



A Dan T. Moore Company

**KEY SUPPLIER  
QUALITY  
MANUAL**

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Dear Key Supplier,

Soundwich, Inc. is pleased to present our Supplier Quality Manual (SQM). The SQM represents Soundwich practices and philosophies, and provides a basis for high quality and lasting business relationships. All suppliers of raw materials, production components, and services directly related to our products must comply with the requirements contained within. Our intention is that the SQM can be used as a tool to clarify communication and foster continuous improvement. Soundwich expects our Key Suppliers to embrace the contents of this Manual and incorporate it into their everyday operations and product development activity to ensure the highest possible quality is achieved.

Soundwich considers safety is a top priority. It is up to each and every person to work safely and make sure others follow safe practices. Our facilities and processes involve heavy parts, various fabrication operations and frequent transportation of parts within our processes and those of our suppliers. To prevent accidents and injuries, it is extremely important to follow any and all safe handling or transportation instructions given to you by Soundwich. When visiting the Soundwich facilities, please follow all special instructions given by your escort. If in doubt, always inquire about and follow all safety rules of any Soundwich facility before entering any of the work environments.

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Applicability

This Supplier Quality Manual (SQM) describes Soundwich's Quality Management System expectations for all Suppliers of production material, parts, and services that directly affect parts shipped to Soundwich's Customers (designated as "Key Suppliers" hereafter).

### 1.2. Goal and Vision

Soundwich is committed to operating within the guidelines of IATF16949, and therefore requires Key Suppliers to be third-party certified to the current ISO9001 Quality Management System Standard at a minimum, with the goal of IATF16949 third-party certification. Suppliers who perform laboratory work must be third-party certified to ISO/IEC/EN17025.

Our vision is that such System allows them to produce and deliver globally-competitive high quality products and services clearly seen by our Customers as superior in performance and value, and benefitting themselves as well.

### 1.3 Confidentiality

All information gained from interactions with Soundwich is to be held strictly confidential.

### 1.4. Approach

This SQM provides a uniform method for Soundwich to communicate general requirements, expectations, and guidelines to Key Suppliers as they develop, implement and/or maintain their Quality Management System.

This System is to be built on the following principles:

- Process Approach (Plan-Do-Check-Act Cycle, Risk-Based Decision-Making)
- Built-In Quality (BiQS)
- Product Life Cycle Management
- Product Safety
- Continual Improvement
- Defect Prevention
- Waste Minimization

### 1.5. Key Suppliers' Responsibility

Key Suppliers must:

1. Notify Soundwich Purchasing (purchasing@soundwich.com) when their contact(s) for Soundwich have changed.

2. Stay current with revisions to this Manual when notified of changes via email. The Manual is posted on Soundwich's website (soundwich.com, Quality page), and revisions are detailed in the Revision History at the end of the Manual.

#### **1.6. Zero Defects Policy**

**Soundwich has a Zero Defects Policy, and does not accept any shipments containing nonconforming or defective material, parts, or services. Key Suppliers are required to monitor their shipments to ensure a quality level of zero parts defective.**

#### **1.7 Purchase Orders**

Key Suppliers must review and approve Soundwich purchase orders, and communicate promptly if purchase orders do not match Key Supplier commitments. Should Soundwich's requirements for the Key Supplier be revised, the Key Supplier must again review and approve them for feasibility, revise all relevant documents, and inform all relevant employees of the changes.

Purchase Orders may be placed with a Key Supplier for material/parts for testing or other pre-production analysis prior to formal production part approval. Orders placed by Soundwich for sample material or parts do not constitute production approval of parts.

Upon final selection of a Key Supplier, a production purchase order may be issued. This purchase order will be emailed, faxed and/or mailed to the supplier. Key Suppliers must acknowledge acceptance of every purchase order in writing via e-mail, within two (2) business days of receipt of said purchase order. Key Suppliers are responsible for acknowledging not only the receipt of the purchase order, but also the part revision level noted and pricing.

Without prior notification by the Key Supplier, Soundwich will consider that the purchase order will be fulfilled as required. If any changes are needed, it is the responsibility of Key Suppliers to notify Soundwich. The notification must be in advance of the requested due date and in writing. Purchase orders issued for product within quoted lead-times are required to be completed as requested unless otherwise agreed to by Soundwich.

Key Suppliers are responsible for ensuring that Soundwich receives 100% defect-free product to the correct print revision level by the agreed delivery date, or they will be liable for any cost incurred due to late shipments or incorrect materials.

*Acceptance of a purchase order constitutes acceptance and understanding of this Key Supplier Quality Manual. Suppliers are encouraged and expected to discuss and understand the specific applicability of these requirements with their Purchasing and Supplier Quality representatives.*

Periodically, purchase orders may be required to be expedited or deferred. All Key Suppliers are required to assist with the re-scheduling of these orders as needed by Soundwich. Each individual case may be subject to review based on the Key Supplier's ability to perform, but a quick response with information (within 24 hours) is expected unless otherwise stated and/or agreed upon. In addition, Soundwich will send via e-mail a Purchase Order Follow-up Report. This report is a listing of all open purchase orders for the Key Supplier with current status as Soundwich shows it. Key Suppliers are responsible for answering expedite, defer cancellation requests, and confirming all open orders and quantities on this form within two (2) business days. It is imperative that Soundwich receive this information within this timeframe, because without confirmation of this information we cannot change purchase orders and adjust our production schedules as needed.

Soundwich expects Key Suppliers to deliver the right product at the right time in the right packaging using the right carrier as specified by the purchase order. We expect 100% on-time delivery of correct quantities with correct shipping documentation. On-time delivery (OTD) is defined as five (5) days early to two (2) days late. If a Key Supplier is unable to meet a delivery commitment and does not provide sufficient notice to Soundwich of inability to meet its commitment, as well as provide an acceptable recovery plan, Soundwich reserves the right to use premium freight and/or labor to meet commitments to our Customers and charge the Key Supplier for the additional costs incurred.

### **1.8 30/90 Commitment**

Soundwich expects Key Suppliers to be proactive in lead-time reduction activities and to participate when applicable in JIT, KANBAN, Pull Systems or other inventory reduction programs. In order to facilitate a proactive approach to this initiative, we have established a 30/90-day commitment for all Key Suppliers to allow them the flexibility to purchase raw material and commit production time.

- 30-Day Commitment – Finished goods inventory is committed to if produced and the forecasted components/assembly is discontinued or not to be ordered again within 90 days.
- 90-Day Commitment – Raw material/component inventory is committed to if produced and the forecasted component/assembly is discontinued or not to be ordered again within 90 days.
- It is the sole obligation of Key Suppliers to notify Soundwich in writing of any raw material, component, and/or finished goods inventory on hand.
- Key Suppliers are allowed five (5) working days to supply a written inventory list of any component, raw material, and/or finished goods on hand upon receipt of an updated forecast in which a component or assembly has been discontinued.

## **1.9 Pricing**

All pricing from a Key Supplier is considered firm for an indefinite period or as agreed upon (in writing). Soundwich expects continual pricing improvement, and for Key Suppliers to maintain and/or reduce pricing to benefit both Soundwich and Key Suppliers. If adjustments are identified by a Key Supplier that result in an increase in price, Soundwich requires ninety (90) days written notice of request for price adjustment and a presentation by the Key Supplier specifically expressing the need for the change to include suggestions for off-setting or absorbing the change. Adjustments that result in a price reduction must be reviewed by Soundwich before any changes are made. Completion of the above increase or reduction procedure does not constitute acceptance by Soundwich. Soundwich will gain the ability to review the situation and identify alternative items to aid cost control by Soundwich and its Key Suppliers.

Key Suppliers should work collaboratively with Soundwich to develop products and services that allow both parties to continually reduce costs each year. Savings are defined as efforts that result in changes to product design, manufacturing processes, packaging, shipping, inventory management and any and or all direct and indirect costs that ultimately lower our mutual costs.

## **1.10 Payment Terms**

Soundwich standard pay terms are 'net 60'. Any deviation must be approved by the Director of Materials in advance of any orders being shipped. Shipments received prior to any deviation being granted in writing will be subject to Soundwich standard pay terms.

## **1.11 Capacity**

Soundwich expects Key Suppliers to have sufficient capacity to meet quoted demand at all times. We may require Key Suppliers to validate this capacity in terms of Man, Machine and Material with objective data. This may be verified during or at any time after the Supplier Selection Process. We expect Key Suppliers to flex their capacity by a minimum of 25% within a reasonable timeframe for their industry and to respond to fluctuations in Soundwich schedules by operating for extended hours as needed. Key Suppliers should measure equipment performance (e.g., uptime), yield, ppm, etc. We expect our Key Suppliers to add or source appropriate capacity as Soundwich requirements grow.

## **1.12 Tooling Agreement**

For products that require tooling, an agreement between Soundwich and the Key Supplier, for the purchase and ownership of production tooling, including molds, dies, fixtures and any devices that are used in the manufacturing of Soundwich product is required.

## 2.0 KEY SUPPLIER EVALUATION AND SELECTION

- 2.1 Prior to the initial purchase, all proposed Key Suppliers are considered to be “Prospects”.
- 2.2 The Director of Materials ensures that the Soundwich Key Supplier Survey is sent and collected.
- 2.3 The Key Supplier Management Team reviews the completed file, along with other information as detailed below, and determines whether to continue Supplier development with this Prospect.
  - 2.3.1 Quality System Certification:
    - Third-party certification to the current ISO9001 Quality Management System Standard is a requirement of Key Suppliers.
    - If a Prospect Key Supplier is qualified in every way except Quality System Certification, Soundwich mitigates risks by determining status relative to its Small Suppliers designation, and/or conducts a second-party audit of the Prospect, or permits the Prospect to self-certify.
    - If a Key Supplier’s QMS certification expires or is cancelled/withdrawn by their Certification Body, Soundwich will establish and implement a plan for second-party audits or Key Supplier self-certification to ensure continued compliance with ISO9001 or IATF16949 as applicable, until such time as the Key Supplier is re-certified.
    - Customer-Required Suppliers: If the Key Supplier is a Customer-Required Supplier, they are added to the Approved Key Supplier List without further investigation.
  - 2.3.2 PPAP Submission: All Prospect Key Suppliers are required to submit PPAPs at the Submission Level requested by Soundwich. The default PPAP Level is three (3).
  - 2.3.3 Key Suppliers who will supply products/services for FCA-related products, and are deemed “High Risk” by FCA or Soundwich: Soundwich conducts an on-site Process Audit or equivalent, and a Production Demonstration Run (PDR).
  - 2.3.4 Following the initial purchase, the Supplier Development Team determines if the Prospect’s initial performance was satisfactory, and if so, they are added to the Soundwich Approved Key Supplier List. Prospects deemed “Unsatisfactory” are not added to the List, but may be targeted for development so that they may be added at a later time.
  - 2.3.5 The Key Supplier Management Team may remove a Supplier from the Approved Key Supplier List for any of the following reasons:
    - Unacceptable quality performance
    - Unacceptable delivery performance
    - Soundwich no longer requires the Key Supplier’s product
    - Unprofessional business practices

### 3.0 KEY SUPPLIER MONITORING AND REPORTING

In support of Soundwich’s Key Supplier Development process, Soundwich monitors and emails reports to Key Suppliers with respect to the following criteria:

Rating Criteria	Calculation or Description	Value Range	Points Attained
<b>Quality</b>	$\frac{\text{No. of Defective Units}}{\text{Total Units Received}} \times 1,000,000$	<b>Less than 100 ppm</b>	<b>20</b>
		<b>Less than 500 ppm</b>	<b>14</b>
		<b>Greater than 500 ppm</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>On-Time Delivery</b>	On-Time is defined as up to 5 days early through 1 day late	<b>Equal to or Greater than 98%</b>	<b>20</b>
		<b>Between 95 and 98%</b>	<b>14</b>
		<b>Less than 95%</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Customer Disruptions and Special Status Notifications</b>	No. of Occurrences of Controlled Shipping, New Business Hold, Recalls, Yard Holds, Stop Ships, Field Actions	<b>0 Occurrences</b>	<b>40</b>
		<b>1 or more Occurrences</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Premium Freight</b>	No. of Occurrences	<b>0 Occurrences</b>	<b>10</b>
		<b>1 Occurrence</b>	<b>5</b>
		<b>Greater than 1 Occurrence</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Dealer Returns, Warranty</b>	No. of Occurrences	<b>0 Occurrences</b>	<b>10</b>
		<b>1 Occurrence</b>	<b>5</b>
		<b>Greater than 1 Occurrence</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OVERALL RATING</b>	<b>Preferred Supplier: Thanks!</b>	<b>Greater than 80 points</b>	
	<b>Adequate Supplier</b>	<b>Between 60 and 80 points</b>	
	<b>Marginal Supplier: Corrective Action Needed</b>	<b>Less than 60 points</b>	

#### Rating Explanations:

1. Unit = part, pound, or Corrective Action Request, as applicable
2. Late = Delivered 3 or more days after the Requirement Date
3. Early = Delivered earlier than 6 days prior to Requirement Date

Supplier Performance Reports are transmitted to the Key Supplier’s designated contact(s) via email on a quarterly basis. For Key Suppliers who score less than 60 points, Soundwich’s Systems Manager will send the Supplier Assessment form (including Action Plan) for completion and return. If there are any questions regarding the reports, contact Soundwich’s Systems Manager at 216.316.5094.

## 4.0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Quality Management System

Soundwich requires ISO9001 third-party certification, with the eventual goal of attaining and maintaining IATF16949 third-party certification. For Key Suppliers that are not currently certified to IATF16949, Soundwich implements a Supplier Development Process.

### 4.2 Environmental Requirements

Soundwich strives to be an Environmental, Health and Safety leader wherever we do business.

We encourage our Key Suppliers to promote sustainable development, strive to prevent undesirable impacts on the environment, and use applicable environmental management systems.

### 4.3 Facility Access

Following prior notice and agreement, Key Suppliers must allow Soundwich and/or Soundwich Customers access to both their facilities, and those of their suppliers and sub-contractors, for the purpose of evaluating parts, processes, documents (e.g., FMEA, Control Plan, Procedures, Instructions, records), methodologies and systems used in the manufacture of Soundwich products. Soundwich may, at its discretion, use third-party independent auditors. These individuals represent Soundwich and will audit the Key Supplier's processes to establish conformance to validated Quality Management Systems.

### 4.4 Contingency Plan

Key Suppliers must maintain a contingency plan for potential catastrophes that could disrupt product flow to Soundwich. In the event of an actual catastrophe, Key Suppliers must provide access to Soundwich-owned, or Soundwich Customer-owned tooling, inspection devices, containers, material and/or their replacements.

### 4.5 Union Affiliation/Contract Expiration

All Key Suppliers must inform Soundwich in writing at least three months prior to the expiration of a union contract (if applicable). This notification should include:

- Anticipated results of contract negotiations
- Strike protection plan to insure product availability

In addition, bi-weekly status reports are required from the Key Supplier until the contract is settled, at which point the Key Supplier must advise Soundwich of the new contract expiration date.

## 5.0 ADVANCED PRODUCT QUALITY PLANNING (APQP)

### 5.1 APQP Process

An effective Quality Management System uses multi-disciplinary resources for Advanced Product Quality Planning (APQP). The Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG) has established the basis of an effective quality planning system in the Advanced Quality Planning and Control Plan reference manual.

Soundwich expects each Key Supplier to use Advanced Product Quality Planning and promote continual improvement. This planning must include identification of product requirements and technical specifications, logistical requirements, determination of manufacturing feasibility and acceptance criteria, project planning, education and training of employees, employee involvement, and the tracking, analysis and reporting of cost of quality data. All Quality Planning efforts must focus on error prevention rather than detection. When requested, Key Suppliers must provide APQP status reports for a product with regard to meeting the program objectives of quality, cost performance, and timing. Suppliers are also encouraged to implement the applicable phases of Product Life Cycle Management (see Appendix I for an overview).

Feasibility reviews must be conducted *prior* to committing to supply products/services to Soundwich, and Key Suppliers must ensure that personnel with process design responsibilities are competent to achieve requirements.

### 5.2 APQP Documents

Key Suppliers must develop a Process Flow, PFMEA, and Control Plan during the APQP process and prior to PPAP submission. All documents must carry issue and revision dates, and collectively must include measurement techniques, sampling plans, acceptance criteria, and the reaction plans and escalation process if the acceptance criteria are not met. These documents must be made available to Soundwich upon request.

#### 5.2.1 **Process Flow**

Once approved by Soundwich, the Process Flow becomes the authorized manufacturing method. Any changes to the manufacturing process or product must be communicated to, and approved by Soundwich prior to its implementation. All related documents/systems must be revised, communicated internally, and available for review by Soundwich Quality.

#### 5.2.2 **Process Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (PFMEA)**

Based on product requirements, process risk must be studied so that prevention and detection controls adequately address the Severity of each risk (those for the Key Supplier, Soundwich, Soundwich's Customer, and the end-user) and the Occurrence of each cause.

### 5.2.3 Control Plan

Key Suppliers are required to develop and maintain Control Plans and submit them to Soundwich for approval. All Control Plans are to be developed as the result of Process Flow and PFMEA development processes and other organized multi-disciplinary efforts. If required by Soundwich, the Key Supplier must develop and implement a Control Plan for both Pre-Launch and Production processes. Also, if required by Soundwich, the Key Supplier must provide measurement and conformity data collected during the implementation of either or both Plans.

Control Plans must include the product and process controls used during the manufacturing process, including job set-up verifications, First-Piece/Last-Piece validations as applicable, Special Characteristic monitoring methods, Reaction Plans, and any other requirements requested by Soundwich.

They must be reviewed and revised as necessary whenever the Key Supplier determines that it has shipped nonconforming product, and whenever a change occurs that affects the product, or manufacturing, supply, measurement or logistical processes.

