



Management System Quality Standard - Core

WHOLE QUALITY STANDARD QMS1

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Core Architecture for Determining the Quality of Management Systems

WHOLE-QUALITY INSTITUTE

Foreword

Organizations depend on management to turn requirements into actual results. These results may include products, services, work, decisions, actions, or other outcomes.

Management is often described through policies, procedures, organizational structures, software systems, assigned responsibilities, and records. These are important, but their existence alone does not show how well management actually works.

This Standard provides a common way to examine the quality of the management that is actually being used. For this purpose, the Management System itself is examined.

The Standard looks at six basic areas: how management handles requirements; whether it has the capability to achieve what is required; whether it can determine the actual condition; whether necessary information is maintained and communicated; whether management can act when conditions require action; and whether these functions remain effective through change, transfer, and organizational or technical connections.

These areas are organized through six Quality Factors and fifty Quality Indicators. Together, they provide a common structure for examining Management System Quality while allowing different organizations, industries, technologies, and operating conditions to use methods appropriate to their own context.

The Standard does not prescribe a particular management model, organizational structure, documentation system, technology, or industry practice.

Management System Quality is also different from the Quality of the product, service, work, infrastructure, organization, or other result being managed. A Management System and the result it helps produce are related, but they are not the same subject of quality determination.

This Standard is part of the WQI Core Quality Standards. The detailed methodological basis for its Factors and Indicators is addressed separately.

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Introduction

Management System Quality concerns actual management, not merely how management is described in documents.

An organization may know what is required but fail to communicate it, assign it, or provide the capability needed to achieve it. Work may be performed while management lacks a reliable way to know the actual condition. A problem may be known, but the information may not reach those able to act. Management may also lose effectiveness during change, transfer, or handoff.

These are different management-quality problems. This Standard provides a structured way to examine them.

For this Standard, the management being examined is treated as the subject of the quality determination. WQI calls this subject the Quality Object. The more detailed terms used to define its function and required result are introduced in Section 2.

- Requirements Realization — Does management establish and maintain what is required?
- Realization Capability — Can management achieve what is required under the applicable conditions?
- Quality-State Determination — Can management determine what is actually happening?
- Quality-State Information — Does management maintain and communicate the information it needs?
- Quality-State Influence — Can management act appropriately when a condition requires action?
- Lifecycle and Interface Realization — Can management remain effective through change, transfer, handoffs, and connections with other functions or organizations?

These six areas work together. They are not a fixed sequence, and organizations may realize them in different ways.

1 Scope

This Core Standard provides the common WQI structure for determining the Quality of actual management.

It applies when a Management System, or a clearly defined part of it, is the subject being examined in relation to the results it is responsible for achieving.

In WQI terms, the subject being examined is the Quality Object. Its scope, responsibilities, operating context, and period shall be sufficiently clear for the Quality Determination being made.

The Standard establishes six Core Quality Factors and fifty Core Quality Indicators for examining Management System Quality.

It does not prescribe a particular organizational structure, management model, certification scheme, process map, documentation system, technology, staffing arrangement, technical method, industry requirement, or context-specific Quality Outcome Criterion.

Controlled WQI terms used in this Standard are established by WQI_VOC1 and are introduced in the normative sections that follow.

2 Normative Foundation

2.1 Whole Quality Root Vocabulary

This Core Standard uses the controlled concepts and terminology established by WQI_VOC1. WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications when used in this Standard. Additional wording in this Core shall be interpreted consistently with WQI_VOC1 and shall not create a competing definition or classification.

2.2 Management System as a Quality Object

For a Management System Quality Determination, the Management System - the actual management used by an organization to realize a required product, service, work, or other Intended Result - shall be defined as the Quality Object. The Management System Quality Object shall be distinguished from the organization itself and from the product, service, work, or other managed result it is used to realize.

Policies, procedures, records, software, organizational charts, certifications, training programs, and other formal arrangements may provide Evidence concerning the Management System. Their existence alone does not establish Management System Quality.

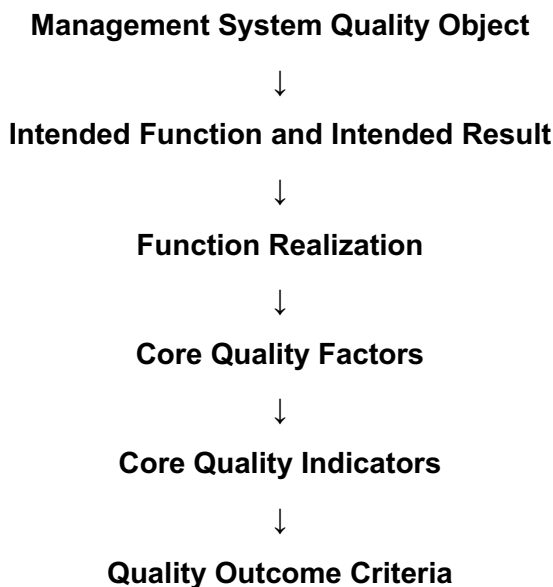
Management System Quality concerns the actual management used to realize required results. It does not itself determine the Quality State of the products, services, work, infrastructure, support arrangements, organization, or other results to which that management contributes.

