



Frequently Asked Questions

Nuclear Quality Assurance NQA-1

What is ASME NQA-1?

ASME NQA-1 is a standard created and maintained by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) to regulate quality programs for manufactures. It provides supplemental information on implementing the requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B. The document provides guidance and methods for creating a quality system that would meet the legislative requirements therein. Five Star Products' program is compliant with ASME NQA-1, both 1994 and 2008. Certain utilities require compliance with both versions.

What is 10 CFR 50 Appendix B?

The NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) is responsible for licensing and monitoring the operation of nuclear plants throughout the U.S. under legislation passed by Congress (i.e. aforementioned 10 CFR 50 Appendix B). This code contains 18 quality assurance criteria that the nuclear plant operator must meet.

Plant operators pass these 18 quality assurance requirements down to their suppliers of materials and services. Five Star Products, in turn doing the same, passes the requirements down to its own suppliers of raw materials and producers of safety-related products, through commercial grade dedication. Five Star Products' nuclear quality assurance program is developed around the 18 criteria.

Is Five Star Products, Inc. NQA-1 Certified?

No. There is no central body that provides a blanket "NQA-1 Certification." Utilities must approve their suppliers based on their own approval criteria per their NQA-1 program. This generally involves an audit of the suppliers' quality assurance program.

What is NUPIC?

NUPIC, a consortium formed in 1989 that consists of nuclear power generation operators who share supplier audits, has a proven process for evaluating suppliers that furnish safety-related components/services and commercial-grade items to nuclear utilities. This cooperative organization helps ensure consistency and avoid redundancy, while maintaining the highest standards of quality. Five Star Products was successfully audited by a Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) led NUPIC team in June 2018. The team found that Five Star Products maintains an effective NQA-1 program that meets the requirements of ANSI/ASME NQA-1 1994 and 2008 Editions. This audit is now available to all NUPIC members who may use it to add Five Star Products to their Approved Suppliers List.

A highly refined Quality Assurance Program is required in order to achieve conformance with nuclear grade standards.

Five Star Products, Inc. is among the very few construction material suppliers to be specified in this market.



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What is 10 CFR 21?

Sometimes referred to as whistle-blower protection, 10 CFR 21 provides for responsibilities and rights for those suppliers who are aware of a non-compliance delivered to the customer. Purchase orders received for safety-related material will generally state that both 10 CFR 50 Appendix B and 10 CFR 21 apply. If this verbiage is on the purchase order, then it is for safety-related material.

Other Important Information

Five Star Products' safety-related materials are manufactured and tested in Chardon, Ohio.

Five Star Products is an approved supplier for Vogtle, Southern California Edison, Bechtel, Duke Energy, Pacific Gas and Electric, Tennessee Valley Authority, Exelon, and just recently Xcel added Five Star Products to their approved supplier list.

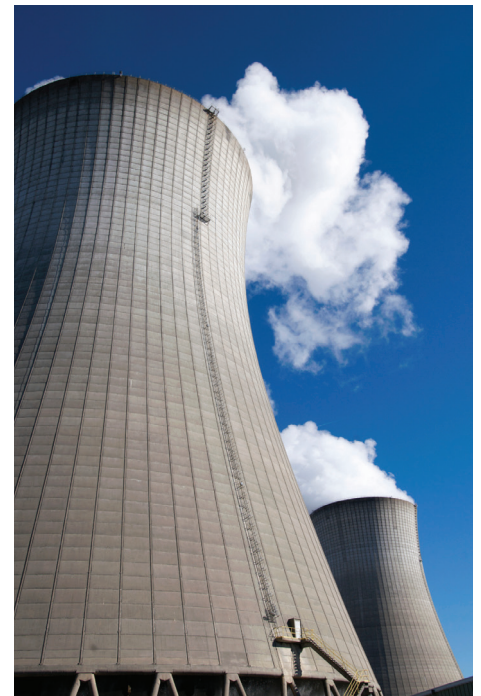
Customers evaluate Five Star Products' program which is audited every three years, at a minimum.

Five Star Products evaluates its suppliers annually and surveys/audits the majority every three years.

Five Star Products annually performs internal audits on its own nuclear quality assurance program.

Processing Safety-Related or NQA-1 Purchase Orders

- NQA-1 orders can only be accepted via a written purchase order.
- Most orders are considered "Made to Order" with a lead-time of approximately 15 working days, including time allotted for specific Quality Control requirements.
- Most customers will have specific QC requirements that must be met before a shipment can be released.
- All purchase orders are reviewed for quality assurance and technical requirements. If there are any requirements that cannot be met via our standard program, we will reach out to the customer for an "exception" to the requirement. We cannot ship until the exception is approved.
- All paperwork flows through Five Star Products' Headquarters in Shelton, CT.



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