

Ref. SQA/950/2024

Cascina Costa, 09/09/2024

All Suppliers  
To whom it may concern.

**Subject: AW09 Design maturity levels – Follow-up of Leonardo Communication Ref. SQA/24/146**

Dear Supplier,

In relation to the Letter SQA/24/146 dated 09/02/2024 shared by Leonardo Helicopters concerning the Design maturity Level and strictly related to AW09 program, here to communicate that for all parts and products in status "Item Revision Release" the limitation for "Not for Flight" has been removed by Design Organization.

Due to this new update, from a Production Organization perspective, the Status "Item Rev. Release" and the Status "Release" are to be considered as equivalent until the approval of design data (i.e. Type Certificate), since no additional and significant changes will be introduced by Design Organization between the two Design Maturity Levels and with the parts in Status "Item Revision Release" is allowed to perform the internal flight tests (Experimental Flight Test and Production Test Flight).

As per statement above the reference to which Design Maturity Level the parts are manufactured shall be indicated on Certificate of Conformity as additional requirement as per QRS-01.

- **"Pre-Release Proto"** the supplier is required to indicate the following wording in the CoC: "KPT DWG N. (insert the KPT DWG number), Rev (insert the rev. number) Pre-Release Proto - not for final installation nor for flight"
- **"Item Rev. Release"** the supplier is required to indicate the following wording in the CoC: "KPT DWG N. (insert the KPT DWG number), rev (insert the rev. number), status: Item Rev. Release - for experimental and production internal flight test"
- **"Release"** the supplier is required to indicate the following wording in the CoC: "KPT DWG N. (insert the KPT DWG number), rev (insert the rev. number), status: Release."

To guarantee the correct configuration and the maturity level of design, the supplier can obtain this information from the title block of the drawing shared by Leonardo Production Organization or Kopter Design Office (where applicable).

Please be informed that the changes of Design Maturity Level (e.g. from Item Revision Release to Released) doesn't entail the change of Revision (e.g. from Rev. A to Rev. B).

The defeat of revision is applicable only in case of modification that have impact on Fit Form and Function.

The revision of the Kopter drawing will be reported in the Purchase Orders, but not the maturity level of the drawing.

The Kopter drawings will be sent through SWIP package associated with the order. When manufacturing components, the supplier is required to check the revision and status of the drawings according to which the part is manufactured. Any updates to the drawings revisions/status will always be sent via SWIP package. Focal points are the Leonardo Manufacturing Engineering office and the Leonardo Procurement office.

As regards the FAI activities, here to confirm that the FAI closure is allowed for "Item Rev. Release" status as well as for "Release".

Differently from the Status "Pre-Release Proto" where the FAI closure is not allowed and the parts in this status are not applicable to manufacture the AW09 from PS5 on.

In the same time, here to inform that for AW09 program a dedicate Quality Plan is needed with the aim to issue a DO-PO (in case of manufacturer) or IPO-PO (in case of subcontractor POA Holder).

For supplier without POA Holder and engaged to manufacture Critical Parts a Quality Plan is needed too and will be managed and approved by Leonardo Plant. The process shall be compliant with QRS-108.

For the parts or components where the Quality Code, reported on Purchase Order, requires an ARC in "New" status, but the supplier is unable to deliver it because the PN is not yet included in its Capability List, the supplier can deliver with ARC in "Prototype" status only after having issued a Quality Plan approved by LH and managed DO-PO or IPO-PO Arrangement with LH \Plant, in accordance with QRS-110 and QRS-108

For this purpose, the supplier shall send a formal letter to Leonardo and Kopter during the order acceptance phase, in which declares expected dates for releasing ARC in "New" status and obtain approval from LH/KPT to deliver the part with ARC "Prototype".

If it is not possible to issue even an ARC in "Prototype" status, Leonardo can accept parts with Certificate of Conformity, but the ARC request in the Quality Code in the order will be maintained, to continue asking the supplier to include the component in its own Capability List.

The requirements above will be included as additional requirement dedicate to AW09 Program that will be described in the new revision of QRSK-01 once will be published on Leonardo QRS-01 website in the section "Additional Data -> Program Additional Requirements".

**AS REFERENCE ONLY:** Attached the guidelines "QUA/2024/0085 date 16/05/2024" issued by Leonardo Quality Control Vergiate.

Pre-Release Proto (*)	<p>The design is mature enough to order and manufacture a prototype of the part.</p> <p>Part is ready for quotation/ordering/production (provided it is part of the PBS of the aircraft).</p> <p>Installation on aircraft for fit checks are permitted, as temporary installation.</p> <p>Part is NOT mature for final installation on aircraft NOR for flight.</p> <p>Note 1: this status is not applicable for installation assy.</p> <p>Note 2: this status can be used for component test article (non-flying design), limited to test rig, dummy parts and design items used as container (i.e. parts under test are excluded).</p>
Item Rev. Release (*)	<p>The design-is mature enough to order, manufacture and install on aircraft (applicable design).</p> <p>Also performing internal test flights (Experimental Flight Test and Production Test Flight), provided that a corresponding FCA &amp; PtF is issued.</p> <p>Revising (up-issuing) the technical data package will require to follow the change process.</p> <p>Note: for compliance demonstration component test article (non flying design) this status shall be used for parts under test.</p>
Release (*)	<p>The "Release" Status has to be issued by Kopter for any parts intended to be part of an approved configuration (i.e. TC). This is pre-requisite to issue the Type Design Configuration.</p> <p>From a PO perspective the Status Item Rev. Release and Release are to be considered equivalent until the design is approved (i.e. TC). In particular, the promotion from Item Rev. Release to Release cannot introduce any design change or drawing revision. Revising (up-issuing) the technical data package will require to follow the change process.</p> <p>Post TC: Release status to be reached as a pre-requisite to approve a minor or major change to the TC or approval a minor or major repair.</p> <p>Note: for compliance demonstration component test article (non flying design) this status can be used for parts under test.</p>

(\*) FAI closure is allowed for "Item Rev. Release" status as well as for "Release"

Yours faithfully,

Kopter Head of Procurement

LHD Head of Supplier Quality Assurance

Signed by Diego Michielan

on 10/09/2024 13:31:05 CEST

  
Signed by Fabio Mencioti  
on 11/09/2024 at 16:53:03 CEST

Diego Michielan

Fabio Mencioti