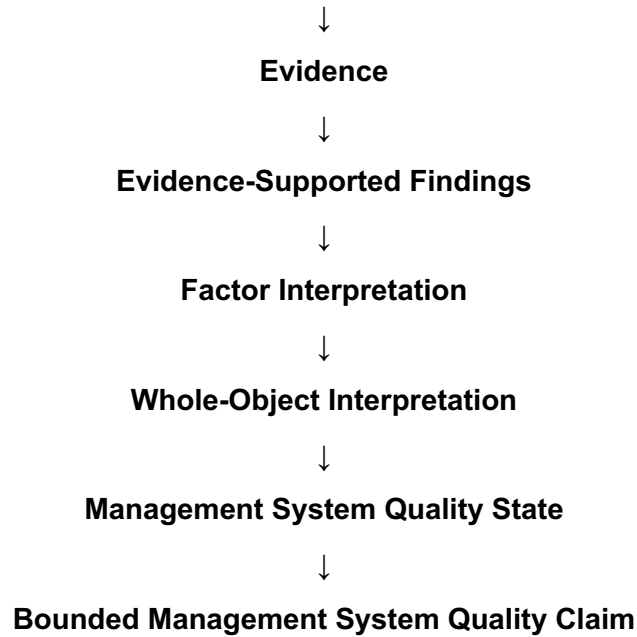
2.3 Intended Function and Intended Result

The Management System Intended Function is to ensure, within the applicable responsibility and authority of the Management System, that the required product, service, work, or other Intended Result is realized as required.

The Management System Intended Result is that the required product, service, work, or other Intended Result is realized as required within the applicable responsibility, authority, Boundaries, Interfaces, Context, and temporal basis of the Management System.

2.4 Principal Core Relationship





2.5 Boundaries, Interfaces, Context, and Methodological Resolution

Application shall identify the Boundary of the Management System Quality Object and the material Interfaces through which requirements, information, authority, work, decisions, products, services, or other results enter, leave, or cross the declared object. Context, period, Scale, and Methodological Resolution shall be sufficiently clear for responsible interpretation.

2.6 Evidence Quality, Uncertainty, and Traceability

Evidence used in a Management System Quality Determination shall be considered consistently with the WQI Evidence Quality Core where applicable. Evidence Quality, Uncertainty, and Traceability remain distinct methodological functions. Quality-State Determination within this Standard concerns whether management can determine the actual condition relevant to realization. Evidence Quality concerns whether the Evidence used for that determination can responsibly support the intended Finding or Quality Determination. The two functions interact but shall not be treated as interchangeable.

3 Management System Quality Architecture

3.1 General

The WQI Management System Quality Core consists of six Core Quality Factors and fifty Core Quality Indicators. The Factors are interacting dimensions of Management System Function Realization and shall not be interpreted as departments, organizational units, process clauses, lifecycle stages, or a mandatory sequence.

The Core therefore asks one organizing question: What must be examined to determine how well the defined Management System realizes its Intended Function? The answer is expressed through the six Core Quality Factors established in Section 3.2.

Together, the six Factors examine what must be realized, whether it can be realized, whether the actual condition can be determined, whether Quality-relevant information remains usable, whether

management can appropriately influence the condition, and whether realization remains connected through time, change, transfer, and Interfaces.

3.2 Six Core Quality Factors

1. Requirements Realization — The degree to which management establishes, connects, allocates, verifies, changes, and maintains the requirements necessary to define what must be realized.
2. Realization Capability — The degree to which management establishes and maintains the capability needed to realize what is required under applicable conditions, including after change and under unusual conditions.
3. Quality-State Determination — The degree to which management can determine the actual condition relevant to its responsibilities with sufficient scope, method, competence, Evidence use, criteria, interpretation, and current validity.
4. Quality-State Information — The degree to which Quality-relevant information remains sufficiently identifiable, connected, current, available, communicated, and protected for Management System Function Realization.
5. Quality-State Influence — The degree to which management can appropriately protect, contain, stabilize, respond, intervene, establish an acceptable resulting condition, address affected scope, and address cause and recurrence where required.
6. Lifecycle and Interface Realization — The degree to which Management System Function Realization remains sufficiently connected through relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces.

3.3 Fifty Core Quality Indicators

Factor 1 — Requirements Realization

- 1.1 Requirements Completeness
- 1.2 Requirements Clarity
- 1.3 Intended-Result Requirement Connection
- 1.4 Requirement Allocation
- 1.5 Requirement Verification
- 1.6 Requirement Changes
- 1.7 Continuing Requirements

Factor 2 — Realization Capability

- 2.1 Method Capability
- 2.2 Process Capability and Control
- 2.3 External Provider Capability
- 2.4 Personnel Competence
- 2.5 Equipment and Infrastructure Capability

- 2.6 Realization Conditions
- 2.7 Capability After Change
- 2.8 Unusual Conditions

Factor 3 — Quality-State Determination

- 3.1 Determination Scope
- 3.2 Determination Method
- 3.3 Coverage and Sampling
- 3.4 Assessment System Capability
- 3.5 Determination Competence
- 3.6 Evidence Selection and Use
- 3.7 Quality Outcome Criteria
- 3.8 Result Interpretation
- 3.9 Quality-State Conclusion
- 3.10 Current Validity

Factor 4 — Quality-State Information

- 4.1 Subject Identification
- 4.2 Requirement Information
- 4.3 Evidence and Records
- 4.4 Requirement and Evidence Links
- 4.5 Lifecycle and Change History
- 4.6 Information Status
- 4.7 Information Communication
- 4.8 Information Protection and Use
- 4.9 Adverse and Uncertain Information

Factor 5 — Quality-State Influence

- 5.1 Protection and Stabilization
- 5.2 Response and Disposition
- 5.3 Intervention Authority
- 5.4 Timely Intervention
- 5.5 Acceptable State
- 5.6 Affected Scope
- 5.7 Cause and Recurrence

Factor 6 — Lifecycle and Interface Realization

- 6.1 Lifecycle Responsibility
- 6.2 Interface Identification
- 6.3 Requirement Transfer
- 6.4 Quality-State Preservation
- 6.5 Responsibility Continuity
- 6.6 Integration
- 6.7 Change Across Interfaces
- 6.8 Downstream Confirmation
- 6.9 Realization Feedback

3.4 Invariance and Context-Specific Application

The six Core Quality Factors and fifty Core Quality Indicators constitute the invariant WQI Management System Quality Core. Invariance applies to their determination functions and WQI-controlled meanings, not to identical organizational structures, methods, Evidence, Quality Outcome Criteria, technologies, lifecycle arrangements, or implementation.

