



Ames Policy Directive

APD 1280.1

Effective Date: March 2, 2023

Expiration Date: May 10, 2026

COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY

Subject: Ames Quality Management System Policy

Responsible Office: Code D / Office of the Director

CHANGE LOG

Status [Baseline /Revision /Cancelled]	Document Revision	Date of Change	Description
Baseline	-	3/2/2023	New baseline. Updated quality policy per Executive Steering Committee decision; updated software requirements in 1.d.3; moved AQMS Manager and Center Management responsibilities to APR 1280.4; removed definitions in Attachment A; deleted Attachment C (AQMS Core Processes and Attachment D (AQMS Requirement Documents to ISO 9001 + AS9100D Crosswalk)
Revision	1	4/24/2023	Added content from cancelled APR 1220.1 regarding Center Level Management Objectives and performance measures into new paragraphs 1.f and 1.g

1. POLICY

- a. This directive establishes the policy for the Ames Research Center's (ARC) implementation of the Ames Quality Management System (AQMS) requirements of NASA Policy Directive (NPD) 1280.1, NASA Integrated Management System Policy for compliance with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001 and Aerospace Standard (AS) 9100 to assure quality and continual improvement of the Center's programs, projects, processes, products, and services in order to meet Agency, Center, and customer objectives.
- b. The Quality Policy established in this directive aims to enhance ARC's ability to achieve program, institutional, and Agency goals and objectives as stated in NPD 1001.0, NASA Strategic Plan.
- c. Ames Research Center's Quality policy is to deliver quality products and services that consistently meet mission and customer requirements, while continually improving the effectiveness of the Ames Quality Management System.
- d. Contributions and commitments to programs and projects conducted at Ames enable the provision of quality products and services by tailoring requirements commensurate with the program or project's risk posture.
- e. AQMS Scope
 - (1) The scope of the AQMS includes the design, development, manufacture, test, installation, operations, and servicing of aerospace products and services, ground support equipment, and all associated acquisition products, processes, and services provided by NASA Government organizations, contractors, and subcontractors to the extent it is identified in awarded contracts.
 - (2) The scope of the AQMS does not include processes governed by the Center's other management systems, such as environmental management, occupational safety and health, financial management, OCIO, OCE Human Capital, Export Control, Facilities, Security, Property, and Logistics.
 - (3) Software is required to be compliant with NPR 7150.2 and is assessed via an evaluation performed by a qualified evaluator selected by the Center Engineering Technical Authority, against the CMMI-DEV Maturity Level 2 practices.
 - (4) The AQMS scope is bounded and applied as follows:
 - (i) For work that is Critical and/or Complex (see NPR 8735.2 for definitions) – AS9100.
 - (ii) For all other work – ISO 9001 or AS9003.
- f. The AQMS Center Level Management Objectives (CLeMOs) are:
 - (1) Center Leadership (Strategic) – Lead and provide oversight for the entirety of the AQMS.
 - (2) Program & Project Management (Mission) – Delivery of aerospace products while meeting customer requirements.
 - (3) Program and Project Support (Mission Support) – Delivery of support for Aerospace Programs and Projects.
 - (4) Ames Quality Management System (AQMS Office) – Assess the effectiveness of the AQMS.
 - (5) Produce outstanding research and development.

g. It is ARC's policy to use performance measures (see NPR 8000.4) to measure and understand the Center's performance toward achieving CLeMOs and organizational management objectives, identify areas for Center-wide and organizational level process improvements, and provide a factual basis for planning (strategic and tactical), and risk mitigation.

2. APPLICABILITY

- a. This APD is applicable to ARC and associated facilities.
- b. This APD applies to civil servants at ARC and to contractors, grant recipients, and parties to agreements to the extent specified or referenced in the contracts, grants, or agreements.
- c. In this directive, all mandatory actions (i.e., requirements) are denoted by statements containing the term "shall." The terms "may" or "can" denote discretionary privilege or permission, "should" denotes a good practice and is recommended, but not required, "will" denotes an expected outcome, and "are/is" denote descriptive material.
- d. In this directive, all document citations are assumed to be the latest version unless otherwise noted.

3. AUTHORITY

- a. NPD 1280.1, NASA Integrated Management System Policy

4. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS AND FORMS

- a. NPD 1001.0 NASA Strategic Plan

5. RESPONSIBILITY

- a. **The Deputy Center Director** is responsible for:
 - (1) Serving as the Ames Quality Management Representative and resolving matters pertaining to the implementation of the AQMS.
 - (2) Establishing, maintaining, and communicating the Center's Quality Policy
 - (3) Setting the scope, direction, and requirements for the AQMS
 - (4) Ensuring the necessary resources are allocated for the implementation, operation, and improvement of the AQMS
 - (5) Appointing the AQMS manager
 - (6) Chairing and facilitating the AQMS Executive Steering Committee (ESC) to ensure the quality policy and AQMS are appropriate for the Center's activities and are reviewed at planned intervals for continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness
 - (7) Ensuring changes to the AQMS are carried out in a planned manner

6. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

None.

7. MEASUREMENT/VERIFICATION

Verification of conformance to requirements in this directive are measured through Center and Responsible Organizational management reviews, self-assessments, and subsequent analysis and reports of conformance to requirements, as well as periodic internal audits.

8. CANCELLATION

- a. APD 1280.1, Ames Quality Management System, dated October 3, 2018.
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Eugene Tu

Director

DISTRIBUTION:

Internal and external distribution.

ATTACHMENT A. REFERENCES

- A.1 NPR 7120.5, NASA Space Flight Program and Project Management Review Requirements
- A.2 NPR 8000.4, Agency Risk Management Procedural Requirements
- A.3 NPR 8735.2 Hardware Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Programs and Projects
- A.4 APR 1280.4, Ames Quality Management System Requirements
- A.5 AS9100, Quality Systems - Aerospace
- A.6 AS9003, Inspection and Test Quality Systems Requirements for Aviation, Space, and Defense Organizations
- A.7 ISO 9001, Quality Management Systems

ATTACHMENT B. ACRONYMS

APD	Ames Policy Directive
APR	Ames Procedural Requirement
AQMS	Ames Quality Management System
ARC	Ames Research Center
AS	Aerospace Standard
CLeMO	Center Level Management Objective
CMMI	Capability Maturity Model Integration
ESC	Executive Steering Committee
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
NPD	NASA Policy Directive
NPR	NASA Procedural Requirement
OCE	Office of the Chief Engineer
OCFO	Office of the Chief Financial Officer
OCIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer