



MRMP-G/E – Department of Legal and Financial Expertise		<b>INTERNAL USAGE</b>	
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	✎ MRMP-G/E – Department of Legal and Financial Expertise	Signed by: Laurent Dethier (Authentication)	
<b>Belgian Defence – Quality Assurance – Policy regarding AQAP and/or other equivalent standards.</b>			

To whom it may concern,

I, the undersigned, Lieutenant-colonel (OF-4) MMPA Laurent DETHIER, head of the Department of Legal and Financial Expertise (MRMP-G/E) within the Procurement Division (MRMP) of the Belgian Defence, hereby confirm that the Central Bureau of Quality Assurance Representatives within this Department has no longer the capacity (manpower/expertise) to provide *any* contractor with an AQAP (*Allied Quality Assurance Publications*)<sup>1</sup> certification. This is why such a requirement in some specific cases (*for instance tenders regarding military, soldier equipment*) is no longer included in tenders for the Belgian Ministry of Defence, and if necessary, replaced by equivalent and more general standards, such as ISO standards, within the field of Quality Management, Environmental Management, Health and Safety, Energy Management amongst others.

In such specific cases, and although there is no one-to-one equivalence between the aforementioned AQAP- and/or ISO-standards, it is confirmed that the approach via equivalent and more generic ISO-standards in tenders for the Belgian Ministry of Defence always yields a more than satisfactory result and offers the necessary and required guarantees in the field of quality assurance and/or insurance.

Laurent DETHIER  
 Lieutenant-colonel (OF-4) MMPA  
 Head of the Department of Legal and Financial Expertise  
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<sup>1</sup> AQAP (Allied Quality Assurance Publications) is a NATO standard for quality assurance and has its origins in the military industry. This standard is intended for companies that want to supply the Ministry of Defence and are developed by NATO.