



# Quality Manual

ISO 9001:2015 Quality  
Management System



### APPROVAL

The signatures below certify that this management system manual has been reviewed and accepted, and demonstrates that the signatories are aware of all the requirements contained herein and are committed to ensuring their provision.

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### AMENDMENT RECORD

This quality manual is reviewed to ensure its continuing relevance to the systems and process that it describes. A record of contextual additions or omissions is given below:

Page No.	Context	Revision	Date

### COMPANY PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

The electronic version of this document is the latest revision. It is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that any paper material is the current revision. The printed version of this manual is uncontrolled, except when provided with a document reference number and revision in the field below:

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# 1 Introduction

Firstank is the leading manufacturer of high quality stainless-steel for water storage, polyethylene and pressurized tanks in the Philippines. Our products ranges are

- Storage Tanks
  - a) Stainless Steel Water Tanks
  - b) Polyethylene Water Tanks
- Modular Water Tanks
  - a) Fiberglass Reinforced Polyester Water Tanks
  - b) Modular Stainless-Steel Water Tanks
- Customized Water Tanks
  - a) Customized Round Type Stainless-Steel Water Tanks
  - b) Customized Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic Water Tanks
- Water Pressure Tanks
- Septic Tanks
- Water Pumps

Firstank has developed and implemented a quality management system (QMS), which uses ISO 9001:2015 as a framework that allows our organization to document and improve our practices in order to better satisfy the needs and expectations of our customers, stakeholders and interested parties.

This manual describes the quality management system, delineates authorities, inter relationships and responsibilities of personnel operating within the management system. The manual also provides references to procedures and activities that also comprise our quality management system.

The manual is used to familiarise customers and other external organizations or individuals with the controls that have been implemented and to assure them that the integrity of our quality management system is maintained and is focused on customer satisfaction and continual improvement.

Our quality management system meets the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 and uses the Plan, Do, Check and Act approach to process planning. Our QMS addresses and supports our strategies for the design and development of customized liquid storage tanks, importation and forecasting of raw materials, manufacturing of liquid storage tanks, importation and delivery of trading items (Alfeo Granite Natural Stones, Arria Bladder Tanks, Ferruccio Quartz Stones, Estonia Marbles, Travertine Stones, Composites Chemicals, Pryma Water Pumps, Firstank Pressurized Tanks), installation and servicing of our products.

# 2 References

In addition to ISO 9001:2015 we also make reference to other relevant British and/or international standards as well as customer specifications appropriate to our products and market.

Standard	Title	Description
BS EN ISO 9000:2015	Quality management systems	Fundamentals and vocabulary

Standard	Title	Description
BS EN ISO 9004:2000	Quality management systems	Guidelines for performance improvements
BS EN ISO 19011:2011	Auditing management systems	Guidelines for auditing

### 3 Definitions

This document does not introduce any new definitions but rather relies on the following:

1. Definitions typically used by our customers, stakeholders or marketplace;
2. Terms typically used in standards and regulations as they relate to our QMS or products;
3. Standard business terminology;
4. Terms and vocabulary commonly used in quality and engineering, projects, service, production practices.

## 4 About Our Organisation

### 4.1 Organizational Context

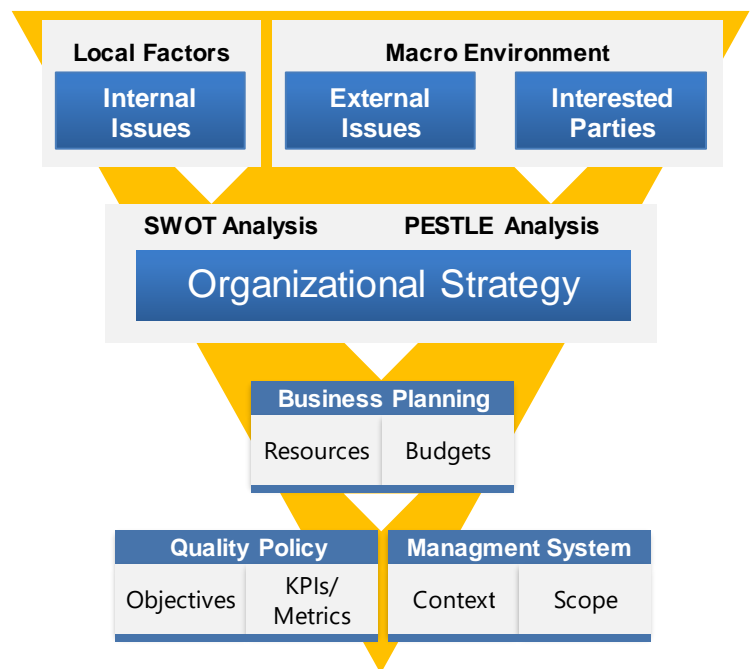
Firstank is committed to defining our position in the marketplace and understanding how relevant factors arising from legal, political, economic, social and technological issues influence our strategic direction and our organizational context.

Firstank identifies, analyzes, monitors and reviews factors that may affect our ability to satisfy our customers and stakeholders, as well as; factors that may adversely affect the stability of our process, or our management system’s integrity.

To ensure that our QMS is aligned with our strategy, whilst taking account of relevant internal and external factors; we initially collate and analyze pertinent information in order to determine potential impact on our context and subsequent business strategy.

Firstank then monitors and reviews this information to ensure that a continual understanding of each group’s requirements is derived and maintained. To facilitate the understanding of our context, we regularly consider issues that influence our context during management review meetings and are conveyed via minutes and business planning documents.

**Figure 1: Typical QMS Input Hierarchy**



Internal Issues	External Issues
Organization Culture	Political
Organization Structure	Economic & Demographic
Competence of Employees	PESO depreciation
Infrastructure Suitability	Social

Internal Issues	External Issues
Internal Communication	Technology
Profitability and Revenue	Environment
Maturity of Processes	Legal

The output from this activity is evident as an input to the consideration of risks and opportunities, and the actions that we take to address them. Refer to Section 6.1 for more information about our risk and

opportunity management framework.

Although we acknowledge that ISO 9001:2015 does not require our organizational context to be maintained as documented information, the following documented information to describe our organizational context:

1. Internal Issues Analysis
2. External Issues Analysis
3. SWOT analysis reports;
4. PESTLE analysis reports;

SWOT analysis provides our organization with framework for reviewing and evaluating our strategies, and the position and direction of our organization, business propositions and other ideas. Similarly PESTLE analysis provides our organization with framework for measuring our market and growth potential according to external political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental factors.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Context of Organization and Risk Based Thinking

## 4.2 Relevant Interested Parties

Firstank recognizes that we have a unique set of interested parties whose needs and expectations change and develop over time, and furthermore; that only a limited set of their respective needs and expectations are applicable to our operations or to our quality management system. Such needs and expectations broadly include those shown in the table below and retained as documented information

Interested Parties	Needs & Expectations
Customers	Price, reliability & value
Investors/management	Profitability & growth
Employees	Shared values & security
Suppliers	Beneficial relationships
Regulatory & statutory	Compliance & reporting
Business Associates	Gain the Trust

To ensure that our products and processes continue to meet all relevant requirements, we identify and assess the potential impact of any relevant needs and expectations that may be elicited from the interested parties.

Where appropriate, to ensure that our processes are aligned to deliver the requirements of our interested parties; we convert relevant needs and expectations into requirements which become inputs to our QMS and to our product and service designs.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Context of Organization and Risk Based Thinking

### 4.3 Quality Management System

#### 4.3.1 Management System Scope

Based on the analysis of the issues and requirements identified in Sections 4.1 and 4.2, Firstank has established the scope of our quality management system in order to implement our objectives and our policies that are relevant to our context, products and any interested parties.

This document describes our quality management system, delineates authorities, inter-relationships and responsibilities of process owners and personnel that operate within the system. Although we recognize that ISO 9001:2015 does not require a quality manual, we have decided to retain and update our quality manual, as our employees, customers, suppliers and other stakeholders perceive it to add value to our operations.