### 5.3 Product and Process Design and Development

In order to design their manufacturing processes, Key Suppliers must have a documented process that includes the identification, documentation and review of product and process requirements during quoting and other subsequent interactions with Soundwich. Suppliers must have the ability to communicate data in Soundwich's specified computer language(s), and these requirements may include:

- Functional and performance product requirements, including Special Characteristics (see "Special Characteristics" below)
- Characteristics identified as a result of the Key Supplier's knowledge of their products and processes
- Risk assessments relative to input requirements, including potential consequences of failure due to the nature of products and services
- Targets for conformity (including product preservation, reliability, durability, serviceability, productivity, process capability, health, safety, ergonomic, recycling and other environmental impacts, developmental timing, and cost)
- Process controls to be implemented
- Boundary and interface requirements
- Documentation requirements
- Identification, traceability and packaging requirements
- Consideration of process design alternatives
- Statutory and regulatory requirements, and codes of practice to which the Key Supplier has committed

- Sandwich requirements, if any.

Key Suppliers must also have a documented process for the identification, documentation and review of the manufacturing process design outputs, and documentation must be in terms that enable verification against manufacturing process design inputs. These outputs include, but are not limited to the following:

- Specifications and drawings
- Special Characteristics for product and manufacturing process
- Identification of process inputs that impact characteristics
- Tooling and equipment to be used for process and control, including capability studies
- Process flow charts/layouts, including linkages between product, process, and tooling
- Capacity analysis
- Process Failure Mode and Effects Analyses (PFMEA) – see Section 2.5 “Risk Mitigation” below
- Maintenance plans and instructions
- Control Plan(s)
- Process approval acceptance criteria
- Quality, reliability, maintainability and measurability data
- Results of error-proofing identification and verification, as appropriate based on risk analyses
- Methods of rapid detection, feedback and feed-forward, and correction of product and manufacturing process nonconformities.

Process design and development processes must be conducted using an established methodology that ensures that verification reviews are conducted to ensure outputs meet inputs, outputs are validated to ensure they meet the intended use requirements, and actions taken accordingly to address any issues identified during the reviews.

During product and process design and development, measurements such as risks, costs, lead times, and critical paths must be defined, analyzed, and reported, with summary results serving as an input to Management Review. When required, program status reports must be sent to Soundwich.

Also, if required by Soundwich, Key Suppliers must have a prototype program and related Control Plan, with the same Sub-Tier Suppliers being used as will be used in production, if possible.

#### 5.4 **Special Characteristics**

“Special Characteristic” is the classification of a product or process characteristic that can affect safety or compliance with regulations, fit, function, performance, requirements, certifications, or subsequent product processing. Key Suppliers must use a multi-disciplinary approach to establish, document, and implement processes to identify Special Characteristics, including those identified by the Customer and risk analyses.

Key Suppliers must conform to Soundwich requirements for designation, approval, and control and monitoring of Special Characteristics, and they must be detailed in the PFMEA and Control Plan.

For FCA Special Characteristics, FCA’s current Customer-Specific Requirements for IATF applies. Examples include the Shield <S> and also <E> for Safety/Regulatory characteristics, and the Diamond <D> for characteristics that have been deemed key to the function and end-user acceptance of the final product.

All Control Characteristics require demonstrated process capability as described in this Manual.

#### 5.5 **Product Safety**

For products and materials with Product Safety-related Characteristics (*Soundwich will inform Key Suppliers of the specifics during the Quoting Process if this applies to them*), Key Suppliers must have a designated Product Safety Officer and back-up, plus documented processes relating to the design and development of manufacturing processes to ensure that products comply with all requirements. These processes include identification of statutory and regulatory product safety requirements, special approvals in the Process FMEA and Control Plan, defined responsibilities (including the escalation process and information flow process), controls implemented for product safety-related characteristics, reaction plans, training for those involved in the manufacturing of product safety-related products, approval of product or process changes prior to implementation, transfer of requirements to Sub-Tier Suppliers (as applicable), product traceability by manufactured lot (at a minimum) throughout the Supply Chain, and use of lessons learned during the introduction of new product safety products.

#### 5.6 **Risk Mitigation**

During risk analysis, Key Suppliers must identify both risks and opportunities. By addressing both, the Quality Management System can achieve its intended results, enhance desirable outcomes, reduce or eliminate undesirable effects, and foster continual improvement.

Risk Analyses must be performed consistently using a documented process that is based on the AIAG's Potential Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (PFMEA) reference manual or equivalent. Using this process, Key Suppliers can lessen the impact of risk by determining potential nonconformities and their causes, evaluating the need for action to prevent the occurrence of nonconformities, determining and implementing the necessary actions within the Quality Management System processes, recording the actions taken, evaluating the effectiveness of actions taken, and using lessons learned to prevent recurrence in similar products/processes. Actions taken must be appropriate based on the severity of the risk, and at a minimum, lessons learned should be determined from the analysis of product audits, Customer complaints, and scrap and rework data.

A key risk mitigation effort is to maintain a documented Contingency Plan that is appropriate to the severity of the risk and impact to the Customer. At a minimum, the Plan must consider key equipment failures, interruption of product/service supply from Sub-Tier Suppliers, natural disasters, fire, utility interruptions, labor shortages, and infrastructure disruptions (including cyber-attacks). If any situation may impact Soundwich, reaction plans must include notification to Soundwich as to the extent and expected duration. In addition, reaction plans must include the validation process to be taken following re-start of production following an emergency stoppage. Contingency Plans must be tested periodically for effectiveness, and reviewed and revised as necessary on at least an annual basis by a cross-functional team that includes Top Management.

Another important risk mitigation effort includes using a multi-disciplinary team to develop and improve facilities and equipment. A suitable environment can be a combination of human and physical factors, such as social, psychological, and physical. Plant layouts must optimize material flow, material handling, and the value-added use of building envelope. For all new and revised products and processes, Key Suppliers must use a multi-disciplinary team to determine manufacturing feasibility, and if processes are capable of consistently producing products/services that meet all Customer requirements. Key Suppliers should validate their ability to manufacture product to specifications at the required rate through production runs, benchmarking studies, or other means. Manufacturing feasibility assessments are to serve as inputs to Management Review.

#### **5.6.1 PFMEA Risk Review and Reduction**

Multi-disciplinary teams must use a systematic approach to proactively reduce risk. Monthly reviews are to focus on preventing defects from leaving the work station. Using a documented process for prioritizing top issues based on the Risk Limiting Method or equivalent, Key Suppliers must maintain action plans that include recommended actions, responsibilities and timing. Key Suppliers should

conduct Reverse PFMEA events at the work stations and transfer knowledge back through the Process Flow, PFMEA and Control Plan.

### **5.6.2 By-Pass/Deviation Management**

Key Suppliers must identify and maintain documentation of processes and process controls (including inspection devices and error-proofing systems) that may be by-passed or placed in deviation. The PFMEA for these processes/systems must include the use of primary and alternate control methods, and the internal approvals needed prior to implementation of the alternate control methods.

By-pass/deviation determinations must consider safety, failure mode severity, and the overall RPN rating for that process. Key Suppliers must implement Standardized Work Instructions that include Soundwich notification, and use of each alternate control method. When in place, Key Suppliers must verify the effectiveness of the alternate control methods on a daily basis at a minimum, with the goal being to return to the standard process as soon as possible. Examples of daily verification include quality-focused checks via the Layered Process Audit system, and daily Fast Response, Pre-Shift or similar leadership meetings.

Key Suppliers must implement traceability of all product produced while any alternate control methods are being used, for example verification and retention of First-Piece and Last-Piece from each shift.

Before shipping product that was inspected/tested using the alternate control method, Key Suppliers must obtain approval from Soundwich, if required. Key Suppliers must maintain and periodically review the documentation of alternate control methods.

Once the primary controls are re-instated, verification must be recorded for a defined period based on severity, and confirmation that all features of the primary control system have been effectively re-instated.

### **5.6.3 Error-Proofing/Detection Verification**

Key Suppliers must maintain a list of error-proofing devices, and identify which can be by-passed and which cannot. These devices must be verified for function (that is, tested to failure or simulated failure) according to Standardized Work Instructions at the beginning of each shift at a minimum and documented in the Control Plan, and verification events must be recorded. Errorproof Verification Samples (when used) must be clearly identified and available at the work station, and if applicable, calibrated/verified for the intended purpose. The Standardized

Work Instructions must include a reaction plan and employees must be knowledgeable about the reaction plan.

## **5.7 Managing Change**

### **5.7.1 Process Change Control**

Using a documented process for process change evaluation and control, Key Suppliers must evaluate all process changes after initial product approval, including those proposed by Soundwich, the Key Supplier, or its Sub-Tier Suppliers, for potential impact on form, fit, function, performance, and/or durability, and including the Design, Man, Machine, Material, Methods, and Environment components.

The process must include a requirement that the proposed changes be validated against Customer requirements (including the consideration of a production trial run (PTR) being conducted) and formally approved internally. In the case of changes proposed by the Key Supplier or its Sub-Tier Supplier, the Key Supplier must notify Soundwich, obtain recorded approval prior to implementation, and complete additional verification and identification requirements.

Key Suppliers must retain records detailing the employees authorizing the changes, the review of changes, and any necessary actions arising from the reviews.

Applicable documents, such as PFMEAs, Control Plans, and Standardized Work Instructions, must be updated as necessary, and relevant employees must be made aware of the revised requirements.

If the change relates to an FCA-related product, Soundwich will cascade all FCA quality requirements, including a Forever Requirements Notice to its Key Supplier(s), and the Key Supplier(s) will be required to do the same to affected Sub-Tier Supplier(s).

### **5.7.2 Inspection Gates**

Key Suppliers must use inspection gates such as Job Set-Up Verifications, Start-Up Verifications, and Final Inspection to verify that product requirements have been met prior to shipping. The sampling frequency must be based on risk, and during high-risk periods (e.g., product launch, shut-down/start-up periods, product/process changes, Fast Response issues), the sampling frequency must be increased. Key Suppliers must retain records of product release that includes

evidence of product conformance, and the identity of the person authorizing the release.

Job Set-ups must be verified when performed, such as during the initial run, a material change, or work cell changeover. Documented information must be available for set-up personnel, First-Piece/Last-Piece validations (as applicable) must be conducted, and the Last-Piece retained for comparison to First-Piece of next production run. Product and process compliance must also be verified after a planned or unplanned production shutdown period.

## **5.8 Sub-Tier Supplier Control**

Key Suppliers must have a documented process to identify outsourced processes, and evaluate, select, monitor, and re-evaluate Sub-Tier Suppliers. The process must include the criteria and actions to be taken in order to escalate or reduce the type and extent of controls based on the Sub-Tier Supplier's performance, and assessment of risk to product conformity and the uninterrupted supply of product. Actions arising from these evaluations must be recorded.

The process must also ensure that the purchased products and services comply with the current applicable statutory and regulatory requirements of the country of shipment and receipt, and in the Soundwich-identified destination country, if provided.

When a Sub-Tier Supplier is responsible for Control Characteristics ([Soundwich will inform them during Quoting if this applies to them](#)), it is the responsibility of the Key Supplier to adequately define and monitor the control system for these characteristics in their Control Plan. Quality requirements for a Sub-Tier Suppliers are the same as those for the Key Supplier; therefore, Key Suppliers must ensure that all such quality requirements are adequately communicated to the Sub-Tier Suppliers.

At a minimum, Sub-Tier Supplier monitoring must include product conformance to requirements, the number and extent of process disruptions, delivery schedule performance and the number of premium freight occurrences.

If Soundwich directs the Key Supplier to a Sub-Tier Supplier ("directed-buy"), all requirements of this section are applicable unless specific agreements are defined in the Key Supplier's contract with Soundwich.

## **5.9 Cleanliness Requirements**

The performance of many Soundwich products is sensitive to part cleanliness in assembly. Fluid components may also be very sensitive to burrs, so Soundwich requires supplied parts to adhere to the specification for burrs defined in ISO 13715, if applicable. Key

Suppliers are responsible for all product cleanliness that includes all packaging materials (including internal packaging and returnable dunnage if applicable) for such components. Soundwich may have specific requirements for the cleanliness of individual components. Contact your Soundwich Quality/Purchasing representative for more specific information about definitions, methods and guidelines.

#### **5.10 Packaging, Labeling and Shipping Requirements**

Soundwich and Key Suppliers will agree upon the packaging, labeling and shipping requirements. A description may be requested in a PPAP submission. Key Suppliers must ensure that the packaging is sufficiently robust to withstand shipment by all applicable transportation means and arrive on time, without damage.

In the absence of specific requirements in writing from Soundwich, Key Suppliers must control packing, packaging and marking processes to the extent necessary to ensure conformity with minimum industry requirements. Product shipped on a skid must be fixed in a manner that will not allow shifting or damage during shipment. Cartons must be of sufficient strength to assure that component quality will not be affected during shipment or storage. Bulk containers must have sufficient strength to ensure that the quality of the contents will not be affected during shipment or storage. The top of every bulk container must be covered (lid, cardboard pad, shrink wrap, etc. to protect contents. Container labels and packing slips should include at a minimum, Soundwich part number, engineering change number, quantity and purchase order. If Soundwich identifies product as nonconforming while still on the carrier, Soundwich will attempt to notify the Key Supplier. Otherwise, the Key Supplier will be notified of the return so that immediate corrective action can be taken to ensure that supply is not interrupted.

#### **5.11 Carriers**

The supplier must comply with all Soundwich routing requirements. Any change without written consent from Soundwich will result in the transfer in liability, responsibility and cost to the Key Supplier. Key Suppliers are responsible for all freight charges (above Soundwich contract rates) and potential loss or damage to the product by the unauthorized carrier.

Key Suppliers must notify Soundwich Purchasing of all shipments. The notification should be emailed the day of the shipment and include the Soundwich part number, quantity, carrier and any shipment identification number(s).

## 6.0 PRODUCT/PROCESS VALIDATION

Key Suppliers must demonstrate product conformance to all material, dimensional and processing requirements. This conformance must be established in accordance with the process capability requirements described below. Suppliers must provide a product certification in the format detailed in Appendix III or equivalent.

Process design and development validation must be performed in accordance with Soundwich requirements, and any applicable industry or regulatory standards. Validation timing must be planned in alignment with Soundwich-specified timing. When contractually agreed upon, validation must include the evaluation of the product within the final Customer's product.

### 6.1 Process Capability

Process capability must be demonstrated for the Control Characteristics identified in the Control Plan. Records must be maintained as evidence of the ability to achieve planned results.

- 6.1.1 Critical Characteristics are noted as "CC" or as otherwise defined by Soundwich's Customers. These Characteristics require a 2.0 Ppk at PPAP and 1.67 Cpk for continual process monitoring once process stability using control chart methodology has been achieved. Any Critical Characteristic not meeting capability requirements must be checked 100% on a device that is free from operator interpretation. Capability records for Critical Characteristics must be kept for minimum of 15 years.
- 6.1.2 Significant Characteristics are noted as "SC" or as otherwise defined by Soundwich's Customers. These characteristics require a 1.67 Ppk at PPAP and 1.33 Cpk for continual process monitoring once process stability using control chart methodology has been achieved.
- 6.1.3 An Action Plan is required if data does not meet the minimum requirements stated above. Key Suppliers must also notify Soundwich's Supplier Quality Engineer of any nonconformance to a Control Characteristic for material already shipped.
- 6.1.4 Once the Control Plan for Control Characteristics has been approved by Soundwich's Supplier Quality Engineer, the Key Supplier must not change the control of that Characteristic without written approval from Soundwich.
- 6.1.5 Key Suppliers of products containing Control Characteristics may be required to submit process capability data with each shipment upon request or per purchase order agreement.

### 6.2 Product/Service Approval Process

Key Suppliers must establish, implement and maintain documented product and manufacturing process approval process that conforms to Soundwich requirements. This

includes approval of Sub-Tier Supplier products and services prior to part submission to Soundwich. When all requirements have been met, Soundwich provides formal approval prior to shipment, and this record must be maintained by the Key Supplier.

### **6.3 Production Part Approval Process (PPAP)**

For automotive applications, Key Suppliers must make a PPAP submission prior to full production release whenever one of the following is planned:

- Initial submission
- Engineering Change(s)
- Tooling transfers, replacements, refurbishments
- Tooling inactive greater than 1 year
- Change to optional construction or material
- Correction of a discrepancy
- Sub-Tier Supplier change
- Change in part processing
- Parts produced at an additional location
- Other – as specified in the Purchase Order.

In each case, Key Supplier must submit samples, the appropriate Part Submission Warrant per the AIAG Production Part Approval Process (PPAP) reference manual, and an International Material Data System (IMDS) Submission (Note: Soundwich's IMDS Company ID is 23161). PPAP submissions records must be maintained for part production and service life plus one calendar year, unless specified by Soundwich or a regulatory agency.

#### **6.3.1 Process Sign-Off**

A Process Sign-Off run may be conducted at the Key Supplier's production facility if required by Soundwich's Customer. Soundwich will arrange this run with the Customer and Key Supplier.

#### **6.3.2 PPAP Requirements**

For the verification of purchased parts or processes, Soundwich requires Key Suppliers to submit a PPAP package. The default PPAP submission requirement is a Level 3, unless specifically agreed to in writing by the applicable Soundwich Program Manager (reference the current revision of the AIAG PPAP manual for specific LEVEL 3 requirements). If any other submission than a Level 3 is required by Soundwich, the Program Manager will request specific PPAP documentation. PPAP parts must be taken from a significant production run. This production run (unless specifically agreed to otherwise with Soundwich) must be in accordance with the current Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG) PPAP manual and be manufactured at the production site, at the production rate, using the production

tooling, gauging, process, materials, and operators. Parts from each unique production process stream must be measured and representative parts tested and submitted.

