

July 2002

Quality System Certification to ISO/TS 16949 Standard

Dear Supplier:

In October of 1999, we communicated to you our acceptance of quality registration to either VDA 6.1 or QS-9000. You were also informed that registration to ISO/TS 16949, including company specifics, would be accepted as quality registration. An added note was that this new Technical Specification may become the Quality Management standard of the future.

DaimlerChrysler is a global supplier of vehicles to the world. It only makes common sense that DaimlerChrysler should require its suppliers to adhere to a global Quality Management System requirement. There are no plans to rewrite VDA 6.1 and QS-9000 to adjust to global changes in quality requirements.

Effective **July 1, 2004**, DaimlerChrysler will require registration to ISO/TS 16949. VDA 6.1 and QS-9000 will be accepted until this final deadline.

The second edition of ISO/TS 16949, aligned with and containing ISO 9001:2000 in its entirety, was released in March 2002. This requirement was specifically designed for the automotive sector and is recognized by all automotive manufacturers worldwide.

It is suggested that you contact a registrar that is recognized by the IATF to upgrade your current registration to this new requirement. This upgrade may be accomplished during any surveillance audit in the next two years.

Information on ISO/TS 16949 may be obtained at the following web sites:

Associazione Nazionale Fra Industrie Automobilistiche (ANFIA) www.anfia.it

Federation des Industries des Equipements pour Vehicules (FIEV) www.iatf-france.com

International Automotive Oversight Bureau (IAOB) www.iaob.org

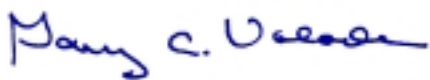
Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd. (SMMT) www.smmt.co.uk

Verband der Automobilindustrie (VDA) www.vda-qmc.de

If you have additional questions, please contact:

- Henry Gryn in Auburn Hills at 1-248-944-0737
- Markus Stang in Stuttgart at +49 (0) 711/17-75130

Sincerely,



Gary C. Valade
DaimlerChrysler
Executive Vice President, Global Procurement & Supply