of action taken shall be maintained (see 4.2.5).