This document also demonstrates the relationship between our quality management system and the sequence and interaction of our key processes. Conformance to ISO 9001:2015 has been verified utilizing a formal assessment and review process by conducting Internal Audit & Third Party Audit in regular intervals of time.

#### 4.3.2 Management System Processes

Firstank has implemented a quality management system that exists as part of a larger strategy that has established, documented and implemented our processes, quality policies and objectives, whilst satisfying the requirements of ISO 9001:2015.

To achieve this, Firstank has adopted the process approach advocated by ISO 9001:2015. Top management has determined the processes required for achieving the intended outputs. By defining four key process-groups and by managing their inputs, activities, controls, outputs and interfaces; we ensure that system effectiveness is established and maintained. These key process groups include;

1. Leadership and planning processes;
2. Customer and stakeholder processes;
3. Product/service development processes;
4. Evaluation and improvement processes.



These process groups are described using tools such as documented Standard Operating procedures(SOP), Work Instructions Process Flow, Reports etc. Refer to the Sequence & Interaction of Processes in Appendix A.2 which shows the sequence and interaction of the process groups within our management system.

It is recognized that defining, implementing and documenting our quality management system is only the first step towards fully implementing its requirements. The effectiveness of the each process and its subsequent output is measured and evaluated through regular internal audits, quality inspections and data analysis.

We use Process Effectiveness Measurement Parameters that are linked to our objectives to control and monitor our processes, as well as assessments to determine the risks and opportunities inherent to each process. We use trends and indicators relating to nonconformities, objectives and corrective action, as well as, monitoring and measurement results, audit results and customer satisfaction data, process performance and the conformity of our products.

**Figure 2 : Key Process Groups**



### 4.3.3 Outsourced Processes

Where Firstank identifies the requirement to outsource any process, or part thereof, which affects conformity with the stated requirements; Firstank identifies control criteria such as; the competence of personnel, the provision of product conformity certificates, adherence to specifications and specific job files, etc. Refer to Section 8.4.

The controls identified do not absolve us of the responsibility to conform to client, statutory and regulatory requirements but instead they enhance our capacity to effectively manage our supply chain. The controls adopted are influenced by the potential impact of outsourcing on meeting customer or stakeholder requirements and the degree to which control of the process is shared. Outsourced processes are controlled via purchasing and contractual agreements. Refer to Section 8.4. They may also be assessed by 2<sup>nd</sup> party audits and Supplier performance evaluation every quarter.

### 4.3.4 Documented Information

#### 4.3.4.1 Management System Documents

Firstank ensures that our QMS includes the documented information that is required to be maintained and retained by ISO 9001:2015, and additionally, any documented information identified by our organization that demonstrates the effective operation of our QMS. Refer to the Master List of Documented Information.

Firstank applies the following criteria to all types of documented information in order to assess whether the information is necessary for demonstrating the effectiveness of our QMS, and whether it should be formally controlled.

1. Communicates a message internally or externally;

2. Provides evidence of process and product conformity;
3. Provides evidence that planned outputs were achieved;
4. Provides knowledge sharing.

Should any of the above criteria apply, Firstank ensures that this information is retained and/or maintained as a form of 'documented information'

#### 4.3.4.2 Creating & Updating

Firstank ensures that when we create documented information it is appropriately identified and described (e.g. title, date, author, reference number) and is available in an appropriate format (e.g. language, software version, graphics, etc.) and on appropriate media (e.g. paper, electronic). All documented information is reviewed and approved for suitability and adequacy.

#### 4.3.4.3 Controlling Documented Information

Documented information is retained to provide evidence of conformity to the requirements specified by ISO standards, customer requirements and of the effective operation of our management system. Firstank uses standard forms and templates that are accessed via a local area network computer system. An electronic document management system, which is backed up and updated as required, is used to retain documented information ensuring only the current versions are available to users. All management system documents are controlled according to the Control of Documented Information Procedure which defines the process for:

1. Approving documents for adequacy prior to issue;
2. Reviewing and revising as necessary and re-approving documents;
3. Ensuring that changes and current revision status of documents are identified;
4. Ensuring that relevant versions of applicable documents are available at points of use;
5. Ensuring that documents remain legible and readily identifiable;
6. Ensuring that documents of external origin are identified and their distribution controlled;
7. Preventing the unintended use of obsolete documents;
8. Ensuring that documents of external origin are identified and their distribution controlled.

#### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Control of Documented Information Procedure

## 5 Leadership & Governance

### 5.1 Leadership and Commitment

#### 5.1.1 Quality Management

Firstank’s leadership is also responsible for implementing the QMS, which includes the development and deployment of the quality policy, the quality objectives, and product/project-specific plans that are customer focused.

Top management provides the leadership and governance to all activities related to the lifecycle processes including defining the strategic direction, responsibility, authority, and communication to assure the safe and effective performance.

Firstank’s governance structure provides necessary support for creating and establishing appropriate processes that are important for maintaining and achieving our quality objectives and policies.

In addition, governance activities include systematic verification of the effectiveness our QMS by undertaking internal audits and analyzing performance data.

Regular management reviews ensure that our quality management system is adequate and effective, and that any necessary adjustments are made as a result.

Top management is committed to implementing and developing the quality management system and this commitment is defined by our corporate policies and objectives. Firstank ensures that our policies are understood, implemented and maintained throughout at all levels of the organization through printed distribution of our policy statements and through periodic management review of the policy statements and corporate level improvement objectives. Firstank communicates our mission, vision, strategy, policies and processes to all employees in order to:

1. Create and sustain shared values of fairness and ethical behavior;
2. Establish a culture of trust and integrity;
3. Encourage commitment to quality;
4. Provide people with the required resources, training and authority to act with accountability;
5. Inspire, encourage and recognize people’s contribution.

**Figure 3: Leadership PDCA Cycle**



In addition, our policies, objectives and targets are communicated and deployed throughout the business via individual performance objectives which are established and discussed during employee performance reviews. Customer Focus

### 5.1.2 Customer Focus

Firstank strives to identify current and future customer needs, to meet their requirements and to exceed their expectations. Top management ensures that the focus on improving customer satisfaction is maintained by setting and reviewing objectives related to customer satisfaction at management review meetings.

Top management also ensures that customer requirements are understood and met. Customer requirements are understood, converted into internal requirements and communicated to appropriate personnel within the organization. Customer complaints and other customer feedback are continually monitored and measured to identify opportunities for improvement. We continually look for ways to interact directly with our customers to ensure that we focus on their unique needs and expectations.

### 5.1.3 Quality Policy

#### 5.1.3.1 Establishing & Communicating

The quality policy acts as a compass by providing the direction and framework for establishing key corporate level performance measures, as well as related objectives and targets. Top management ensures that our corporate policies are established and documented, and that the policies are available to all interested parties via our website.

The Chief Operating Officer has overall responsibility for defining, documenting, implementing and reviewing our quality policy in consultation with the management teams and other personnel, or their representatives. The policy is reviewed at least annually, as part of the management review programme or at a frequency determined by:

1. The changing needs and expectations of relevant interested parties, Section 4.2.
2. The risks and opportunities that are presented through the risk management process, Section 6.1.

The quality policy is communicated to all employees at all levels throughout our organization via training, regular internal communications and reinforcement during annual employee performance reviews. Employee understanding of our policies and objectives is determined during internal audits and other methods deemed appropriate.