3.5 Interaction, Non-Substitutability, and Non-Compensation

The Factors and Indicators shall be considered together while remaining distinguishable. Requirements Realization defines and preserves what must be realized; Realization Capability addresses whether it can be realized under applicable conditions; Quality-State Determination addresses whether management can determine the actual condition; Quality-State Information preserves and communicates the Quality-relevant information needed for realization; Quality-State Influence addresses whether management can appropriately act upon conditions requiring influence; and Lifecycle and Interface Realization preserves Function Realization through time, change, transfer, dependency, and Interfaces. This relationship is an interacting functional network, not a mandatory linear process. Information, feedback, change, renewed determination, and intervention may operate in multiple directions across the network. Strength in one Factor or Indicator shall not substitute for another function important to Management System Function Realization. Whole-object interpretation shall preserve Critical Conditions, material dependencies, contrary Evidence, and Uncertainty rather than mechanically adding or averaging Indicator Findings.

4 Requirements Realization

4.1 General

Factor — Requirements Realization

Purpose of the Factor

The degree to which management establishes and maintains the requirements needed to define what must be realized.

Core role

Defines and preserves what must be realized.

Definitions and Governing Terms

WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications established by WQI_VOC1. Context-specific criteria and technical meanings are established through the Applicable Basis, Reference Layer, Quality Outcome Criteria, and other applicable controlled provisions without redefining the Core Factor or Indicator functions.

Core Quality Indicators

- 1.1 — Requirements Completeness
- 1.2 — Requirements Clarity
- 1.3 — Intended-Result Requirement Connection
- 1.4 — Requirement Allocation
- 1.5 — Requirement Verification
- 1.6 — Requirement Changes
- 1.7 — Continuing Requirements

4.2 Requirements Completeness

Indicator — Requirements Completeness

Indicator Statement

The degree to which the requirements needed to define what must be realized are complete.

Intent

To reveal whether management is working from a sufficiently complete requirement basis; omitted requirements can leave an Intended Result only partly defined.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

4.3 Requirements Clarity

Indicator — Requirements Clarity

Indicator Statement

The degree to which applicable requirements are clear enough to be understood and used.

Intent

To distinguish the presence of a requirement from whether it can actually be understood and used for realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

4.4 Intended-Result Requirement Connection

Indicator — Intended-Result Requirement Connection

Indicator Statement

The degree to which applicable requirements are connected to the Intended Result they govern or support.

Intent

To preserve the link between a requirement and the Intended Result it governs; a requirement can be present and clear yet disconnected from its intended realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

4.5 Requirement Allocation

Indicator — Requirement Allocation

Indicator Statement

The degree to which applicable requirements are assigned to those responsible for their realization.

Intent

To determine whether requirements reach the parts of the Management System that must act on them rather than remaining unassigned or ambiguously owned.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

4.6 Requirement Verification

Indicator — Requirement Verification

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management verifies that applicable requirements are correctly identified, understood, and incorporated.

Intent

To determine whether management checks the requirement basis before relying on it for realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

4.7 Requirement Changes

Indicator — Requirement Changes

Indicator Statement

The degree to which changes to applicable requirements are identified, evaluated, authorized where applicable, incorporated, and communicated.

Intent

To determine whether requirement changes propagate into actual management and realization rather than leaving obsolete or inconsistent requirements in use.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

4.8 Continuing Requirements

Indicator — Continuing Requirements

Indicator Statement

The degree to which continuing requirements remain identified and effective through time, change, Lifecycle stages, and Interfaces.

Intent

To prevent continuing obligations from disappearing after an initial stage, handoff, change, or passage of time.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to the requirement-management function it names. It does not by itself determine realization capability, the actual Quality State of the managed result, or the Quality of the Management System as a whole. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the applicable requirement basis and the Intended Result or realization responsibility to which the requirement function relates. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show how the applicable requirements are actually established and maintained in practice and may include requirement sources, allocations, change histories, communications, decisions, observed practice, and resulting records. Documentation alone does not establish realization.

5 Realization Capability

5.1 General

Factor — Realization Capability

Purpose of the Factor

The degree to which management establishes and maintains the capability needed to realize what is required under applicable conditions, including after change and under unusual conditions.

Core role

Establishes whether the Management System can realize what is required under actual conditions.

Definitions and Governing Terms

WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications established by WQI_VOC1. Context-specific criteria and technical meanings are established through the Applicable Basis, Reference Layer, Quality Outcome Criteria, and other applicable controlled provisions without redefining the Core Factor or Indicator functions.

Core Quality Indicators

- 2.1 — Method Capability
- 2.2 — Process Capability and Control
- 2.3 — External Provider Capability
- 2.4 — Personnel Competence
- 2.5 — Equipment and Infrastructure Capability
- 2.6 — Realization Conditions
- 2.7 — Capability After Change
- 2.8 — Unusual Conditions

5.2 Method Capability

Indicator — Method Capability

Indicator Statement

The degree to which the methods used are capable of achieving the required result.

Intent

To determine whether the methods used are capable of achieving the required result.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.3 Process Capability and Control

Indicator — Process Capability and Control

Indicator Statement

The degree to which the processes used are capable of achieving the required result and remain sufficiently controlled.

Intent

To examine both inherent process capability and the control needed to sustain that capability in actual use.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.4 External Provider Capability

Indicator — External Provider Capability

Indicator Statement

The degree to which external providers have and maintain the capability needed to meet their assigned requirements.

Intent

To keep outsourced or externally supplied realization within the Management System quality examination rather than treating transfer to a provider as transfer of responsibility for understanding capability.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.5 Personnel Competence

Indicator — Personnel Competence

Indicator Statement

The degree to which personnel have and maintain the competence needed for their assigned responsibilities.

Intent

To determine whether the people whose work can affect realization have and maintain the competence their responsibilities require.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.6 Equipment and Infrastructure Capability

Indicator — Equipment and Infrastructure Capability

Indicator Statement

The degree to which required equipment and supporting infrastructure are capable and available for their intended use.

