

CHAPTER 16

Quality Assurance (QA)

The organisation for building a hydropower plant performs a quantity of specifications, expectations and goals for the project with respect to economy, time and quality. The requirements for carrying out the project are that it is equally important that all sub suppliers are capable of delivering their supply in accordance with demands as those performed by the project organisation.

There are several ways to ensure the requirements above. The most common however, is to apply and follow an international quality standard. The most applied standard in Europe is EN ISO 9001 which specifies requirements aimed primarily at preventing nonconformity at all stages from design through servicing.

The requirements may be divided in two parts. The one part is aimed at organisational matters and the other specifically at the project.

Examples of organisational requirements are:

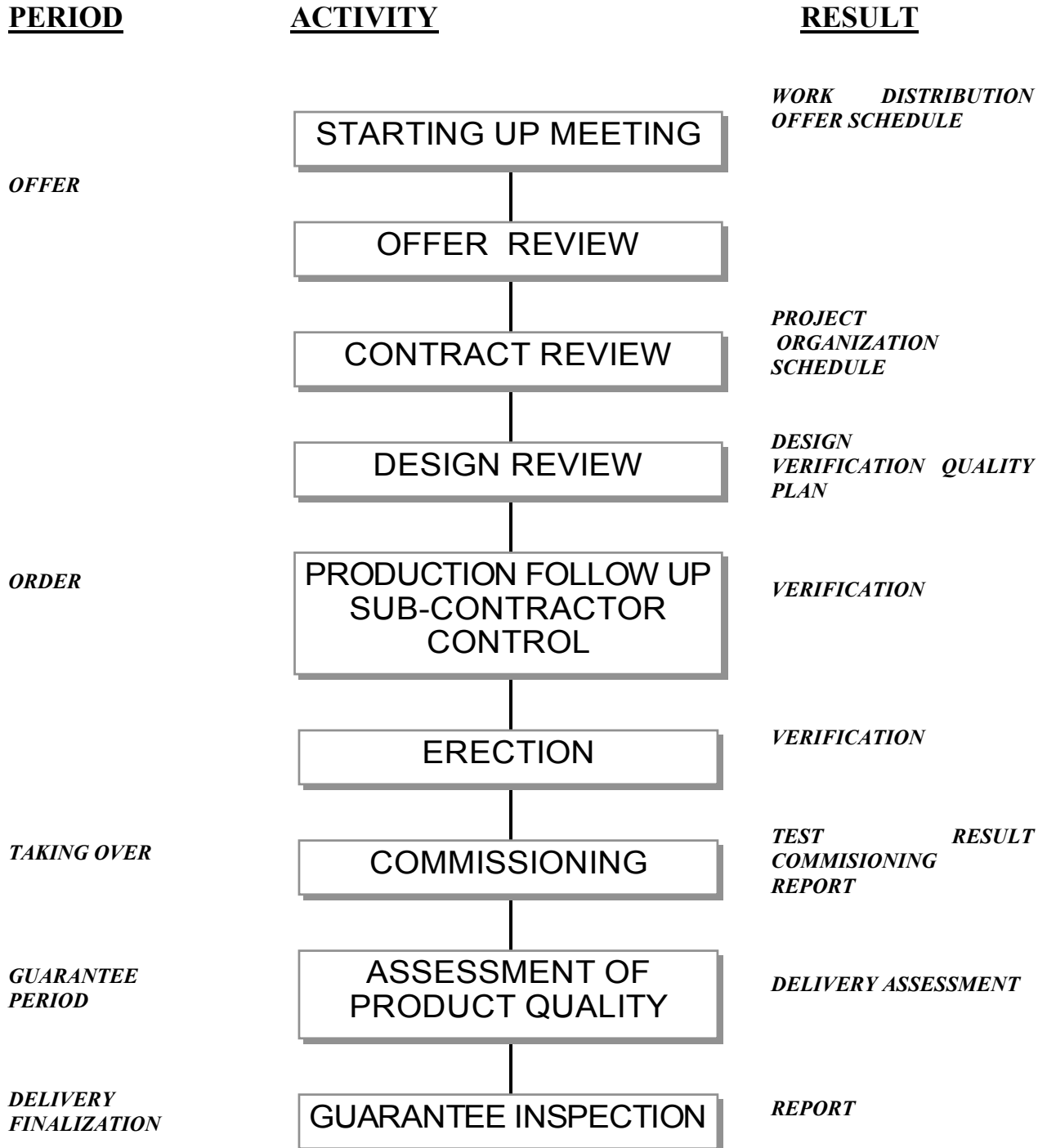
- Policy, objectives and commitment to quality shall be documented by the management.
- Responsibility, authority and interrelation of all personnel who manage, perform and verify work affecting quality shall be defined.
- A management representative shall, irrespective of other responsibilities, have defined authority and responsibility for the Quality System and its maintenance.
- Quality audits shall be carried out to verify whether quality activities comply with planned arrangements and to determine the effectiveness of the quality system.

The requirements through a project life are shown in the flow-chart defining period, activities and end results of different QA - activities.

One may say that the picture differs depending on whether You are a customer or a supplier. However, whatever role an organisation have in a hydropower project, there is always a customer of Your services. The Operational Organisation will be customer of the Project Organisation as the consumers will be customers of the Operational Organisation.

Hence, the need for a Quality system in order to avoid nonconformity is equally important to everybody involved in a hydropower plant.

QUALITY ASSURANCE ROUTINES



References

Kværner Brug: COURSE III, Lecture compendium, Oslo 1986