VDA 6.3 process audit
What’s about?

Nearly all suppliers in the automotive supply chain are maintaining a quality system according to different standards (e.g. ISO 9001 or ISO/TS 16949).

This is generally required by the OEM’s (original equipment manufacturer).

While the quality system is securing the capability of a supplier to produce a defined level of product quality, the processes of an organization are the main base to guarantee the performance of an organization and secure it’s successful future.

The VDA 6.3 process audit is a standardized procedure to conduct process audits within a quality management system and assess their capability and performance.

The VDA 6.3 is unique procedure without any comparable approach worldwide.
Qualification of VDA 6.3 process auditors.

To conduct high quality process auditors the auditors must be qualified according to the following issues:

• Acceptable work experience within the processes they would like to conduct process audits

• Attend successfully a VDA 6.3 training session.

• Pass the VDA 6.3 process auditor exam

• Monitor, review and update the knowledge of process auditors, if they are conducting process audits.
Benefit for the organization.

The process audits, internally or at the suppliers, are clearly identifying the weaknesses, risk and strengths within the audited processes.

The process audit report will provide an excellence analysis of the audited process, so that effective improvement activities could be created.

The potential risks identified by a process audit will help to avoid costs of warranties.

The process audit will support the identification of waste and losses of a process to increase the efficiency of it.

VDA 6.3 process audit will fully fill the requirement to conduct process audits due to customer specifics and ISO/TS 16949 in a most effective and efficient manner.
Customer specific requirements – BMW AG:

BMW AG do require the VDA standards as additional requirements according to their customer specifics.

Each supplier must conduct process audits, because it is also required by the ISO/TS 16949.

BMW AG itself conduct process audits based on VDA 6.3.
Customer specific requirements – Volkswagen AG:

Volkswagen AG do require the VDA standards as additional requirements according to their customer specifics.

This is mentioned in the Formel Q capability (page 4):

- “Base of the process audit is the VDA 6.3 part B serial production including an assessment of all processes and procedures of the current production.” (page 29)

- “The self assessment of a supplier has to be conducted according to VDA 6.3 followed by a product audit…” (page 23)

- “The self assessment must be carried out minimum once a year…” (page 23)
Customer specific requirements – Daimler AG:

Daimler AG do require the VDA standards as additional requirements according to their customer specifics.

Each supplier must allow Daimler AG to conduct process audits also at their sub-suppliers.

Daimler AG require an analysis of structure and risks within their processes.