#### 5.1.3.2 Quality Policy Statement

Firstank is committed to an operating philosophy based on openness in communication, integrity in serving our customers, fairness and concern for our employees and responsibility to the communities within which we operate. Our vision is to exceed customer expectations for quality, safety, sustainability, cost, delivery and value. Additionally, we are dedicated to creating a profitable business culture that is based on the following principles:

#### **OUR PEOPLE**

Firstank is committed to equality in employment opportunity and rewards, embracing wholeheartedly the cultural diversity within the communities we call home. Our employees' welfare and interests are foremost throughout all aspects of our business and how we conduct our affairs. Firstank is committed to:

- Creating and nurturing an environment of success based on honesty and integrity;

- Equitable sharing in the success of the company;
- Empowerment through training and communication;
- Individual growth and equal opportunity;
- Designing and providing a safe and secure work environment.

### **OUR CUSTOMERS**

Customer needs are paramount and represent the highest priority within our business. Our obligation is to proactively seek out and define customer needs while addressing all requests expeditiously without creating false expectations.

### **OUR COMMUNITY**

Firstank is committed to supporting the communities within which we operate. We believe in the practice of social responsibility and encourage similar behavior in our employees and suppliers. We support the conservation of the physical environment and the prevention of pollution at our facilities. We proactively comply with all applicable safety, environmental, legal and regulatory requirements to which we subscribe.

### **OUR QUALITY**

Beginning with a clear definition of customers' expectations, we strive to consistently meet or exceed them. We adhere to all applicable standards and customer specific requirements and endeavor to provide processes that ensure we achieve this in order to build a robust and world class business.

## **5.2 Role, Responsibilities and Authorities**

Our organizational structure is defined in Appendix A.3. The organization chart shows the interrelation of personnel within Firstank, whilst job descriptions define the responsibilities and authorities of each role. Job descriptions and the organizational structure are reviewed and approved by Top management for adequacy as determined by the changing needs and expectations of the interested parties identified in Section 4.2, and any risk and opportunities presented through the risk management process, Section 6.1.

Members of Top management are ultimately responsible for the quality of Firstank products and services since they control the resources, systems and processes by which conforming work is accomplished. Top management are responsible for business planning, development and the communication of our policies, quality management system planning, the establishment and deployment of objectives, the provision of resources needed to implement and improve the quality management system and for undertaking management reviews. Top management has assigned the responsibility and authority to the management teams and departments to:

1. Ensure that QMS processes are delivering their intended outcomes;
2. Report on the operation of the QMS and identifying any opportunities;
3. Ensure that improvement is taking place;
4. Ensure that customer focus is promoted throughout the organisation;
5. Ensure that whenever changes to the QMS are planned and implemented;
6. Ensure the integrity of the system is maintained during changes;
7. Ensure that responsibilities and authorities relating to the QMS are communicated and understood.

All managers demonstrate their commitment to the development and improvement of the quality management system through the provision of necessary resources, through their involvement in the internal audit process and through their proactive involvement in continual improvement activities. Emphasis is placed on improving both the effectiveness and efficiency of key system processes.

All managers are responsible for execution of the business plan and the implementation of the policies, processes and systems described in this manual. All managers are responsible for planning and controlling the management system processes within their area of responsibility, including the establishment and deployment of operational level objectives and the provision of resources needed to implement and improve these processes.

All employees are responsible for the quality of their work and implementation of the policies and procedures applicable to processes they perform. Personnel responsible for product quality have the authority to stop production to correct quality problems. Employees are motivated and empowered to identify and report any known or potential problems and to recommend related solutions aid the corrective and preventive action process.

### 5.3 Communication

#### 5.3.1 Internal Communication

Firstank communicates information internally regarding our QMS and its effectiveness, through documented training, internal audit reports and continual improvement processes. All managers and supervisors are responsible for establishing regular formal and informal communications as needed to convey to their employees the relevance and importance of their activities; typically this information is conveyed through team meetings and cross-functional improvement projects.

Communications regarding how employees contribute to the achievement of objectives are also conveyed and reinforced during employee performance reviews. Issues pertaining to our QMS that may be communicated internally include:

1. Day-to-day operations and general awareness;
2. Quality policy;
3. Information on achieving objectives and targets;
4. Risk and opportunities.

Top management and their direct reports are responsible for communicating the corporate policies as well as the importance of meeting customer, statutory and regulatory requirements to employees within their respective departments. They ensure the quality policy is understood and applied to the daily work of the organization through the establishment of measurable goals and objectives. Internal communication occurs on an on-going basis and is achieved through various mechanisms as appropriate:

1. Regular meetings and briefings;
2. Training sessions and training material;
3. Display boards, memorandums, letters;
4. Website, intranet, internal e-mails;
5. Product and process performance data analysis and audit results;
6. Targets, objectives, scorecards, KPIs, management system manual and procedures;
7. Corrective action and non-conformance reports;

8. Minutes of scheduled meetings.

### 5.3.2 External Communication

Firstank determines the need to communicate information externally to our interested parties, as defined in Section 4.2, regarding the effectiveness of our QMS. In most instances, external interested parties (such as consumers, stockholders, neighboring communities, etc.) are the main driving force for our organization to implement our QMS. The various processes or means of external communication may include as appropriate:

Interested Parties	Needs & Expectations	Possible modes of Communication
Customers	Price, reliability & value	Publications in the media and focus groups
Distributors & retailers	Quality, price & logistics	Industry association publications and press releases
Owners/shareholders	Profitability & growth	Annual reports or newsletters of performance
Suppliers	Beneficial relationships	Publications on our website, meetings or questionnaires
Regulatory & statutory	Compliance & reporting	Regulatory compliance submissions or results of audits

Firstank ensures that all external communications are authorized prior to release. Where required, advice appropriate to the context of the communication may be sought concerning the content and dissemination of certain external communications. Responses to external communications are recorded if they are transmitted by email or letter. In each case the response is retained and controlled in accordance with the requirements for documented information.

## 6 Management System Planning

### 6.1 Addressing Risks & Opportunities

The overall aim of risk and opportunity management within Firstank is to ensure that organizational capabilities and resources are employed in an efficient and effective manner to take advantage of opportunities and to mitigate risks.

Top management are responsible for incorporating risk based thinking in to our organization's culture. This includes the establishment of risk management policies and targets to ensure effective implementation of risk and opportunity management principles and activities by:

1. Providing sufficient resources to carry out risk and opportunity management activities;
2. Assigning responsibilities and authorities for risk and opportunity management activities;
3. Reviewing information and results from audits and risk and opportunity management activities.

The scope of Firstank's risk and opportunity management process includes the assessment of the internal and external issues identified in Section 4.1, and the assessment of the needs and expectations of any interested parties identified in Section 4.2. Risk and opportunity management is undertaken as part of Firstank's day-to-day operations and is captured at the following hierarchy:

1. Strategic level;
2. Department level;
3. Process level;

Establishing such a hierarchy for capturing risk and opportunity ensures that each is managed at the most appropriate level within our organization. Typically, the following categories are assigned to each level in the hierarchy as shown in the table opposite.

Business Hierarchy	Risk/Opportunity
Strategic level	Budgets and profitability
Department level	Resources and targets
Process level	Evaluation and assurance

Firstank has classified its 'risk appetite' as the amount of risk that we are willing to accept in pursuit of an opportunity or the avoidance of risk where each pertains to product and/or system conformity, and

which reflect the following considerations:

1. Risk management philosophy per product or process;
2. Capacity to take on or mitigate risk;
3. Our objectives, business plans and respective stakeholder demands;
4. Evolving industry and market conditions;
5. Tolerance for failures.

**Figure 4: Risk & Opportunities PDCA Cycle**





Firstank uses registers to help record, assess, respond, review, report, monitor and plan for the risks and opportunities that we perceive to be relevant. The registers allow our organization to methodically assess each risk and to study each opportunity associated with our organizational context, and the needs and expectations of our interested parties. The register records the controls and treatments of risks and opportunities and preserves this knowledge as documented information.

**Supporting documentation:**

Ref.	Title & Description
	Context of Organization and Risk and Opportunity

## 6.2 Quality Objectives

Firstank sets out its objectives and targets on a regular basis within the management review minutes where details of program dates and responsibilities are defined. Improvements in quality and performance are incremental and are in keeping with the size and complexity of our organization.