Intent

To determine whether realization depends on equipment or supporting infrastructure that is unavailable, unsuitable, or incapable for its intended function.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.7 Realization Conditions

Indicator — Realization Conditions

Indicator Statement

The degree to which conditions necessary for realization are established and maintained.

Intent

To make environmental, operational, organizational, temporal, or other enabling conditions visible where they can affect realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.8 Capability After Change

Indicator — Capability After Change

Indicator Statement

The degree to which required capability is preserved, re-established, or demonstrated after a change that can affect realization.

Intent

To prevent prior evidence of capability from being assumed to remain valid after a change that can affect realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

5.9 Unusual Conditions

Indicator — Unusual Conditions

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management can maintain or adapt required capability under unusual or non-routine conditions.

Intent

To examine capability beyond routine conditions when realization may depend on recognition, adaptation, or degraded-mode performance.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator is limited to capability needed for realization. It does not by itself establish that the required result was actually realized or determine the Quality State of the managed product, service, work, or other result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the capability actually needed for the defined realization responsibility and the conditions under which it must function. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address actual capability in the conditions examined and may include observed performance, competence evidence, provider results, process or equipment outputs, change records, tests, assessments, and histories. Stated capability alone is insufficient.

6 Quality-State Determination

6.1 General

Factor — Quality-State Determination

Purpose of the Factor

The degree to which management can appropriately determine the actual condition relevant to its responsibilities.

Core role

Establishes whether management can responsibly determine the actual condition relevant to realization.

Definitions and Governing Terms

WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications established by WQI_VOC1. Context-specific criteria and technical meanings are established through the Applicable Basis, Reference Layer, Quality Outcome Criteria, and other applicable controlled provisions without redefining the Core Factor or Indicator functions.

Core Quality Indicators

3.1 — Determination Scope

3.2 — Determination Method

3.3 — Coverage and Sampling

3.4 — Assessment System Capability

3.5 — Determination Competence

3.6 — Evidence Selection and Use

3.7 — Quality Outcome Criteria

3.8 — Result Interpretation

3.9 — Quality-State Conclusion

3.10 — Current Validity

6.2 Determination Scope

Indicator — Determination Scope

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management defines an appropriate scope for the Quality-State determination.

Intent

To determine whether management defines an appropriate scope for the Quality-State determination.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality

State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.3 Determination Method

Indicator — Determination Method

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management uses an appropriate method for the Quality-State determination.

Intent

To determine whether management uses an appropriate method for the Quality-State determination.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.4 Coverage and Sampling

Indicator — Coverage and Sampling

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management establishes coverage and sampling that adequately represent what is being determined.

Intent

To determine whether management establishes adequate and representative coverage and sampling.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.5 Assessment System Capability

Indicator — Assessment System Capability

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management uses assessment systems capable of supporting the required determination.

Intent

To determine whether management uses assessment systems capable of supporting the required determination.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.6 Determination Competence

Indicator — Determination Competence

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management provides the competence needed for the Quality-State determination.

Intent

To determine whether management provides the competence needed for the Quality-State determination.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.7 Evidence Selection and Use

Indicator — Evidence Selection and Use

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management selects and uses Evidence appropriate and representative for the determination.

Intent

To examine management's capability and actual functioning in selecting and using the evidentiary basis, without substituting this Indicator for a separate determination of Evidence Quality.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.8 Quality Outcome Criteria

Indicator — Quality Outcome Criteria

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management uses applicable Quality Outcome Criteria to interpret the conditions examined.

Intent

To determine whether management uses applicable Quality Outcome Criteria to interpret the conditions examined.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.9 Result Interpretation

Indicator — Result Interpretation

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management appropriately interprets the determination results.

Intent

To determine whether management appropriately interprets the determination results.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.10 Quality-State Conclusion

Indicator — Quality-State Conclusion

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management reaches a Quality-State conclusion supported by the determination.

Intent

To determine whether management reaches a Quality-State conclusion that is supported by the determination.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

6.11 Current Validity

Indicator — Current Validity

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management maintains the current validity of the Quality-State determination.

Intent

To determine whether management maintains the validity of the Quality-State determination for its current use.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in Quality-State determination. It does not replace the separate WQI determination of Evidence Quality or by itself establish the Quality State of the managed result. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall be bounded by the determination purpose, subject, Context, period, Methodological Resolution, and intended use. Quality Outcome Criteria and the evidentiary basis shall remain identifiable.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should address how management actually performs and relies on the determination function examined. Evidence used to support resulting Findings remains separately subject to Evidence Sufficiency, Evidence Trustworthiness, and Evidence Applicability.

7 Quality-State Information

7.1 General

Factor — Quality-State Information

Purpose of the Factor

The degree to which management maintains the Quality-relevant information needed to realize its functions.

Core role

Preserves the Quality-relevant information needed to realize, determine, communicate, and influence actual conditions.

Definitions and Governing Terms

WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications established by WQI_VOC1. Context-specific criteria and technical meanings are established through the Applicable Basis, Reference Layer, Quality Outcome Criteria, and other applicable controlled provisions without redefining the Core Factor or Indicator functions.

Core Quality Indicators

4.1 — Subject Identification

4.2 — Requirement Information

4.3 — Evidence and Records

4.4 — Requirement and Evidence Links

4.5 — Lifecycle and Change History

4.6 — Information Status

4.7 — Information Communication

4.8 — Information Protection and Use

4.9 — Adverse and Uncertain Information

7.2 Subject Identification

Indicator — Subject Identification

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management connects Quality-relevant information to the correct subject.

Intent

To determine whether management connects Quality-relevant information to the correct subject.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.3 Requirement Information

Indicator — Requirement Information

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management maintains accurate, current, available, and usable information about applicable requirements.

