



Supplier Technical Assessment and Validation Program

Background

In August of 2014, NNS Engineering and Design Division established the Supplier Technical Assessment and Validation (STAV) Program within the Material Engineering Department with a goal of supporting the Supply Chain Procurement and Supplier Quality organizations (internally), and our Suppliers (externally), through an enhanced understanding of the technical capabilities and processes of our Supply Base. This enhanced understanding is obtained through the performance of an on-site technical assessment by a group of Subject Matter Experts (SME), e.g. Engineering, Quality, Machinist, Welding, and NDT, covering over seventy criteria in the areas of Work Control, Manufacturing Controls, Material Management, Inspection, Welding, etc.

Benefits

Participating in a STAV helps NNS and our Suppliers better align procurement requests with core competencies, exposes NNS to additional capabilities our Suppliers can offer, and allows for proactive risk mitigation strategies by either NNS, our Suppliers, or both to be implemented, where required. Currently, the STAV program is focused on suppliers of Complex/Critical parts. These parts are identified by NNS Engineering and will have NNS Coded Note Y2600 or EB Standard Clause 37-8CC attached, informing the supplier of the potential for undergoing a STAV as part of the procurement process.

Process Overview

The assessment is typically conducted over several days through a pairing of NNS SMEs with equivalent Supplier representatives, allowing for a deep-dive into the capabilities and competencies, people, processes, and equipment supporting the Supplier's operations. The assessment typically begins with SME/Supplier introductions and a brief presentation by the Supplier covering their core competencies and capabilities. After the Supplier presentation, a short tour through the facility is beneficial and helps stimulate dialog between the NNS SMEs and the Supplier representatives. Following the tour, the NNS-SME-and-Supplier-pairings split-off to focus on their assigned criteria for the remainder of the visit. Prior to leaving the Supplier's facility, NNS will provide a short out-brief of the collected observations, note any findings that will need to be addressed formally (i.e. VIR, PO MOD, CPAR, etc), and establish a time frame for getting back with the Supplier with a formal report.

Post Assessment:

- The Supplier and HII-NNS will work to the action plan detailed in the Final Report.

- The STAV Team Project Manager will oversee the progress, establishing follow-up and methods of communication.