When setting objectives and targets, our organization ensures that they are consistent with the needs and expectations of our interested parties, as defined in Section 4.2, and to our corporate policies. In addition, technological options, financial, operational and business requirements are considered.

In order to determine whether or not our objectives and targets are being met, they are measured and reported as a set of key performance indicators (KPI). This allows progress to be monitored as metrics are gathered and data is analyzed. KPIs and objectives for our organization include the following aspects:

1. Turnover & profitability;
2. Sales targets & production efficiency targets;
3. Reject and rework & cost of quality targets;
4. Staffing breakdown.

On the basis of the set quality policies and in connection with the application of the ISO 9001 quality management principles, Firstank sets quality objectives that are specified in the register of objectives. All employees are responsible for fulfillment of the quality policies and subsequent objectives. Managers of all departments are obliged to develop general objectives into objectives applicable to their departments and employees.

**Supporting documentation:**

Ref.	Title & Description
	List of Quality Objectives and Objectives achievement plan & tracking form

## 6.3 Planning for Change

The quality management system is planned and implemented in order to meet our corporate objectives and the requirements of ISO 9001:2015. The planning process involves establishing and communicating our policies, objectives and associated operational procedures.

This document constitutes our overall plan for establishing, maintaining and improving the quality management system. For each instance of management system planning, the output is documented and

retained accordingly and changes are conducted in a controlled manner. The management review and the internal audit processes ensure that the integrity of the QMS is maintained when significant changes are planned which may affect key processes.

Whenever quality management system changes are planned, Top management ensures that all personnel are made aware of any changes which affect their process, and that subsequent monitoring is undertaken to ensure that QMS changes are effectively implemented.

## 7 Support

### 7.1 Resources

#### 7.1.1 General

Resources at Firstank include human resources and specialized skills, infrastructure, technology, work environment and financial resources. The resource requirements for the implementation, management, control and continual improvement of the quality management system, and activities necessary to enhance customer satisfaction, are defined in our operational procedures, work instructions and the following sections of this QMS manual:

1. Planning; Section 6.0
2. Management review; Section 9.3
3. Human resources; Section 7.1.2
4. Infrastructure; Section 7.1.3
5. Work environment; Section 7.1.4
6. Planning of product realization; Section 8.1
7. Determination of customer requirements; Section 8.2

#### 7.1.2 People

To ensure competence of our personnel, job descriptions have been prepared identifying the qualifications, experience and responsibilities that are required for each position that affects product and system conformity. Qualifications include desired requirements for education, skills and experience. Appropriate qualifications, along with the provision of any required training, provide the competence required for each position.

Qualifications are reviewed upon hire, when an employee changes positions or the requirements for a position change. The Human Resources Department maintains records of employee qualifications. If any differences between the employee's qualifications and the requirements for the job are found, training or other action is taken to provide the employee with the necessary competence. The results of training are then evaluated to determine if it was effective.

All employees are made aware of the relevance and importance of their activities and how they contribute to the achievement of our policies and objectives. The company operates a formal system to ensure that all employees within the organization are adequately trained to enable them to perform their assigned duties.

Staff training records are maintained to demonstrate competency and experience. The Human Resources Department maintains and reviews the training records to ensure completeness and to identify possible future training needs. Training records are maintained and include as a minimum; copies of certificates for any training undertaken to date, current job description and curriculum vitae.

##### 7.1.2.1 Competence

Top management identifies emerging competency needs during management reviews. Emergent competency needs are converted into job descriptions for the type and number of positions that need to be filled through internal or external recruitment.

Where required; competency training and monitoring is conducted in-house, although for more specialist skills, external seminars or courses are utilized. The effectiveness of training is evaluated and recorded. The company

induction includes an introduction to our policies and objectives. Future competency training needs are identified as part of the Management Review process.

### 7.1.2.2 Awareness

All employees are trained on the relevance and importance of their activities and how they contribute to the achievement of our policies and objectives. The company operates a formal system to ensure that all employees within the organization are adequately trained to enable them to perform their assigned duties.

Where required; awareness training and monitoring is conducted in-house, although for more specialist skills, external seminars or courses are utilized. The effectiveness of awareness training is evaluated and recorded. The company induction includes an introduction to our organization's policy statements and objectives. Future training needs are identified as part of the management review process.

#### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
HRD_EPE-01	Employee Performance Evaluation
HRD_PRSP-01	Personnel Recruitment, Selection and Placement of Employees
	Training Plan
	Training Attendance Sheet
	Training Effectiveness Evaluation

### 7.1.3 Infrastructure

Firstank is responsible for planning, providing and maintaining the resources needed to achieve product and process conformance, including buildings, workspace and associated utilities; process equipment (hardware and software); and supporting services (such as internal transportation and material handling systems and communications systems). The Chief Operating Officer has overall responsibility for managing our facilities and equipment maintenance programs which include:

1. Transportation and material handling equipment management, maintenance and repair;
2. Process and production equipment management, maintenance and repair;
3. Facilities management, maintenance and repair.

### 7.1.4 Operational Environment

Firstank ensures that our factory, offices, warehouses comply with relevant health and safety regulations. The Chief Operating Officer carries out regular compliance audits to ensure that appropriate standards are maintained. Top management is committed to providing:

1. A place of work that is safe, including all equipment and methods of work;
2. Training, instruction, information and supervision for employees;
3. A means of safe handling, storage, use and transportation of equipment, materials and chemicals;
4. Safe working environment with good lighting, ventilation, safe passageways, stairs and corridors.

### 7.1.5 Monitoring & Measurement Tools

Firstank has determined the monitoring and measurement activities to be undertaken, and the devices needed to provide evidence of validation to specified tolerances and measurement ranges. The frequency of cleaning,

maintenance and calibration is considered with reference to the risks associated with the process. Where necessary, to ensure the validity of results, measuring and monitoring equipment is:

1. Calibrated or verified at specified intervals, or prior to use;
2. Calibrated against measurement standards traceable to appropriate measurement standards;
3. Software used for monitoring and measurement is validated using defined parameters prior to use;
4. Protected from damage and deterioration during handling, maintenance and storage;
5. Safeguarded from adjustments that would invalidate the measurement result;
6. Identified to enable the unit's calibration status to be determined;
7. Safeguarded from use when a unit is found to be out of calibration and the results revalidated;
8. Adjusted or re-adjusted as necessary.

In addition, the Quality Control Department assesses and records the validity of previous measurement results when the equipment is found not to conform to requirements. The Quality Control Department takes appropriate action on any equipment or product affected. Where equipment is found to be out of calibration, the significance of the error is reviewed and appropriate action taken. Records of the results of calibration and validation are maintained as documented information.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Calibration Log

### 7.1.6 Organisational Knowledge

Firstank recognizes that organizational knowledge is a valuable resource that supports our quality management activities and ensures continual product and service conformity. There is a strong link between organizational knowledge and the competence of our people, the latter being peoples' ability to apply knowledge to their work.

To ensure that organizational knowledge is retained and transferred, organizational knowledge is recorded in documented information, and is embedded in our processes, products and services. Examples of organizational knowledge include:

1. Documented information regarding a process, product or service;
2. Previous specifications and work instructions;
3. The experience of skilled people and their processes and operations;
4. Knowledge of technologies and infrastructure relevant to our organization, etc.

Sources of internal knowledge also include our intellectual property; knowledge gained from experience and coaching; lessons learnt from failures and successes; capturing and sharing undocumented knowledge and experience; the results of improvements in processes, products and services.

Sources of external knowledge often include other ISO standards; research papers; webinars from conferences; or knowledge gathered from customers, stakeholders or other external parties. Firstank determines and reviews internal and external sources of knowledge, such as:

1. Lessons learnt from non-conformities, corrective actions, and the results of improvement;
2. Gathering knowledge from customers, suppliers and partners, benchmarking against competitors;
3. Capturing knowledge existing within the organization, e.g. through mentoring/succession planning;

4. Sharing knowledge with relevant interested parties to ensure sustainability of the organization;
5. Knowledge from conferences, attending trade fairs, networking seminars, or other external events.