Intent

To determine whether management maintains applicable requirement information accurate, current, available, and usable.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.4 Evidence and Records

Indicator — Evidence and Records

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management maintains needed Evidence and records identifiable, available, and usable.

Intent

To determine whether management maintains the Evidence and records needed for management action and determination without treating record existence itself as proof of Evidence Quality.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.5 Requirement and Evidence Links

Indicator — Requirement and Evidence Links

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management maintains identifiable relationships among requirements, Evidence, Findings, decisions, and actions.

Intent

To determine whether management maintains identifiable relationships among what was required, observed, concluded, decided, and done.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.6 Lifecycle and Change History

Indicator — Lifecycle and Change History

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management preserves relevant Lifecycle and change history for its intended use.

Intent

To determine whether management preserves the history needed to understand prior conditions, changes, and the present state.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.7 Information Status

Indicator — Information Status

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management can identify the current status of Quality-relevant information.

Intent

To determine whether management can identify the current status of Quality-relevant information.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.8 Information Communication

Indicator — Information Communication

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management communicates necessary information to those who need it in an appropriate form and time.

Intent

To determine whether management communicates necessary information effectively and in time for its intended use.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.9 Information Protection and Use

Indicator — Information Protection and Use

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management protects Quality-relevant information from inappropriate use while keeping it available for authorized use.

Intent

To determine whether management protects Quality-relevant information while maintaining its legitimate availability and use.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

7.10 Adverse and Uncertain Information

Indicator — Adverse and Uncertain Information

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management keeps adverse, conflicting, incomplete, or uncertain Quality-relevant information visible and available for consideration.

Intent

To determine whether management preserves adverse or uncertain information for appropriate consideration.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management of Quality-relevant information for Function Realization. It does not treat the existence of information or records as proof of their correctness, Evidence Quality, or successful realization. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the Quality-relevant information needed, its intended management use, and the functions or recipients that depend on it. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show the actual information condition and its management use and may include records, system outputs, histories, communications, access or status controls, observed practice, and downstream use. Record existence alone is insufficient.

8 Quality-State Influence

8.1 General

Factor — Quality-State Influence

Purpose of the Factor

The degree to which management can appropriately influence an actual condition to achieve or restore an acceptable state.

Core role

Establishes whether management can appropriately act upon conditions that require influence.

Definitions and Governing Terms

WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications established by WQI_VOC1. Context-specific criteria and technical meanings are established through the Applicable Basis, Reference Layer, Quality Outcome Criteria, and other applicable controlled provisions without redefining the Core Factor or Indicator functions.

Core Quality Indicators

5.1 — Protection and Stabilization

5.2 — Response and Disposition

5.3 — Intervention Authority

5.4 — Timely Intervention

5.5 — Acceptable State

5.6 — Affected Scope

5.7 — Cause and Recurrence

8.2 Protection and Stabilization

Indicator — Protection and Stabilization

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management can promptly protect, contain, and stabilize when immediate action is required.

Intent

To examine the management capability needed before longer-term disposition or corrective action can be effective when an adverse condition requires immediate control.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

8.3 Response and Disposition

Indicator — Response and Disposition

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management selects and implements a response appropriate to the actual condition and applicable requirements.

Intent

To distinguish taking action from taking an action that is suitable for the actual condition and the result that must be achieved.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

8.4 Intervention Authority

Indicator — Intervention Authority

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management has and can exercise the authority needed to intervene.

Intent

To determine whether management can actually stop, change, direct, approve, escalate, or otherwise intervene when realization requires it.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

8.5 Timely Intervention

Indicator — Timely Intervention

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management intervenes within the time required by the condition.

Intent

To make timing part of management effectiveness where an otherwise appropriate intervention can fail because it occurs too late.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

8.6 Acceptable State

Indicator — Acceptable State

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management confirms that the resulting condition is acceptable against the applicable basis.

Intent

To distinguish completion of an intervention from evidence that the intervention actually produced an acceptable resulting condition.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

8.7 Affected Scope

Indicator — Affected Scope

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management identifies and addresses the full scope affected by a Quality-relevant condition.

Intent

To prevent response from being confined to the first visible instance when the same issue may extend to other affected subjects or conditions.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

8.8 Cause and Recurrence

Indicator — Cause and Recurrence

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management addresses causes and recurrence where necessary to achieve or maintain an acceptable state.

Intent

To distinguish treatment of an immediate manifestation from the management action needed when causes or recurrence can continue to impair Function Realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines management capability and actual functioning in influencing a Quality-relevant condition within applicable responsibility and authority. It does not imply unlimited control over conditions outside the Management System Boundary or authority. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the condition requiring influence, the applicable responsibility and authority, the affected scope, and the result the intervention is intended to achieve. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show both the management response capability and what occurred in practice and may include decisions, authorities, response records, timing, affected-scope analyses, resulting-condition checks, and recurrence information.

9 Lifecycle and Interface Realization

9.1 General

Factor — Lifecycle and Interface Realization

Purpose of the Factor

The degree to which management maintains Function Realization through Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces.

Core role

Preserves Function Realization through time, change, transfer, dependency, and Interfaces.

Definitions and Governing Terms

WQI Root Concepts and supporting WQI-controlled concepts retain their authoritative meanings and classifications established by WQI_VOC1. Context-specific criteria and technical meanings are established through the Applicable Basis, Reference Layer, Quality Outcome Criteria, and other applicable controlled provisions without redefining the Core Factor or Indicator functions.

Core Quality Indicators

- 6.1 — Lifecycle Responsibility
- 6.2 — Interface Identification
- 6.3 — Requirement Transfer
- 6.4 — Quality-State Preservation
- 6.5 — Responsibility Continuity
- 6.6 — Integration
- 6.7 — Change Across Interfaces
- 6.8 — Downstream Confirmation
- 6.9 — Realization Feedback

9.2 Lifecycle Responsibility

Indicator — Lifecycle Responsibility

Indicator Statement

The degree to which necessary responsibility is established and maintained across the Lifecycle.

Intent

To prevent responsibility from becoming unclear or disappearing as the Quality Object moves through relevant Lifecycle stages.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination

automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.3 Interface Identification

Indicator — Interface Identification

Indicator Statement

The degree to which important Interfaces with other functions, organizations, systems, or activities are identified and understood.

Intent

To make visible the points at which requirements, information, authority, work, decisions, or other realization dependencies cross between functions, organizations, systems, or stages.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.4 Requirement Transfer

Indicator — Requirement Transfer

Indicator Statement

The degree to which requirements remain correct, complete, and usable when transferred across Interfaces.

Intent

To determine whether a requirement survives transfer without distortion, omission, loss of Context, or loss of usability.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.5 Quality-State Preservation

Indicator — Quality-State Preservation

Indicator Statement

The degree to which an established Quality State is preserved or appropriately re-determined through change and across Interfaces.

Intent

To prevent a prior Quality State or other condition from being assumed to continue through change or transfer when preservation cannot be demonstrated and re-determination is needed.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.6 Responsibility Continuity

Indicator — Responsibility Continuity

Indicator Statement

The degree to which necessary responsibility and authority remain effective through transfers, handoffs, changes, and Interfaces.

Intent

To determine whether the ability and obligation to act remain effective when responsibility or work crosses a transition or Interface.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.7 Integration

Indicator — Integration

Indicator Statement

The degree to which interacting management functions are sufficiently coordinated for Function Realization.

Intent

To examine whether individually capable parts work together sufficiently for whole Management System Function Realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.8 Change Across Interfaces

Indicator — Change Across Interfaces

Indicator Statement

The degree to which changes are communicated and effectively incorporated across affected Interfaces.

Intent

To determine whether change propagates across the Interfaces it affects rather than being managed only within the point where it originated.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.9 Downstream Confirmation

Indicator — Downstream Confirmation

Indicator Statement

The degree to which management confirms that transferred information or requirements reach and become effective at the intended point.

Intent

To distinguish sending or handing off something from confirming that the transfer reached the intended point and became effective there.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

9.10 Realization Feedback

Indicator — Realization Feedback

Indicator Statement

The degree to which information about actual results is returned to the management functions that need it.

Intent

To close the management loop by returning information from actual results and subsequent conditions to the functions that must sustain or adapt realization.

Scope and Boundaries

This Indicator examines continuity and connection across relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces. It does not assume that a prior condition, responsibility, or determination automatically transfers across them. Application remains bounded by the declared Management System Quality Object, applicable responsibility, Context, period, and Methodological Resolution.

Application Considerations

Application shall identify the relevant Lifecycle stage or Interface, what passes or changes across it, and the responsibility for maintaining Function Realization. Context-specific Quality Outcome Criteria determine the expected condition.

Evidence Principle

Evidence should show what occurs through the relevant Lifecycle transition or Interface and may include handoff records, transferred requirements, responsibility assignments, change communications, confirmations, histories, feedback, and observed downstream functioning.

10 Interaction of Management System Quality Factors and Indicators

10.1 General

The six Core Quality Factors and fifty Core Quality Indicators form one interacting Management System Quality architecture. They shall be interpreted as distinct but connected determination functions directed toward Management System Function Realization. Interaction may reveal dependencies among Factors and Indicators, but does not collapse their separate functions.

10.2 Distinct but Interacting Functions

Interaction does not make Factors or Indicators interchangeable. A condition examined under one Indicator may affect, depend upon, or provide Evidence relevant to another, but each applicable Indicator shall retain its own determination question. Shared Evidence may support more than one Finding where it is sufficient, trustworthy, and applicable for each use; shared Evidence does not merge the Findings or the Indicator functions.

10.3 Non-Substitutability and Non-Compensation

A favorable condition under one Factor or Indicator does not automatically establish a favorable condition under another. A limitation, adverse Finding, or Unresolved Condition shall not be treated as resolved merely because related conditions elsewhere are favorable. Compensation may be recognized only where the Applicable Basis and functional relationship establish that one condition legitimately offsets or controls another; no universal numerical weighting, averaging, or assumed trade-off shall be used.

10.4 Critical Conditions

Where a condition is critical to Management System Function Realization, its significance shall remain visible through Factor and whole-object interpretation. Favorable Findings elsewhere shall not cancel, average away, or obscure a Critical Condition. The determination shall preserve the relationship between the Critical Condition, the affected Intended Result or management responsibility, the supporting Evidence, and any resulting limitation on the Quality State or Quality Claim.

10.5 Whole-System Interpretation

Whole-object interpretation shall preserve material interactions, dependencies, Boundaries, Interfaces, Critical Conditions, contrary Evidence, Unresolved Conditions, Assumptions, and Uncertainty. Interpretation shall distinguish a localized limitation from a condition that propagates through multiple management functions or Interfaces. The six Factors and fifty Indicators shall not be reduced to a universal numerical weighting, mechanical average, or checklist count that obscures their functional meaning.

10.6 Failure-Mode Stress Testing

Failure Modes and Failure-Mode Families may be used to stress-test whether the selected Indicators, Evidence, and interpretation adequately expose conditions that could prevent or degrade Management System Function Realization. Stress testing shall not create a parallel scoring architecture or substitute a list of failures for the six Factors and fifty Indicators. Its purpose is to test completeness and reveal overlooked dependencies, weak Interfaces, hidden Assumptions, or conditions whose significance is not apparent when Indicators are considered separately.

10.7 Difficult, Contrary, and Propagating Cases

Difficult and contrary cases shall be used, where relevant, to test the robustness of interpretation. These include cases in which formal arrangements are strong but actual functioning is weak; a managed product, service, work, or other result is favorable despite a weak Management System; the Management System appears favorable while the managed result is unfavorable for reasons outside its applicable responsibility or authority; Evidence is abundant but unsuitable for the Finding; a favorable local condition masks an adverse Interface or downstream condition; or a prior favorable determination has become uncertain after material change. Such cases shall be resolved through the declared Quality Object, Intended Function and Intended Result, Boundaries, Interfaces, Context, Applicable Basis, Methodological Resolution, Evidence Quality, Uncertainty, and Traceability rather than through assumption or automatic transfer of Quality State.