Any results that are outside of specification are cause for the Key Supplier to not ship product. Every effort must be made to correct the process so that all requirements are met. If the Key Supplier is unable to meet any of these requirements, Soundwich must be contacted for determination of appropriate corrective action.

Key Suppliers must not ship production material that has not first been PPAP-approved by Soundwich unless the Soundwich Program Manager provides approval to ship in writing. Approval is defined as the receipt of a signed Part Submission Warrant by the Key Supplier signifying that the part has been approved for shipment. If material is waived to ship without PPAP approval, the material will be quarantined at Soundwich and not released for production until full PPAP or conditional approval is granted. Samples of products may be shipped without PPAP approval, but must be appropriately labeled so that they are identified.

Soundwich encourages Key Suppliers who are not familiar, or need more background knowledge about the listed PPAP elements to acquire the applicable AIAG manuals, and also refer to other Soundwich standards that may be provided. Key Suppliers must be capable of delivering the PPAP package in English.

### **6.3.3 Process or Product Change Notification to Soundwich**

Key Suppliers must notify Soundwich of any intended design and process changes prior to implementation. Upon approval of the intention to change, a PPAP submittal and approval will be required prior to shipment of the modified product or process.

## 7.0 ADDITIONAL QMS REQUIREMENTS

### 7.1 Control of Sandwich-Supplied Property

Key Suppliers are required to establish and maintain procedures for the control of, verification, storage and maintenance of Sandwich-supplied product, containers, inspection devices and/or tooling. Any such property that is lost damaged or is otherwise unsuitable for use must be recorded and reported to Sandwich. Key Suppliers must maintain procedures to ensure the Sandwich-supplied property conforms to specified requirements. Key Suppliers must obtain Sandwich approval prior to scrapping or otherwise disposing of any Sandwich-supplied property. Sandwich-supplied property must only be used only to produce Sandwich products.

### 7.2 Quality Monitoring

Soundwich has a Zero Defects Policy. Key Suppliers are required to monitor their own shipments to assure an outgoing quality level of *Zero Parts Defective*.

### 7.3 Control of Nonconforming Product, and Material Identification and Traceability

Key Suppliers must have a standardized formal process for identifying all products in the facility, including inspection status. In addition, they must maintain a formal process that includes formal deviation reports for internal and external issues, and provide for identification, documentation, evaluation, isolation, and disposition of nonconforming parts, and for notification to all applicable internal and external parties. Any unidentified or suspect product must be controlled as nonconforming product.

Key Suppliers must have a documented traceability plans for all automotive products based on the levels of risk for employees, Customers and end-users. These plans must ensure that nonconforming/suspect product can be identified and segregated. If required by Sandwich's Customer, Key Suppliers must identify the components with a unique serial number, the structure of which will be defined by Sandwich's Customer and provided by Sandwich.

Records must be retained that detail the nonconformity, actions taken, concessions obtained (if applicable), and identification of the deciding authority.

Key Suppliers must have a documented disposition process for nonconforming product that is not to be reworked or repaired.

Employees must have a method to call for help when an abnormal condition on product or equipment occurs. Alarm limits for escalation of abnormal conditions must be in place, and must match the reaction plan detailed in the Control Plan.

Each container, rack, box, coil or pallet of product shipped to Soundwich must carry full identification, including Key Supplier and Soundwich part number(s), lot number(s), heat number(s), quantity, shipment date and deviation number, where applicable. Identification must permit traceability back to manufacturing and inspection records. In addition, products must be shipped on a lot basis. The Key Supplier's definition for lot must be acceptable to Soundwich to the extent.

To protect Soundwich and prevent further defective material from leaving a Key Supplier's facility, it is imperative that Key Suppliers take immediate action and initiate containment. Key Suppliers are responsible for containing nonconforming material at their location, as well as material in-transit, and at Sub-Tier Suppliers as applicable. If a Key Supplier fails to initiate immediate action and containment, or it is determined to be ineffective, Soundwich may use a third-party service provider at the Key Supplier's expense. Sorting/rework must be performed on all work-in-process and finished goods by the Key Supplier or their agent.

If a Key Supplier suspects nonconforming parts have been shipped to a Soundwich, or finds nonconforming parts within their finished goods inventory, Soundwich expects them to *immediately* notify Soundwich of the problem. Soundwich will look positively on a Key Supplier who takes the initiative to inform Soundwich about a potential defect.

#### **7.4 Corrective Action Requests**

If product is received by Soundwich or Soundwich's Customer that fails to conform to Soundwich specifications, a documented Corrective Action Request (CAR) is issued to the Key Supplier.

Required Actions, Deliverables, and Timing are as follows:

<i>No.</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Action Description</i>	<i>Deliverable to Soundwich</i>
1	Within 24 hours	Initial Response	Documented Preliminary Root Cause Analysis, Containment Actions and Results, detail on Replacement Parts
2	Within 5 days	Investigation and Planning	Documented Final Root Cause Analysis, Corrective Action Initial Response
3	Within 20 days	Final Response, Corrective Action Implementation, and Verification of Effectiveness	Documented Final Corrective Action Response, Implemented Corrective Actions, and Verification of Corrective Action Effectiveness, plus Objective Evidence as applicable

Administration charges per CAR are as follows: First occurrence: \$250, Repeat Occurrence: \$500.

In some situations, Soundwich may decide to visit the Key Supplier or Sub-Tier Supplier in order to participate in the mutual problem-solving. Soundwich reserves the right to use on-site or third-party staffing for sorting and containment in order to meet production demands and customer service. Any Soundwich labor used in containment, sorting, and/or repair activities will be charged back to the Key Supplier at a rate of \$150.00/hour. Lost production time due to nonconforming supplied product will be documented and charged back at the current shop rate. In addition, any premium freight incurred to meet Customer demands will be charged back to the Key supplier at the invoiced amount. Key Suppliers may visit Soundwich following receipt of a CAR to review the issue and accept or refute responsibility prior to being charged.

#### **7.4.1 Team Problem-Solving and Fast Response Processes**

Key Suppliers must use a documented team problem-solving process for use at all levels of the organization, and problem-solving efforts must be initiated according to the specified criteria. This process must include initial containment, root cause analysis and the implementation of corrective actions (including those that may be necessary for similar products or processes), verification of corrective action effectiveness, review/revision as necessary of related documentation, and timely closure of the issue, including exit criteria. Records of this process must be retained.

A daily Fast Response Meeting is a means by which significant operational items, including team problem-solving efforts, are tracked via a display board or equivalent. These meetings are conducted by plant management, and staff-level employees participate.

#### **7.4.2 Quality-Focused Checks**

In order to verify the effectiveness of actions taken, Key Suppliers must add high-risk quality-focused items from Quality Alerts, internal findings, Corrective Actions Requests, and other Customer complaints to their Layered Audit system. In addition, the Layered Audit system is used to verify corrective actions implemented as the result of internal and external issues, and continual improvement. All quality-focused checks added to the Layered Audit system must be performed each shift for the Key Supplier's established period of time.

## **7.5 Deviation for Nonconforming Products/Services**

There may be circumstances when a Key Supplier discovers out-of-tolerance conditions within their facility that they feel does not affect fit, form or function. In these instances, a limited-period written deviation may be requested from Soundwich prior to shipment. This request must include a quantity, breakpoint date and/or lot. If the deviation is approved by Soundwich, a copy of the approved request for deviation must be placed in each pack being delivered to Soundwich, otherwise parts will not be accepted. A plan to return to normal production, and the time required to do so may also be required at same time as the written request.

When accepting a deviation, Soundwich reserves the right to pursue cost recovery if costs above normal production are incurred due to the deviation, and the Key Supplier agrees that they will be responsible for such cost. Rejection of a deviation request is not an acceptable reason for a late or missed delivery.

If the Key Supplier approves a deviation request from a Sub-Tier Supplier, these same requirements apply.

## **7.6 Rework/Repair Approval and Control**

Key Suppliers who find it necessary to perform product rework or repair operations must first perform a risk analysis prior to the decision to rework/repair the product. No rework of material/product is authorized without prior Soundwich approval. Key Suppliers must have appropriate rework/repair process documentation and quality inspection in place, and product must conform to the original requirements. Soundwich may require special identification and segregation of the reworked product.

## **7.7 Soundwich Engineering Changes**

Soundwich will notify the Key Supplier of any drawing or engineering specification changes. An Engineering Change Notification (ECN) may also require that a new PPAP submission be prepared and submitted to Soundwich for approval prior to the first production shipment to the new ECN revision. Any obsolete inventory due to ECN or process/design changes will be negotiated with the Key Supplier.

## **7.8 Material Handling, Packaging and Delivery**

Key Suppliers must establish a system to prevent damage or deterioration of product throughout their operations. Packaging must conform to all requirements.

Key Suppliers must maintain a documented process detailing packaging, marking, storage, inventory assessments, First-In/First-Out (FIFO), and shipping requirements. Obsolete product must be controlled in a manner similar to nonconforming product.

Delivery requirements must be clearly understood and communicated within the Key Supplier's organization to ensure that shipments of material will meet all requirements.

Key Suppliers who fail to meet 100% On-Time Delivery performance after appropriate planning information and purchase commitments have been provided may be issued a Corrective Action Request to improve delivery performance. Failure to improve delivery performance, or to submit a response to the Corrective Action Request could result in removal from the Soundwich Approved Key Supplier List.

The Delivery Process Owner reviews Key Supplier freight bills to ensure unauthorized premium freight is not charged to Soundwich.

#### **7.9 Soundwich Verification of Key Supplier Products/Services**

Soundwich reserves the right to inspect all products/services received to verify conformance to contractual requirements. When purchased product/services are to be verified at a Key Supplier's facility, the Materials Manager will make specific arrangements for inspection and a method of release, as agreed to by the Key Supplier and Soundwich. However, the ultimate acceptance of the product or service will be made by Soundwich in accordance with contractual requirements.

#### **7.10 Certified Key Supplier Program**

Soundwich defines a Certified Key Supplier as one who is found to supply material of such quality that it is not necessary to perform routine testing on each lot received. Material or services may be received directly into stock, with only the agreed-upon Key Supplier-provided certification documents, accompanying each shipment and reviewed by appropriate Soundwich. Certified Key Suppliers are viewed as strategic to the continued growth and success Soundwich. Soundwich seeks to certify suppliers on the basis of sound business and quality practices that are consistent with our own. This process is defined in a separate document and will be discussed with Key Suppliers on an individual basis.

#### **7.11 Corporate Responsibility**

Key Suppliers must develop, implement and maintain formal Policy(ies) to address a commitment to human rights, acceptable working conditions, business ethics, environmental protection, and anti-corruption. These principles must be incorporated into the Key Supplier's business relationship with Soundwich, and Key Supplier personnel must be made aware of these Policies on a periodically-scheduled basis. (See [soundwich.com](http://soundwich.com), Quality page for the Soundwich Sustainability Policy and Code of Conduct.)

### **7.12 Responsibility and Authority for Customers, Facilities, and Processes**

Key Suppliers must designate a Soundwich Customer Representative. This person is to be identified in the Key Supplier Survey file (Contact List tab) and serve as the main contact for all Soundwich interactions. In addition, Process Owners must be designated for all product realization and support processes. Employees responsible for product/service conformity must have the authority to stop production in order to correct issues, and employees with corrective action responsibilities must be informed immediately in order to prevent nonconforming product from being shipped.

Key Supplier facilities must be maintained in a state of order, cleanliness and repair that is consistent with product and process requirements. 5S or the equivalent should be in place and maintained.

Key Suppliers must have adequate support personnel and equipment, on-site and/or through service contracts and consultants across all shifts, to effectively supply conforming products/services on-time, and to support analytical problem-solving and continual improvement.

### **7.13 Competence, Awareness and Motivation**

Key Suppliers must determine and provide the personnel necessary for an effective Quality Management System, including the operation and control of all processes within its scope.

Key Suppliers must maintain documented process(es) for identifying employee training needs, including awareness, and achieving competence for all personnel performing tasks that affect product and process conformity. Special attention must be paid to the satisfaction of Customer requirements.

On-the-job training must be provided as necessary to achieve competence for new, transferred, temporary or contract employees. Those employees whose work affects quality must be informed of the effect of nonconformances on Customer requirements. Where training is provided to achieve competence, the trainer's competency must be documented. Internal and external communications relevant to the Quality Management System must be conveyed consistently according to an established process.

Records must be maintained that demonstrate that all employees are aware of their impact on product quality, and the importance of their activities towards achieving, maintaining and improving product quality and Customer requirements, and the risks to the Customer if nonconforming products/services are shipped.

Key Suppliers must have a documented process to motivate employees to achieve Quality Objectives, make continual improvements, and foster an environment that promotes innovation. This process must promote quality and technical awareness throughout the entire organization.

There must be a documented process to verify that internal auditors are competent, and a documented list of qualified internal auditors. Internal auditors include those who audit the Quality Management System, processes, and/or products. At a minimum, they must have an understanding of the process approach for auditing, including risk-based thinking, Customer requirements, applicable ISO9001/IATF16949 requirements, AIAG Core Tools, and how to plan and conduct audits, and report and close out audit findings.

In addition, process auditors must understand the process they are auditing, including the process risk analysis (e.g., the PFMEA) and the Control Plan. Product auditors must understand product requirements and the use of inspection devices to verify product conformity.

Internal auditor competence must be maintained and continually improved by participating in at least the minimum number of audits per year (as defined by the Key Supplier), and maintaining knowledge of requirements based on internal and external changes.

#### **7.14 Built-In Quality System (BiQS)**

In order to comply with BiQS requirements, Soundwich must transfer some BiQS requirements through its Supply Chain. These Elements are incorporated and identified in this Manual. Refer to Appendix II for more information on BiQS.

#### **7.15 Quality Policy, Objectives and Targets**

Top Management must develop, maintain and implement a documented Quality Policy. This Policy is to be appropriate to the organization's purpose and strategic direction, and include commitments to satisfy applicable requirements and to continually improve the Quality Management System.

Based on the framework provided in the Quality Policy, Quality Objectives and Targets must be established, maintained and performance reported at relevant levels in order to support the Policy and the requirements of Customers and other interested parties. Objectives and Targets must be reviewed annually at a minimum and updated as necessary. The Policy, and Objectives and Targets must be understood throughout the organization.

## 7.16 Inspection Devices

Key Suppliers must maintain a system that ensures inspection devices are calibrated and capable for their intended use. The Key Supplier's applicable personnel must be able to demonstrate competence on device use.

Inspection devices must be referenced in Control Plans, and calibrated at assigned frequencies to the appropriate reference standards that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) or equivalent international certification sources. Calibration results must be recorded, and the calibration status of these devices must be evident. If a device fails calibration, the Key Supplier must **immediately** develop a containment and verification plan to address in-house and shipped products. If it is determined that nonconforming product has been shipped to Soundwich, the Key Supplier must immediately notify Soundwich, and then follow up with a detailed summary of the event.

Key Suppliers who maintain an internal laboratory for such activities as product and process measurements, testing, and inspection device calibrations/verifications must have a documented lab scope that includes capabilities. The lab must have adequate procedures, a competent staff, and maintain the required records. If required by Soundwich, layout inspection and functional testing must be detailed in Control Plans and performed at the required frequency, and results must be made available for review.

If external labs are used for inspection, test or calibration services, they must be accredited to ISO/IEC17025 or national equivalent, and have those services listed in their scope. If this is not the case, Soundwich must approve the use of the external lab.

Key Suppliers must have a documented process for managing calibration/verification records for such devices (regardless of ownership). Related records are to include:

- Records of calibration and maintenance activities
- Revisions to devices following engineering changes that impact measurement systems
- Out-of-tolerance readings as-received prior to calibration
- Assessments of risk for any out-of-tolerance condition, including notification to Soundwich if suspect product/material may have been shipped
- Statements of conformity to specifications
  - As applicable, verification that the software version being used for product and process control is correct.

For all inspection devices identified in Control Plans, statistical studies (e.g., Gauge Reproducibility & Repeatability (R&R) studies) must be conducted to analyze the variation present. Analytical methods and acceptance criteria must conform to that presented in the AIAG's Measurement System Analysis (MSA) reference manual, or equivalent if

approved by Soundwich. Results must be studied, and action taken if the results are unsatisfactory.

### **7.17 Total Productive Maintenance**

Key Suppliers must implement and maintain a documented total productive maintenance system. At a minimum, this system must include identification of key equipment, availability of replacement parts for key equipment, adequate resources to support the equipment, packaging and preservation of equipment, tooling and inspection devices, documented maintenance objectives, regular review of the maintenance plan and objectives and a documented action plan to address non-achievement of the objectives, use of preventive and predictive maintenance methods, and periodic overhaul of equipment. Preventive and predictive maintenance schedules and maintenance must be recorded and made available for review upon request.

Key Suppliers must maintain a system for production tooling management, whether owned by the Key Supplier or Soundwich, including maintenance and repair facilities and personnel, storage and recovery, set-up, tool change programs for perishable tools, and tool identification, including ownership. Any tooling not owned by the Key Supplier must be clearly and permanently marked so that ownership can be easily determined. When Soundwich provides tooling, it will be marked according to requirements upon receipt, unless otherwise formally arranged by Soundwich. If this is the case, marking requirements will be provided to the Key Supplier.

### **7.18 System Documents and Records**

#### **7.18.1 Quality Manual**

Key Suppliers must maintain a Quality Manual that, at a minimum, includes the scope of the Quality Management System, documented processes established for the System (or reference to them), a description of processes (including outsourced processes) and their interactions (inputs and outputs), and a matrix indicating where within the System their Customer-Specific Requirements are addressed.

#### **7.18.2 Document Control**

Key Suppliers must have a documented system that provides for the issue and control of all new or revised documents, availability where needed, the recall, replacement, and retention of those that are obsolete, and a system to evaluate compliance.