## 8 Operations – Product / Service / Projects

### 8.1 Operational Planning & Control

Firstank establishes and implements documented plans and procedures that describe the processes (Refer to Section 4.3.2) and the controls required for the provision of products and services in cognizance to the objectives, the potential for planned or unintended change, and the risks and opportunities identified in Section 6.1. During this planning phase, management or other responsible personnel identify the following parameters:

- Objectives and requirements for the product or service;
- Verification, validation, monitoring, inspection and test requirements;
- Documented information to demonstrate conformity;
- Document information to demonstrate process effectiveness;
- Necessary resources; or outsourced processes and their controls;
- Criteria for process performance and product/service acceptance;
- Potential consequences and mitigation to change affecting input requirements;
- Resources necessary to support the ongoing operation and maintenance of the product.

The output of planning activity includes documented plans, resource schedules, processes, equipment requirements, procedures and design outputs.

### 8.2 Customer Requirements

#### 8.2.1 Customer Communication

In accordance with our commitment to exceed our customer's expectations, Firstank highlights effective customer communication as an essential element of delivering customer satisfaction. Appropriate handling of customer communication helps to reduce customer dissatisfaction and in many cases turn a dissatisfying scenario into a satisfying experience. Customer communication occurs through the following formats, events and processes:

1. Brochures, specifications or technical data sheets relating to our products and services;
2. Enquiries, quotations and order forms, invoices and credit notes;
3. Confirmation of authorized orders and amended orders;
4. Delivery notes and certificates of conformity;
5. E-mails, letters and general correspondence;
6. When customer property is handled or controlled;
7. Customer feedback and complaints management process;

The Sales and ITR Departments are responsible for establishing methods of communication with our customers to ensure enquiries, contracts or order handling; including amendments, customer feedback and complaints are handled expeditiously and professionally.

### 8.2.2 Determining Requirements

Firstank develops appropriate requirements to ensure that we satisfy the needs and expectations across the socio-technical environment including those of our customers, stakeholders or relevant interested parties. Firstank ensures that customer requirements are clearly articulated and that their requirements are captured and understood before the acceptance of an order. Customer requirements include the following:

1. Previous customer requirements which pertain to current parts being ordered;
2. Statutory and regulatory requirements related to the product;
3. Other non-customer specified performance requirements;
4. Any additional requirements determined by Firstank;
5. Requirements not stated by the customer but which are necessary for specified or intended use.

This is customer-driven process requires clear, and often repeated, customer interaction to understand the customer's needs.

### 8.2.3 Review of Requirements

Prior to committing to the customer, Customer Sales Representative ensures and confirms our capacity to supply the required product or service. Pre-acceptance reviews are conducted to ensure that:

1. Product requirements are defined and are appropriate;
2. Requirements are defined for delivery and post-delivery activities such as product or service support;
3. Requirements not stated by the customer but which are necessary for intended use are appropriate;
4. Any additional requirements determined by Firstank are appropriate;
5. Contract or order requirements differing from those previously expressed are resolved;
6. Firstank has the ability to meet the defined requirements;
7. Documented information is retained and maintained showing the results of the review.

Customer requirements are confirmed before acceptance by the exchange of contracts, purchase orders via appropriate electronic or hard copy formats.

### 8.2.4 Changes in Requirements

Firstank ensures that all relevant documented information (Formal Sales Quotation); relating to changes in product or service requirements, is authorized and amended where necessary, and that all relevant personnel are made aware of the documented requirement changes.

#### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Procedure for Sales - Outright and OTC
	Procedure for Sales – ITR (Concession)

## 8.3 Design & Development

### 8.3.1 Client Inquiry

When receiving inquiries from clients which require large scale liquid storage tanks that are not part of the models that Firstank is producing (Firstank Customized Storage Tanks), Sales Department will proceed with ocular visit to inspect the project site for production feasibility.

### 8.3.2 Design Input

Upon scheduling ocular visit and site inspection, Sales Department will then consider and ensure the following:

1. Area should be clear and safe for the production personnel to operate
2. Nearby staff house and staff barracks should be visible and present for the production personnel to stay
3. Electricity and water supply should be present in the production area. This is to cater to the production tools that Firstank will be using like welding machines and cutting machines. Water is needed for product testing against leak upon turnover.
4. After checking all of these initial needs, sales personnel will then start measuring the area of the production site. This is to ensure that the area is big enough for the capacity of the storage tank that Firstank will be producing for the client.

### 8.3.3 Design Output

After ocular inspection has been made, sales personnel will then prepare the shop drawings that will be needed and forwarded to the client for their reference. The shop drawing should include the following:

1. Design and measurement of the concrete saddle and platform that the storage tank will be on.
2. Technical specifications of the storage tank that is being required or recommended to the client of Firstank.
3. Thickness and measurements of the storage tank will also be indicated in the shop drawing.
4. Location of manholes, size of fittings (inlet, outlet, drain, overflow), and ladder rung should also be visible in the shop drawing if there are any.
5. Other accessories required by the client will also be included in this shop drawing.

### 8.3.4 Design Review and Verification

After shop drawing has been provided and accepted and confirmed by client, sales personnel will then proceed with the formal Sales Quotation generated by the SAP System of Firstank. Terms and conditions of the project, together with price, will all be indicated in the Sales Quotation. This will then be approved by the management of Firstank before it will be forwarded to the client.

### 8.3.5 Design Validation and Approval

After receiving Sales Quotation from Firstank and agreeing to its terms and conditions and price offered, client will the generate Purchase Order to Firstank for the project to proceed.

## 8.4 Control of Suppliers & External Processes

### 8.4.1 General



The purchasing process is essential to our organization's ability to provide our customers with products and services that meet their requirements. Firstank ensures that all purchased products that are incorporated in to our final products; conform to our specified requirements.

Firstank accomplishes this by closely working with a network of external suppliers. Performance and capability are continually assessed through periodic, 2<sup>nd</sup> party audits, performance data analysis and inspection or verification of the supplied products or services.

The type and extent of control applied to our suppliers and the purchased product is dependent upon the effect that the outsourced product or service may have on our final product or service. The following considerations are taken in to account by:

1. Ensuring that we understand the capabilities and competencies of potential outsourcing suppliers;
2. Ensuring that we clearly communicate the roles and responsibilities of the outsourcing supplier;
3. Defining the quality requirements for the outsourced process, activity, or product;
4. Establishing upfront the criteria for and review of deliverables, frequency of inspections and audits;
5. Selecting and qualifying appropriate outsourcing suppliers.

It is the responsibility of the Purchasing officer and Chief Operating Officer to evaluate and select suppliers based on their ability to supply products or services in accordance with specified requirements. Additionally, other internal resources may be called on to assist as required. The criteria for the selection, evaluation and re-evaluation are defined in the Purchasing & Procurement Procedure, while records of the results of evaluations and any necessary actions arising from the evaluation are maintained.

### 8.4.2 Purchasing Controls

Purchased items are checked against the purchase order to confirm identity and quantity by Receiving department Satisfactory items are placed in stock. In the event that items are rejected on receipt, a non-conformance report is raised and the supplier contacted to arrange replacement or credit. Firstank has established and implemented a process of inspection to ensure that purchased products conform to:

1. Purchase orders and delivery notes;
2. Product specification / Quality;
3. National or international standards.

Where appropriate, risk control measures are applied to outsourced process or products. Risk control measures, and their importance, are documented within the purchasing data and clearly communicated to the supplier.