10.8 Cross-Factor Propagation

Where a condition originating under one Factor materially affects another Factor, the relationship shall be made explicit. For example, an incomplete requirement may impair capability, determination, information, intervention, or downstream realization; weak information may prevent timely influence; and an Interface failure may invalidate an otherwise adequate local realization condition. Propagation shall be traced only to the extent supported by the functional relationship and Evidence. A shared cause or dependency does not eliminate the need for separate Findings under the affected Indicator functions.

10.9 Stress-Test Outcome

Stress testing is adequate when it provides reasonable methodological confidence that material Management System Function Realization conditions are represented by the applicable Core architecture at the declared Methodological Resolution. A stress test does not establish a favorable Management System Quality State by itself. Any limitation, contradiction, inapplicability, or unresolved structural issue revealed through stress testing shall remain visible in the subsequent Quality Determination and, where relevant, in maintenance and controlled revision of this Core.

11 Management System Quality Determination

11.1 Evidence-Supported Findings

Findings concerning the Management System Quality Object shall be established as Evidence-Supported Findings and bounded by what the applicable Evidence can responsibly support.

11.2 Factor Interpretation

Evidence-Supported Findings under applicable Indicators shall be interpreted within their Factor before Whole-Object Interpretation. Significant limitations shall remain visible.

11.3 Whole-Object Interpretation

The Management System Quality State shall be determined through interpretation of the six Factors as interacting dimensions of one Management System Quality Object.

11.4 Undetermined Conditions

Where available Evidence cannot support a required Finding, the corresponding condition shall not be inferred from absence of Evidence. Where WQI methodology identifies the condition as Undetermined, that status shall remain visible.

11.5 Management System Quality State

The Management System Quality State concerns the actual condition of the declared Management System Quality Object as methodologically interpreted through Evidence-Supported Findings within the declared scope, Boundary, Interfaces, Context, period, and limitations.

11.6 Relationship to Other Quality Objects

Management System Quality and the Quality or conformity of products, services, infrastructure, organizations, support arrangements, or other results are separate determinations. Their Quality States shall not be inferred automatically from one another.

12 Management System Quality Claims

12.1 Purpose

A Management System Quality Claim communicates the Quality State supported by a completed determination. The Claim is not a substitute for the determination.

12.2 Claim Boundary

A Claim shall remain bounded by the Quality Object, scope, Scale, Boundary, Interfaces, Context, period, lifecycle condition, Applicable Basis, Evidence basis, Critical Conditions, Assumptions, and Uncertainty that support it.

12.3 Current and Historical Claims

A current Claim requires continuing support for its present applicability. A historical Claim remains bounded to the past condition or period it represents.

12.4 Conditions of Continued Validity

A Claim shall be reconsidered where material change affects the Management System Quality Object, its requirements, Boundary, Interfaces, capability, actual condition, Evidence basis, or Context.

12.5 Bounded Claim Principle

A Management System Quality Claim shall say no more than the Evidence-supported Management System Quality Determination can responsibly support.

13 Application across Quality Objects and Domains

13.1 Cross-Domain Application

This Core is intended for application across materially different Management System Quality Objects and domains. The same six Factors and fifty Indicators remain available while their context-specific manifestation may differ.

13.2 Context-Specific Quality Outcome Criteria

Quality Outcome Criteria shall establish the expected condition or result for an Indicator in the applicable Context. Criteria may differ without changing the Indicator's Core determination function.

13.3 Context Guides and Other Application Documents

WQI standards, applied initiatives, Context Guides, and other controlled application documents may specify requirements, criteria, Evidence expectations, methods, lifecycle conditions, and Interfaces for a particular application. They shall not silently add, delete, replace, merge, or redefine the Core Factors or Indicators.

13.4 Context Without Fragmentation

A new industry, service, technology, lifecycle stage, organizational arrangement, or management method does not by itself require a different Management System Quality Core.

14 Conformance with the WQI Management System Quality Core

14.1 General

Conformance concerns correct use of the WQI Management System Quality architecture. It does not by itself constitute certification, accreditation, regulatory approval, product approval, service approval, or approval of an organization.

14.2 Required Use of the Six Core Quality Factors

A determination represented as conforming to this Core shall consider all six Core Quality Factors to the extent applicable to the declared Management System Quality Object and determination.

14.3 Required Consideration of the Fifty Core Quality Indicators

The fifty Core Quality Indicators shall be considered through their determination functions. An Indicator shall not be omitted merely because an organization uses different terminology or structures its management differently.

14.4 Permissible Contextualization

Contextualization may establish application-specific requirements, Quality Outcome Criteria, Evidence expectations, methods, examples, terminology, and technical provisions where these do not change the WQI-controlled function of a Core Factor or Indicator.

14.5 Prohibited Redefinition or Silent Substitution

A Core Factor or Indicator shall not be redefined, replaced, merged, or silently substituted in a manner that changes the invariant architecture while still claiming conformance with this Core.

14.6 Traceability to WQI_VOC1 and WQI_EQC1

Use of WQI Root Concepts shall remain traceable to WQI_VOC1. Evidence Quality provisions used in Management System Quality determination shall remain consistent with WQI_EQC1 where applicable.

15 Maintenance and Controlled Revision

15.1 Invariant Core

The six Core Quality Factors and fifty Core Quality Indicators established by this Standard constitute the invariant WQI Management System Quality Core.

15.2 Necessary but Not Closed

The current architecture is established for controlled WQI use but is not declared permanently closed to methodological development. A new management practice, technology, industry term, certification requirement, lifecycle stage, or domain-specific problem does not by itself justify a new Core Factor or Indicator.