Key Suppliers must have a documented process that details the review, distribution, and implementation of Customer-supplied drawings, process and material specifications, and applicable engineering standards/specifications and

related revisions. Reviews must be completed within ten (10) working days for receipt of new or revised standards/specifications.

**7.18.3 Standardized Work Instructions**

Key Suppliers must document and implement all operational work using a standardized format that includes safety, quality and element time requirements, and includes the answers to what, how and why. These documents must be available for use at the applicable work stations, and personnel responsible for performing the work must understand the requirements. Any visual standards used throughout the organization must also be standardized, controlled, clearly communicated to applicable personnel, and referenced in Standardized Work documents. Key Suppliers must implement some form of workplace organization, such as 5S, to support Standardized Work requirements.

**7.18.4 Document and Record Retention**

A documented record retention policy must be maintained. Record control must satisfy statutory, regulatory, Customer, and organizational requirements, including those detailed in GMW15920 for GM-related records.

<i>Type of Record</i>	<i>Minimum Retention Period</i>
Management Reviews	Three (3) years from generation
Material Certifications	Five (5) years from generation
Records of product/process development and production, e.g., quality performance records (control charts, inspection records, test records), audit reports, reviews, evaluations	Six (6) years from generation
Records of product/process development and production related to Critical Characteristics, e.g., quality performance records (control charts, inspection records, test records), audit reports, reviews, evaluations	Fifteen (15) years from generation
Traceability	Six (6) years from generation
Validation (as applicable)	Ten (10) years from end of production
Product Safety (as applicable)	Fifteen (15) years from start of production
Durability (as applicable)	Fifteen (15) years from start of production
PPAP Submissions to and from Key Supplier	Part production and service life, plus fifteen (15) calendar years, unless

	specified by Soundwich or a regulatory agency.
Tooling maintenance and ownership	Part production and service life, plus one (1) calendar year, unless specified by Soundwich or a regulatory agency.
Specifications: Product/process development and production, control plans, drawings, Statements of Work, inspection instructions	Part production and service life, plus three (3) calendar years, unless specified by Soundwich or a regulatory agency.
Specifications related to Critical Characteristics: Product/process development and production, control plans, drawings, Statements of Work, inspection instructions	Part production and service life, plus fifteen (15) calendar years, unless specified by Soundwich or a regulatory agency.
Soundwich purchase orders/contracts and amendments	Part production and service life, plus one (1) calendar year, unless specified by Soundwich or a regulatory agency.

### 7.19 **Incoming Product Control**

Key Suppliers must ensure that all incoming materials conform to the requirements specified in applicable specifications/documents. Incoming material may be withheld from use pending verification by one or a combination of the following methods:

**7.19.1 Receiving Inspection:** The incoming material must be controlled through inspection and analysis of results. Records are maintained to provide evidence of conformance to specifications.

**7.19.2 Sub-Tier Supplier Control:** Records must exist that verify the control of incoming material through the Sub-Tier Supplier control systems.

**7.19.3 Verification by Production Process:** The control of incoming product quality can be measured through the manufacturing process. Material or Specific Characteristics can be qualified during manufacturing when the process assures that production/ assembly could not take place if the incoming material failed to conform to the specified requirements. All documented information that substantiates the Key Supplier's option of verification method must be available for Soundwich review upon request.

### 7.20 **Management Review**

Top Management must review the Quality Management System at planned intervals to ensure its continuing suitability, effectiveness and alignment with the organization's strategic direction. Inputs include a review of internal and external issues, product realization and support process performance, Customer feedback, Quality Policy, Objectives and Targets, process, product and internal Quality Management System audit

performance, and Sub-Tier Supplier performance. An action plan must be developed and implemented whenever Customer performance targets aren't met.

Outputs include identification of opportunities for improvement, the need for Quality Management System changes, and resource needs. Records of Management Reviews must be maintained.

#### **7.21 Process Effectiveness and Efficiency**

The Key Supplier's Top Management must review product realization and support processes to ensure that they are achieving their intended outputs, and improve their effectiveness and efficiency. This review must include the review of Customer-reported performance. These activities are to serve as inputs for Management Review.

Key Suppliers must monitor internal and external performance indicators to ensure compliance to all requirements. These indicators may include delivered product quality performance, Customer disruptions, delivery schedule performance, including incidents of premium freight, and incidents of Customer notifications related to quality or delivery issues.

Key Suppliers must use First-In, First-Out (FIFO) and a production scheduling process such as Just-In-Time (JIT) to ensure that Customer order requirements are met.

#### **7.22 Internal Audits**

Key Suppliers must have a documented internal audit process that includes audits of the entire Quality Management System, process audits, and product audits. The audit frequency and sample size must be prioritized based on risk, performance trends, and the criticality of processes. Frequency must be reviewed and revised as appropriate based on the occurrence of process changes, and internal and external nonconformities. Internal auditors must be competent, and be selected based on objectivity relative to the subject of the audit. Results of audits must be reported to relevant management, and corrective actions must be implemented without undue delay. The effectiveness of the internal audit program must be a Management Review agenda item.

##### **7.22.1 Quality Management System**

Using an annual schedule, the Quality Management System must be audited for efficiency and effectiveness using a process approach, and including a sampling of Customer-specific Quality Management System requirements.

##### **7.22.2 Layered Process Audits**

Key Suppliers are required to have a standardized Layered Process Audit system that includes an Audit Schedule, and that verifies conformance for all product-

related processes on all applicable shifts, including shift hand-overs as applicable, and the effectiveness of PFMEA, Control Plan and related documentation implementation. All levels of the Management staff are required to participate in the audit system, and quality-focused checks are also verified. Customer complaints/rejections must trigger an audit on the process that caused the issue. Those issues that can't be corrected during the audit must be moved to an Action Plan for monitoring to closure. Records are to be maintained. Questions are to be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary to address organization weaknesses. Layered audits are also to be used during the verification of corrective action effectiveness.

### **7.22.3 Product Audits**

Key Suppliers must audit products at appropriate stages of production and delivery in order to verify conformance to specified requirements.

Key Suppliers must perform quality-focused checks on each shift.

Key Suppliers must have a process for final inspection, which must be done on all finished product prior to shipping. This inspection can be at 100% frequency, or less based on the risk assessment. Quality-focused checks must be included in Standardized Work Instructions. Successive checks must be increased during high-risk scenarios, such as product launch, major process changes, production shut-down, or Customer feedback.

Key Suppliers must maintain inspection systems and/or tests that ensure conformance with all requirements. In-process controls and associated documents must be readily available for review by a Soundwich representative. For products designated by Soundwich as "appearance items", Key Supplier must provide appropriate resources (including lighting) for evaluation, controlled Appearance Masters as appropriate, and verification of competency for employees making appearance evaluations.

Audits of ready-to-ship product should be conducted on a regular basis with appropriate documentation. Records are to be made available upon request.

### **7.23 Continual Improvement**

Key Suppliers demonstrate a Top Management commitment to continual improvement, and a comprehensive philosophy of continual improvement must be identifiable throughout the entire organization. Key Suppliers must endeavor to make continual improvements to the quality, deliveries, schedules and prices to the Key Supplier's and Soundwich's benefit. Key Supplier must have a documented process for continual

improvement that includes objectives, measurement methodology, determination of effectiveness, a manufacturing process improvement plan with emphasis on the reduction of process variation and waste, and risk analyses. Improvement efforts must determine and implement opportunities to meet Customer requirements and enhance Customer satisfaction.

Soundwich encourages Key Suppliers to work on:

- Error proofing techniques (POKA-YOKE)
- Six Sigma
- Lean Manufacturing
- SPC
- SMED (Single Minute Exchange of Die)
- TPM (Total Productive Maintenance)
- 5S
- Visual Systems

#### **7.24 Key Supplier Development**

Key Suppliers are expected to provide Soundwich with exceptional Quality, Delivery, Cost and Capability to enable Soundwich to meet its business goals and those of its Customers and stakeholders. Action will be taken to improve or remove poor performers and to better use Key Suppliers that excel. Key Supplier Development starts with third-party certification to ISO9001, and concludes with third-party certification to IATF16949.

As a result of quality performance issues and cost of poor quality, we expect Key Suppliers to implement improvements within their Quality Management System. As a result of maintaining a certified System, we expect Key Suppliers to continually improve their products, services and processes to keep pace with the global demands/requirements in the markets Soundwich serves.

When applicable and appropriate, we expect suppliers to be proactively involved with new and mature product development and to provide recommendations to standardize parts and reduce part numbers which enables Soundwich to reduce cost and improve quality. We expect suppliers to participate in continuing education within their industry to provide Soundwich with latest technology and to notify Soundwich of industry-related continuing education opportunities that may be of benefit. Where applicable, we expect suppliers to continually strive to develop new, lower cost, higher quality methods of processing and expect suppliers to bring material innovations to Soundwich to assist us in developing the best products in the market.

### **7.25 AIAG CQI Special Process Self-Assessments**

Soundwich requires Key Suppliers of Special Processes (e.g., Coating, Plating, Casting, Heat Treating, Welding, Soldering, Molding) to perform annual AIAG CQI self-assessment audits. Completed audits are to be forwarded to the Soundwich Systems Manager on an annual basis (close to 365 days from the prior assessment). Any findings of “Not Satisfactory”, “Needs Immediate Attention”, “Failed”, and Process Table items “Not Meeting Minimum Requirements” must be closed within 90 days, and then re-submitted to Soundwich. This requirement extends to Key Suppliers with Special Processes performed by their Sub-Tier Suppliers on product supplied to Soundwich.

### **7.26 Responsible Minerals Sourcing**

Soundwich requires Key Suppliers and their Supply Chains to select conflict-free smelters for Tin, Tungsten, Tantalum and Gold. These smelters must have implemented due diligence practices that have been validated by an independent third-party audit program.

# Appendix I: Product Life Cycle Management

Product Life Cycle Management considers five main elements that are achieved in four phases:

1. Engineering: Meeting all internal and external requirements, and coordinating the design process by involving all relevant stakeholders. Reliability Engineering is an important component.
2. Project Planning: Managing the allocation of resources, tracking progress, and planning for new product development. Portfolio Management assists management in the tracking of new products and services, and making trade-off decisions when resources are scarce.
3. Product Design: Creating a new product/service.
4. Manufacturing Process Planning: Defining how products are to be manufactured or services delivered.
5. Product Data Management: Capturing and maintaining information on products and/or services through their entire life. Change Management is an important component.

## Phase 1: Introduction (Product Definition)

The first step is the definition of the product requirements based on customer, market, organization, market and regulatory bodies' requirements. These requirements lead to the definition of the product requirements, and the main technical parameters and functional aspects. The main activities are:

- Generation and filtering of ideas
- Product definition
- Project plan
- Final review.

The filtering process considers whether the idea is consistent with the organization's strategic focus, whether the market size and growth potential are appealing, and the manufacturing feasibility.

Product definition determines which product characteristics are necessary to meet customer needs and business objectives. It transforms feasible ideas into economically-competitive product concepts, and then produces the initial design concept.

The project plan details time and resource allocation, and the scheduling of tasks. A final review is conducted to determine if the organization should commit resources to the product design and development stage.

## Phase 2: Growth (Product Design and Development)

If the decision is to proceed with product design and development, this phase starts with the detailed product design, and then advances to through an iterative prototype testing and design refinement

process. It eventually ends with a full product launch, and can also involve redesign and improvement of existing products.

Reliability Engineering in the design and development stage includes reliability assessments, development testing, and reliability improvement. Test data is gathered from experiments, and statistical techniques are used to estimate reliability. Development tests, such as testing to failure, design limit testing, and accelerated life testing, are then conducted to further evaluate and improve product reliability. Reliability improvement can be attained through efforts such as redundancy design, stress-strength analysis, reliability growth, and preventive maintenance design.

### **Phase 3: Maturity (Manufacturing Process Design and Implementation)**

Once the product design is complete, the manufacturing process must be defined and implemented. A well-designed manufacturing process achieves a low production cost and the desired productivity and quality levels. The main activities involved in manufacturing process design are:

- Supply chain design
- Process planning
- Process layout
- Equipment selection.

Supply chain design involves a variety of decisions, including supplier selection, transportation method, and inventory management policies. Supplier selection includes considerations such as quality, price, and lead time.

Process planning determines how the product will be manufactured. Key elements to consider are:

- Set-up planning: arranging manufacturing features in a sequence of setups that ensures quality and productivity
- Tolerance analysis: the design and allocation of manufacturing tolerance
- Process capability indicators: used to predict a proposed production system's performance.
- Key drivers of quality: approaches include Quality Function Deployment (QFD), Design of Experiments (DOE), and Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA).

Process layout impacts manufacturing flexibility, complexity, and robustness. Manufacturing flexibility is the ability to build several different products in one system with no production delays due to product differences. Manufacturing complexity is characterized by the number of components and products, the types of processes, and schedule stability. In general, complexity negatively impacts manufacturing performance indicators, including quality. Robustness refers to the ability to minimize or eliminate process fluctuations and drift.

Equipment selection determines key operating characteristics and reliability, and therefore impacts quality. The goal is to achieve a good balance between productivity and quality.

#### **Phase 4: Decline (Post-Manufacturing)**

The final phase of the life cycle involves managing information and services. This can include providing customers and support staff with the information required for maintenance and repair, as well as waste management.

The decline phase can be divided into three stages:

- Marketing
- Post-sale support
- Retirement.

Marketing includes internal and external considerations, such as logistics, price, promotion, and warranty, competitors, economy, and customer feedback.

Post-sale support is necessary to ensure satisfactory operation of the product, and can add value to the product from both manufacturer's perspective (e.g., sales) and customer's perspective (e.g., postponing product replacement). Support activities including providing spares parts, information, and training, installation and maintenance service contracts, and warranties. Product Data Management and Change Management play crucial roles in the post-sale support stage.

There is an end-of-life to every product. Whether it is disposal or destruction of product, life cycle management should be carefully considered, as it may be legislated or required and therefore not free from consequences.

## Appendix II: Built-In Quality System

The most efficient and effective way to guarantee high-quality performance is through the use of a concept called Built-In-Quality (BIQ). BIQ is one of the five principles of Lean Manufacturing. The other four principles are:

- Employee Engagement
- Standardization
- Short Lead Time
- Continual Improvement

When combined with the other four principles of Lean Manufacturing, BiQ defines the steps required for building quality into the manufacturing process. BIQ allows an organization to move from the detection and containment of defects to preventing defects from ever being produced. By migrating through each step of the BIQ process, an organization is able to increase its ability to build quality in station and lower the overall cost of quality by reducing the need for inspection and correction.

## Appendix III: Product Certification

Key Suppliers who provide [material\(s\)](#) and [purchased parts](#) must provide the results of measurements and tests that determine the chemical, mechanical, and hardness properties specified in applicable specifications. Results must be recorded to certify specification conformance on a lot-by-lot basis, and must accompany each shipment's shipping documents or be emailed to [Certifications@Soundwich.com](mailto:Certifications@Soundwich.com)

## Reference Documents

1. IATF16949
2. ISO9001
3. ISO/IEC/EN17025
4. Advanced Product Quality Planning (APQP) reference manual – Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG)
5. Production Part Approval Process (PPAP) reference manual – AIAG
6. Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA) reference manual – AIAG
7. Measurement System Analysis (MSA) reference manual – AIAG
8. AIAG Core Tools:
  - APQP reference manual
  - PPPA manual
  - PFMEA manual
  - SPC manual
  - MSA manual
9. ISO13715: Technical Product Documentation - Edges of Undefined Shape - Indication and Dimensioning – International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
10. Built-in Quality System – General Motors

## Revision History

<i>Release Date</i>	<i>Section No.</i>	<i>Change Description</i>
07.15.11	Not Applicable	Official release
03.03.20	2.0	Revised description of how new Key Suppliers are evaluated
	3.0	Revised Key Supplier Performance Reporting to new rating system, including periodic performance report card emails
	5.0	Added requirements for APQP Process, Process Design & Development, Special Characteristics, Product Safety, APQP Documents, Risk Mitigation, Managing Change, Sub-Tier Supplier Control
	6.0	Added requirements for Process Capability, Product/Service Approval Process
	7.0	Added requirements for Material Handling, Packaging and Delivery, Soundwich Verification of Key Supplier Products/Services, Corporate Responsibility, Responsibility and Authority for Customers, Facilities, and Processes, Competence, Awareness and Motivation, Built-in Quality System (BiQS), Quality Policy, Objectives and Targets, Inspection Devices, Total Productive Maintenance, System Documents and Records, Incoming Product Control, Management Review, Process Effectiveness and Efficiency, Internal Audits, AIAG CQI Special Process Self-Assessments, and added additional requirements for Control of Nonconforming Product/Service, Corrective Action Requests, Continual Improvement
	Appendix I	Added information on Product Life-Cycle Planning
	Appendix II	Added information on Built-In Quality System
	Appendix III	Added information on Product Certification
01.18.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 3.0 Key Supplier Monitoring and Reporting</li> <li>• Section 7.4 Corrective Action Requests</li> <li>• Section 7.18 System Documents and Records</li> <li>• Appendix III Product Certification</li> <li>• Section 7.26 Responsible Minerals Sourcing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised the definition of “On-Time Delivery” from ‘2 days Late’, to ‘1 Day Late’</li> <li>• Added detail on the Customer-Specific Requirements (corrective action response deliverables and timing, and minimum record retention periods) that must be passed through the Supply Chain from Soundwich’s Customers</li> <li>• Removed GM’s BiQS reference numbers throughout, although content remains</li> <li>• Revised Product Certification requirements to include all materials and purchased parts, and also provide the email address for an alternate way to provide certifications for each shipment</li> <li>• Added Responsible Minerals Sourcing requirements</li> </ul>