### 8.4.3 Purchasing Information

Purchase Department uses purchase orders to describe the product to be purchased. Purchasing officer create purchase orders using the SAP system. They also ensure the adequacy of the requirements that are specified by the purchase order prior to release. Each purchase order includes where appropriate:

- Identification of product or service to be delivered, quantity, delivery date, and cost;
- Requirements for approval or qualification of product, procedures, processes or equipment;
- Requirements of the quality management system and the qualification of personnel.

Where appropriate, the roles and responsibilities for risk management on the part of the manufacturer or supplier are defined as part of the purchasing requirements. In addition, prescribed risk control measures are

included in the purchasing requirements as part of the purchasing information which clearly communicated to the supplier or manufacturer.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	SOP for Purchasing
	Work Instruction for Incoming Materials

## 8.5 Production & Service Provision

### 8.5.1 Control of Production & Service Provision

In order to control the planning, administrative support and implementation of work, our organization's policy is to describe the work methods, the controls applied and the records required. The process control activities are quality with many aspects that also relate to quality control. The following controlled conditions are applied where applicable:

- Quality control checks are performed using appropriate measuring equipment;
- Handling, storage and transportation;
- Evidence of completed inspections;
- Detailed process work instructions and specifications for all products;
- Criteria for workmanship, competence and plant maintenance.

In cases where special processes are employed where the results of which cannot be easily checked, including any processes where deficiencies become apparent only after the product is in use. Validation demonstrates the ability of these processes to achieve planned results by:

- Defining qualification criteria and approval of special processes prior to use;
- Defining criteria for review and approval of the processes;
- Approval of equipment and qualification of personnel;
- Use of specific methods and procedures;
- Requirements for records;
- Revalidation.

### 8.5.2 Identification & Traceability

In order to preserve the conformance of products to customer requirements during internal processing and delivery, Firstank identifies the product throughout the product realization process in accordance with the Production & Service Provision Procedure.

- Stored equipment and materials are identified as to type, description and inspection status;
- Unacceptable items are identified as such and are removed from the normal work flow;
- All enquiries are identified with a unique estimate number, allocated on receipt;
- Subsequent orders are identified by contract number.

### 8.5.3 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Property

We identify, verify, protect and maintain customer property provided for use. The Warehouse department ensures that lost, damaged or unsuitable customer property is recorded and immediately reported to the customer.

In cases where the customer provides drawings, specifications, etc. they are managed as documented information. Customer property can also include customer-owned materials, tools (including packaging), tooling (including test/inspection tooling and equipment), and intellectual property.

### 8.5.4 Preservation

Warehouse department ensures that all products and materials are handled and stored appropriately at all stages of the development cycle to prevent damage or deterioration:

- Components and products are handled and stored in a manner that prevents damage or deterioration, pending use or delivery;
- Each department ensures controls are implemented to prevent mixing conforming and non-conforming materials;
- Packing ensures specified or original manufacturing packaging is utilized;
- All products are suitably packed to prevent deterioration or damage during storage and delivery.

### 8.5.5 Post-delivery Activities

Firstank determines customer requirements before acceptance of an order. Customer requirements include the following:

- Previous customer requirements which pertain to current part numbers being ordered;
- Requirements not stated by the customer but necessary for specified use or intended use;
- Statutory and regulatory requirements related to the product;
- Requirements required for delivery and post-delivery activities such as product support.
- Any additional requirements determined by Firstank.

### 8.5.6 Control of Changes

Changes to the design and development requirements are identified and recorded. Any changes are reviewed, verified, validated and approved. The review of design development changes includes evaluating the effects of those changes upon constituent products already delivered. All results relating to the review of changes are retained as documented information.

#### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	SOP for Production
	SOP Warehouse and Dispatch Logistics
	Work Instruction for Issuance of Materials

## 8.6 Release of Products & Services

The Quality Control Department has overall responsibility for planning and implementing the inspection and test activities needed to verify that product requirements are met at appropriate stages of the product realization process.

Products are not sent until they are inspected or verified as conforming to requirements, except when the product is released under positive-recall procedures pending completion of all required measurement and monitoring activities.

When the organization uses sampling inspection as a means of product acceptance, the plan is statistically valid and appropriate for use. The plan precludes the acceptance of lots whose samples have known nonconformities. When required, the plan is submitted for customer approval.

Documented information is retained to indicate the person authorizing the release of the product. Product release and service delivery does not proceed until all the planned arrangements have been satisfactorily completed, unless otherwise approved by a relevant authority, and where applicable by the customer.

Measurement and acceptance criteria that are necessary for product acceptance are retained as documented information; subsequent acceptance records form the production documentation evidence which includes the following information:

- Criteria for acceptance and rejection;
- Locations in the process sequence where measurement and testing operations were performed;
- Types of measurement instruments used, including any instructions associated with their use;
- Test records showing actual test results where required by the specification or acceptance test plan.

### 8.7 Control of Non-conforming Outputs

It is our organization’s policy to detect, control and rectify any aspect of an output that does not conform as quickly and efficiently as possible. Where necessary, any product or service output that does not conform to requirements is properly identified and controlled to prevent unintended use or delivery. The non-conformity is analyzed and the cause(s) are investigated.

Improvement actions are implemented to ensure the non-conformance does not reoccur. Once the non-conforming outputs are corrected, the outputs are then verified for conformity against requirements. Documented information concerning the nature of any non-conformances, the resolving authority, and the resulting corrective actions is retained. Where necessary, details concerning any authorized concessions are documented as evidence of acceptance.

#### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Non-conforming & Corrective Action Procedure

## 9 Performance Evaluation

### 9.1 Monitoring, Measurement, Analysis & Evaluation

#### 9.1.1 General

Firstank applies suitable methods for determining which aspects of the quality management system and its processes are to be monitored, measured and evaluated. The frequency and methods by which our processes are monitored, measured and evaluated is determined and informed by:

1. Statutory and regulatory requirements;
2. Customer feedback and specification requirements;
3. Process and QMS requirements;
4. Process performance and audit results;
5. Level of risk and types of control measure;
6. Trends in non-conformities or corrective actions;
7. Criticality for product conformity.

All monitoring, measuring and evaluation outputs are documented and analyzed to determine process effectiveness and to ensure their effectiveness in achieving in-tolerance results, and to identify opportunities for improvement.

1. In-process checks relate to both quality control and productivity checks;
2. Provision is made for the identification and resolution of non-conformances;
3. The emphasis is to prevent any problems which might affect customer satisfaction;
4. In-process checks are performed and documented;
5. Where specific inspection points are required these are identified at the contract planning phase.

Where applicable, test and inspection records are retained as documented information for a minimum of three years. This documented information includes details of the final inspection authority to confirm that all critical parameters were in accordance with established requirements and specifications. Additionally, product samples are stored for a minimum of five years.

Products are not normally released or delivered until all planned inspections and tests have been completed and that documented information exists to provide evidence of conformity with acceptance criteria and identifying the person(s) authorizing release.

#### 9.1.2 Customer Satisfaction

The Chief Operating Officer monitors information and trends relating to customer perception as to whether the organization has fulfilled the customers' requirements. Customer complaints, whether received in writing, verbally or electronically through our website's customer contact form are immediately forwarded to appropriate Customer Service personnel for action. If the problem cannot be resolved, the complaint is escalated to the Salesman Incharge or to another manager for resolution.

Customer survey data along with other customer feedback, including written or verbal complaints and information collected via the customer feedback form are reviewed by the Salesman Incharge who initiates appropriate corrective actions. The level of customer satisfaction is monitored using various sources of customer data:

1. Product returns and warranty claims;
2. Repeat customers and trends in market share;
3. Analysis of customer complaints and customer satisfaction surveys;
4. Recognition and consumer awards.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Customer Feedback Form

### 9.1.3 Analysis and Evaluation

Chief Operating Officer and other managers and supervisors collect and analyze data using appropriate statistical techniques to determine the suitability and effectiveness of key quality management system processes applicable to their area(s) of responsibility and to identify opportunities for improvement. At a minimum, data is analyzed to assess achievement of the corporate level objectives and customer requirements.

A process is effective if the desired results are measurably achieved. Effectiveness is measured in terms of product quality, process accuracy, delivery schedule performance, cost and budgetary performance, employee function performance against established objectives and levels of customer satisfaction. In order to identify strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities in our quality management system, Firstank monitors and analyzes trends using the following quality data points:

1. Characteristics of processes, products and their trends;
2. Conformity to product, customer and legal requirements;
3. Customer satisfaction and perception data;
4. Supplier and external provider performance data;
5. Results of actions taken to address risks and opportunities;
6. Effective implementation of QMS planning;
7. Improvement opportunities identified during internal audits and management reviews;

Control limits for process and product performance are expressed as objectives and disseminated via documented information as appropriate. Firstank undertakes corrective action when the data shows a trend toward the defined control limit. Employees, who utilize statistical tools to analyze; measure and verify outputs, are sufficiently competent to ensure proper deployment of these techniques.

## 9.2 Internal Audit

Internal audit results are critical inputs that help to assess the effectiveness of our quality management system. Firstank internal audits use risk based thinking and the notion of continual improvement as the main drivers. Internal audits are conducted at least twice in a year to determine whether the quality management system conforms our organization's planned arrangements and to the requirements of ISO 9001:2015.

Firstank's internal audit programme is based upon a strategy that considers the status and importance of each process that comprises our quality management system. The audit frequency is based upon process performance trends, results from previous audits, levels of customer satisfaction, rates of non-conformity and corrective action, etc. to ensure that our organization focuses on the aspects that affect product and process conformity the most.

The criteria, scope, frequency and methods of each audit are defined in our audit plan. The selection of trained auditors and their subsequent impartial conduct ensures objectivity throughout the audit process, Each Auditor ensures that:

1. The results of each are reported to the Chief Operating officer and other Department Managers;
2. That timely appropriate corrective action undertaken where required;
3. They retain documented information such as audit checklists and audit reports as evidence of the effective implementation of the audit programme in respect of each audit.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Internal Audit Procedure

## 9.3 Management Review

### 9.3.1 General

To ensure the continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of our quality management system in meeting our organization's strategies, Top management conducts formal management review meetings at least once in a year.

### 9.3.2 Inputs

The primary inputs that are reviewed comprise data from conformance and performance measurements that are gathered at key quality data points from various processes. Subsequent recommendations for improvement are based on the evaluation of such measurements.

Conformance is primarily assured through internal audits and demonstrated through a review of audit results and our demonstrated ability to detect, correct and to prevent problems. Performance is primarily assured through the deployment of corporate and operational level objectives, and through the review of our demonstrated ability to achieve desired results.

### 9.3.3 Outputs

The primary outputs of management review meetings are management actions that are taken to make changes or improvements to our quality management system. During management review meetings, top management will identify appropriate actions to be taken regarding the following issues:

1. Improvement of the effectiveness of the quality management system and its processes;
2. Improvement of product related to customer requirements;
3. Opportunities and risks;
4. Resource needs.

The primary outputs of management review meetings are the actions necessary to make changes or improvements to our quality management system and the provision of resources needed to implement these actions. Responsibilities for required actions are assigned to members of the management review team. Any decisions made during the meeting, assigned actions and their due dates are recorded in the management review minutes.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Management Review Procedure

## 10 Improvement

### 10.1 General

In order to determine and select opportunities for improvement or to implement any necessary actions to meet the requirements of customers and relevant interested parties, or to enhance customer satisfaction, Firstank drives improvement via the analysis of relevant data. The data inputs for the improvement process include:

1. Risk and opportunity evaluations;
2. Assessment of the changing needs and expectations of interested parties;
3. The conformity of existing products and services;
4. The effectiveness of our QMS;
5. Supplier performance;
6. Levels of customer satisfaction, including complaints and feedback;
7. Internal and external audit results;
8. Corrective action and non-conformance rates;
9. Data from process and product characteristics and their trends.

Firstank also ensures that opportunities for improvement from daily feedback on operational performance are evaluated by the Chief Operating Officer which are typically implemented through the corrective action system. Opportunities for improvement from analysis of longer-term data and trends are evaluated and implemented through the management review process and are prioritized with respect to their relevance for achieving our quality objectives.

The overall effectiveness of continual improvement program (including corrective actions taken as well as the overall progress towards achieving corporate level improvement objectives) is assessed through our management review process.

### 10.2 Non-conformity & Corrective Action

Evidence of non-conformance, customer dissatisfaction or process weakness is used to drive our continual improvement system. Since problems may already exist, they will require immediate correction and possible additional action aimed at eliminating or reducing the likelihood of its recurrence.

Management with responsibility and authority for implementing corrective action are notified promptly of product or process non-conformities. Investigating and eliminating the root cause of these failures is a critical part of our continual improvement process.

Firstank takes action to eliminate the cause of non-conformities in order to prevent their recurrence. Corrective actions are appropriate to the effects of the non-conformities encountered. The documented Corrective Action Procedure defines the requirements for:

1. Reviewing non-conformities, including customer complaints and product returns;



2. Determining the causes of product non-conformities and process deficiencies;
3. Evaluating the need for action to ensure that non-conformities do not recur;
4. Determining and implementing action needed;
5. Recording and reviewing the results of actions taken.

Follow-up audits are conducted in accordance with the internal audit process to ensure that effective corrective action is taken and that the action is appropriate to the impact and nature of the problem encountered. In addition, the Chief Operating Officer summarizes and analyzes corrective action data to identify trends in order to assess the overall effectiveness of the corrective action system and to develop related recommendations for improvement.

The resulting corrective actions are reviewed for effectiveness and are reported to Top management in order to determine if changes to the QMS are required, or whether any new risks or opportunities need to be considered during planning. Documented information concerning the nature of any non-conformances and their resulting corrective actions is retained.

The corrective actions are considered effective if the specific problem was corrected and data indicates that the same or similar problems have not recurred. Results of data analysis and subsequent recommendations are presented to top management for review.

### Supporting documentation:

Ref.	Title & Description
	Non-conforming & Corrective Action Procedure

## 10.3 Improvement

Firstank continually improves the effectiveness of its quality management system through the effective application of the corporate policies, objectives, auditing and data analysis, corrective and preventive actions and management reviews.

The continual improvement process begins with the establishment of our corporate policies and objectives for improvement, based on objectives contained in our business plan and customer targets and goals. Customer satisfaction, internal audit data, process and product performance data, and the cost of poor quality or risk control are then compared against objectives or KPIs to identify additional opportunities for improvement.

The overall effectiveness of continual improvement program, including corrective actions taken, as well as the overall progress towards achieving corporate level improvement objectives, are assessed through our management review process.