15.3 Conditions for Revision

Revision shall be considered only where structured application and methodological testing demonstrate a distinct recurring Management System Quality function that is not adequately represented, a genuine redundancy, an unresolved boundary failure, or another structural limitation that cannot be addressed through contextualization.

15.4 Controlled Revision Principles

- clarification should be preferred where clarification resolves the problem;
- context-specific terminology should remain at the applied level where the underlying WQI function is unchanged;
- addition, removal, merger, or split of Indicators should require progressively stronger methodological evidence;
- Factor-level change should require the highest methodological burden;
- cross-domain testing should precede structural change where practicable;
- difficult and contrary cases should remain visible; and
- revision should preserve Traceability and backward interpretability.

Annex A (informative) - WQI Management System Quality Core Architecture

A.1 Six Core Quality Factors

1. Requirements Realization — The degree to which management establishes, connects, allocates, verifies, changes, and maintains the requirements necessary to define what must be realized.
2. Realization Capability — The degree to which management establishes and maintains the capability needed to realize what is required under applicable conditions, including after change and under unusual conditions.
3. Quality-State Determination — The degree to which management can determine the actual condition relevant to its responsibilities with sufficient scope, method, competence, Evidence use, criteria, interpretation, and current validity.

4. Quality-State Information — The degree to which Quality-relevant information remains sufficiently identifiable, connected, current, available, communicated, and protected for Management System Function Realization.
5. Quality-State Influence — The degree to which management can appropriately protect, contain, stabilize, respond, intervene, establish an acceptable resulting condition, address affected scope, and address cause and recurrence where required.
6. Lifecycle and Interface Realization — The degree to which Management System Function Realization remains sufficiently connected through relevant Lifecycle stages, changes, transfers, handoffs, and Interfaces.

A.2 Fifty Core Quality Indicators

Factor 1 — Requirements Realization

1.1 Requirements Completeness; 1.2 Requirements Clarity; 1.3 Intended-Result Requirement Connection; 1.4 Requirement Allocation; 1.5 Requirement Verification; 1.6 Requirement Changes; 1.7 Continuing Requirements.

Factor 2 — Realization Capability

2.1 Method Capability; 2.2 Process Capability and Control; 2.3 External Provider Capability; 2.4 Personnel Competence; 2.5 Equipment and Infrastructure Capability; 2.6 Realization Conditions; 2.7 Capability After Change; 2.8 Unusual Conditions.

Factor 3 — Quality-State Determination

3.1 Determination Scope; 3.2 Determination Method; 3.3 Coverage and Sampling; 3.4 Assessment System Capability; 3.5 Determination Competence; 3.6 Evidence Selection and Use; 3.7 Quality Outcome Criteria; 3.8 Result Interpretation; 3.9 Quality-State Conclusion; 3.10 Current Validity.

Factor 4 — Quality-State Information

4.1 Subject Identification; 4.2 Requirement Information; 4.3 Evidence and Records; 4.4 Requirement and Evidence Links; 4.5 Lifecycle and Change History; 4.6 Information Status; 4.7 Information Communication; 4.8 Information Protection and Use; 4.9 Adverse and Uncertain Information.

Factor 5 — Quality-State Influence

5.1 Protection and Stabilization; 5.2 Response and Disposition; 5.3 Intervention Authority; 5.4 Timely Intervention; 5.5 Acceptable State; 5.6 Affected Scope; 5.7 Cause and Recurrence.

Factor 6 — Lifecycle and Interface Realization

6.1 Lifecycle Responsibility; 6.2 Interface Identification; 6.3 Requirement Transfer; 6.4 Quality-State Preservation; 6.5 Responsibility Continuity; 6.6 Integration; 6.7 Change Across Interfaces; 6.8 Downstream Confirmation; 6.9 Realization Feedback.

A.3 Functional Network

Requirements Realization — what must be realized



Realization Capability — whether it can be realized



Quality-State Determination — whether actual condition can be determined



Quality-State Information — whether Quality-relevant information remains usable



Quality-State Influence — whether management can appropriately act



Lifecycle and Interface Realization — whether realization remains connected through time, change, and Interfaces

The arrows are explanatory and do not establish a purely linear sequence. Information, feedback, change, renewed determination, and intervention may operate in multiple directions across the functional network.

Annex B (informative) - Management System Quality Determination Pathway

Applicable Basis / Reference Layer



Management System Quality Object



Intended Function and Intended Result



Core Quality Factors and Core Quality Indicators



Context-Specific Quality Outcome Criteria



Evidence



Evidence-Supported Findings



Factor Interpretation



Whole-Object Interpretation



Management System Quality State



Bounded Management System Quality Claim

Evidence Quality, Uncertainty, Traceability, Critical Conditions, Boundaries, Interfaces, Context, Scale, and Methodological Resolution remain visible throughout the pathway as applicable.

Annex C (informative) - Relationship to WQI_VOC1 and WQI_EQC1

WQI_VOC1 provides the authoritative Root Vocabulary used by this Standard. WQI_QMS1 establishes the common Management System Quality architecture and requirements for its application.

WQI_EQC1 establishes the common Evidence Quality architecture used where Evidence Quality must be examined in support of a Management System Quality Determination.

WQI_VOC1 — controlled Whole Quality concepts



WQI_QMS1 — Management System Quality Core architecture



Context-specific WQI or applied documents — application requirements and criteria



Evidence-supported Management System Quality Determination

Bibliography

[1] Whole Quality Institute (WQI). WQI_VOC1 - Whole Quality Root Vocabulary Standard. Revision 2.3, September 2026.

[2] Whole Quality Institute (WQI). WQI_EQC1 — Evidence Quality Standard - Core. First Edition, September 2026.

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Any Quality Claim made using this Standard remains bounded by the declared Quality Object, scope, Boundary, Interfaces, Context, period, Applicable Basis, Evidence, limitations, Critical Conditions, Assumptions, and Uncertainty supporting the determination.