## Appendices

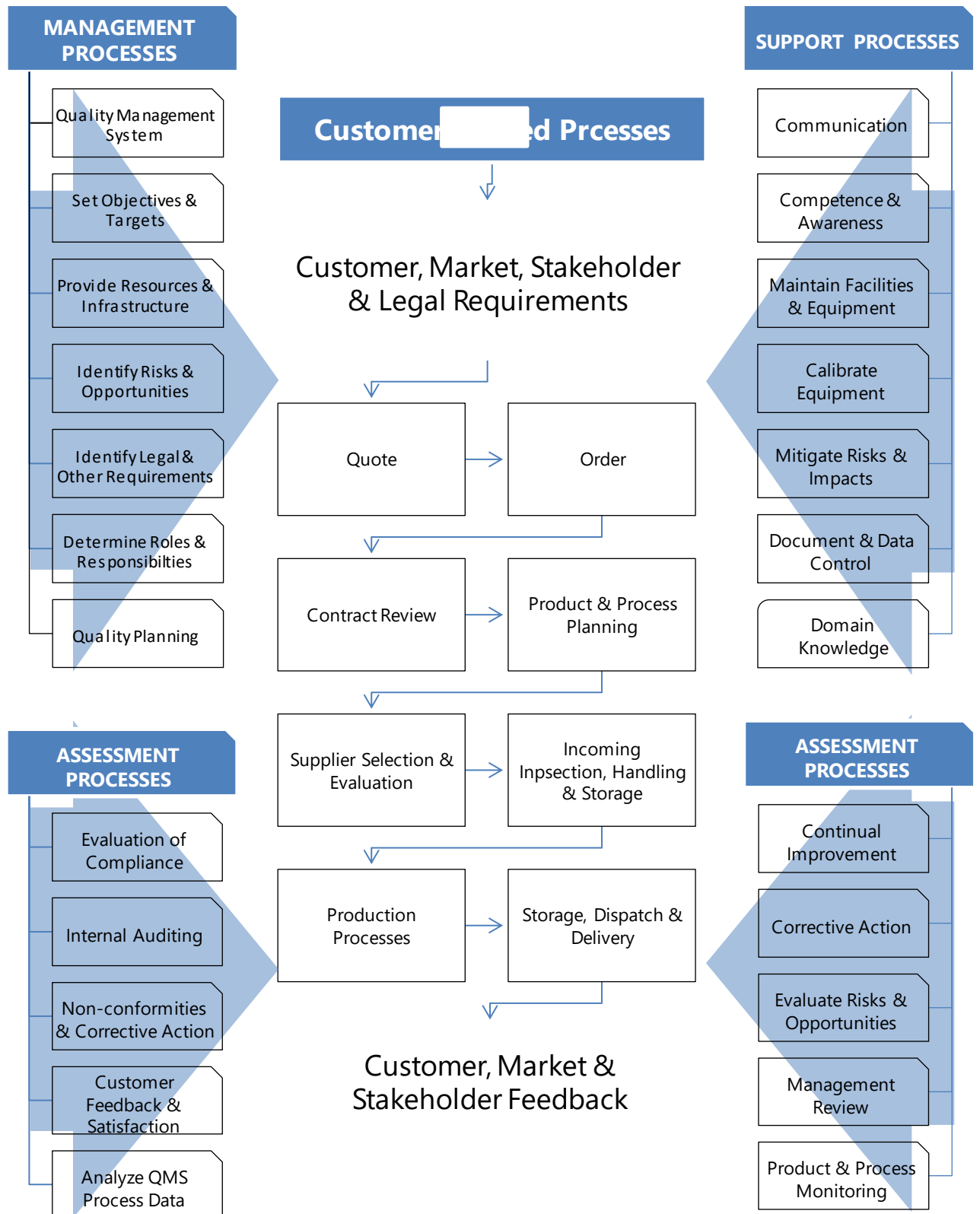
### A.1 Correlation Matrix

This section provides a matrix to correlate the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 against the relevant sections in this document and should be used to determine where the new and amended clauses are located.

ISO 9001:2015		This Document	
4.0	Context of the Organization	4.0	About our Organization
4.1	Understanding the Organization and its Context	4.1	Organizational Context
4.2	Needs and Expectations of Interested Parties	4.2	Relevant Interested Parties
4.3	Scope of the Quality Management System	4.3.1	Management System Scope
4.4	Quality Management System and its Processes	4.3.2	Management System Processes
5.0	Leadership	5.0	Leadership & Governance
5.1	Leadership and Commitment	5.1	Leadership and Commitment
5.1.1	Quality Management System	5.1.1	Quality Management System
5.1.2	Customer Focus	5.1.2	Customer Focus
5.2	Quality Policy	5.1.3	Quality Policy
5.2.1	Establishing the Quality Policy	5.1.3.1	Establishing the Quality Policy
5.2.2	Communicating the Quality Policy	5.1.3.2	Communicating the Quality Policy
5.3	Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities	5.2	Roles, Responsibilities and Authorities
6.0	Planning for the Quality Management System	6.0	Management System Planning
6.1	Actions To Address Risks and Opportunities	6.1	Addressing Risk & Opportunities
6.2	Quality Objectives & Planning To Achieve Them	6.2	Quality Objectives
6.3	Planning of Changes	6.3	Planning for Change
7.0	Support	7	Support
7.1	Resources	7.1	Resources
7.1.1	General	7.1.1	General
7.1.2	People	7.1.2	People
7.1.3	Infrastructure	7.1.3	Infrastructure
7.1.4	Environment for the Operation Of Processes	7.1.4	Operational Environment
7.1.5	Monitoring and Measuring Resources	7.1.5	Monitoring and Measuring Tools
7.1.6	Organizational Knowledge	7.1.6	Organizational Knowledge
7.2	Competence	7.1.2.1	Competence
7.3	Awareness	7.1.2.2	Awareness
7.4	Communication	5.3	Communication
7.5	Documented Information	4.3.4	Documented Information
7.5.1	General	4.3.4.1	Management System Documents
7.5.2	Creating and Updating	4.3.4.2	Creating and Updating
7.5.3	Control of Documented Information	4.3.4.3	Controlling Documented Information
8.0	Operation	8.0	Product & Service Development
8.1	Operational Planning and Control	8.1	Operational Planning and Control
8.2	Requirements for Products and Services	8.2	Customer Requirements
8.2.1	Customer Communication	8.2.1	Customer Communication
8.2.2	Determining Requirements Related to Products	8.2.2	Determining Requirements

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8.2.3	Review of Requirements Related to the Products	8.2.3	Review of Requirements
8.2.4	Changes to Requirements for Products/Services	8.2.4	Changes in Requirements
8.3	Design and Development of Products	8.3	Design and Development of Products
8.3.1	General	8.3.1	General
8.3.2	Design and Development Planning	8.3.2	Planning
8.3.3	Design and Development Inputs	8.3.3	Inputs
8.3.4	Design and Development Controls	8.3.4	Controls
8.3.5	Design and Development Outputs	8.3.5	Outputs
8.3.6	Design and Development Changes	8.3.6	Changes
8.4	Externally Provided Products & Services	8.4	Control of Suppliers & External Processes
8.4.1	General	8.4.1	General
8.4.2	Type & Extent of Control of External Provision	8.4.2	Purchasing Controls
8.4.3	Information for External Providers	8.4.3	Purchasing Information
8.5	Production and Service Provision	8.5	Production & Service Provision
8.5.1	Control of Production and Service Provision	8.5.1	Control of Production & Service Provision
8.5.2	Identification and Traceability	8.5.2	Identification & Traceability
8.5.3	Customer or External Provider's Property	8.5.3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Property
8.5.4	Preservation	8.5.4	Preservation
8.5.5	Post-Delivery Activities	8.5.5	Post-Delivery Activities
8.5.6	Control of Changes	8.5.6	Control of Changes
8.6	Release of Products and Services	8.6	Release of Products and Services
8.7	Non-conforming Process Outputs and Products	8.7	Control of Non-conforming Outputs
9.0	Performance Evaluation	9.0	Performance Evaluation
9.1	Monitoring, Measurement, Analysis & Evaluation	9.1	Monitoring, Measurement, Analysis & Evaluation
9.1.1	General	9.1.1	General
9.1.2	Customer Satisfaction	9.1.2	Customer Satisfaction
9.1.3	Analysis and Evaluation	9.1.3	Analysis and Evaluation
9.2	Internal Audit	9.2	Internal Audit
9.3	Management Review	9.3	Management Review
9.3.1	General	9.3.1	General
9.3.2	Management Review Inputs	9.3.2	Inputs
9.3.3	Management Review Outputs	9.3.3	Outputs
10.0	Improvement	10.0	Improvement
10.1	General	10.1	General
10.2	Non-Conformity and Corrective Action	10.2	Non-Conformity & Corrective Action
10.3	Continual Improvement	10.3	Continual Improvement

### A.2 Sequence & Interaction of Processes



### A.3 Organization Chart

