

Heckelt Engineering.



Lutz Heckelt · VDA 6.3 Auditor with Director-Level Experience

Understanding unfamiliar production sites, finding my way in other cultures, improving processes together with suppliers in workshops – that is what draws me to this work.

15 years in quality management · 9 years as Director Supplier Quality Management · Audits in 12 countries on three continents

FOUR CORE AREAS.

VDA 6.3 Process Audits

Complete process audits at your suppliers to the current VDA 6.3 standard — on site, with a VDA-compliant audit report within two working days of the audit.

Supplier Qualification

New supplier or relocated plant: support from potential analysis all the way to your release decision — in modules over several weeks.

Potential Analyses

Technical assessment of new or critical suppliers before contract award. A sound basis for decisions in purchasing and quality.

Supplier Development

Targeted development of suppliers with potential: process weaknesses from audits or complaints as the starting point, on-site workshops, root cause analysis, and actions all the way to demonstrable process improvement.

QUALIFICATIONS.

Certifications

VDA 6.3 Process Auditor (VDA QMC)
since 2015, requalified 2024

IATF 16949 1st/2nd Party Auditor (VDA QMC)
since 2016, requalified 2024

DGQ Quality Officer and Internal Auditor
2012

Education

Dipl.-Wirt.-Ing. (Master-level degree in Industrial Engineering), specialisation Production Management, TU Dortmund University

Languages

German (native)
English (fluent, certified C1)

INDEPENDENCE.

I do not consult for any supplier that I audit on behalf of a client.

Planning an audit — or facing an acute problem at a supplier?

Quotation within 24 hours of the initial call · Report two working days after the assignment.

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CAREER

- since 09/2026 **Owner, VDA 6.3 Process Auditor** · Heckelt Engineering, Berlin
Supplier quality engineering on behalf of clients: VDA 6.3 process audits, potential analyses, supplier qualification, supplier development.
- 06/2017 – 07/2026 **Director Supplier Quality Management** · TDK Sensors AG & Co. KG, Berlin
Overall responsibility for Supplier Quality Management of a global business group. Line management of four staff in Berlin, functional responsibility for the international SQM teams.
- 07/2015 – 05/2017 **Supplier Quality Manager** · TDK Sensors AG & Co. KG, Berlin
VDA 6.3 process audits and potential analyses in Europe, the USA and Asia. Product and process approvals to VDA Volume 2 and AIAG PPAP. Process improvement workshops at international suppliers.
- 04/2014 – 06/2015 **Project Quality Manager** · SMA Solar Technology AG, Niestetal
Quality responsibility in new-product and adaptation projects: FMEA facilitation, quality gate reviews, assessment of manufacturing and test processes in production and at suppliers.
- 01/2011 – 03/2014 **Quality Manager, Initial Sample Inspection** · SMA Solar Technology AG, Niestetal
Product and process approvals to VDA Volume 2 for purchased parts; interface to suppliers, internal departments and the sites in the USA and China.

PROJECTS FROM EMPLOYMENT (SELECTION)

Global SQM Organisation

Harmonisation of supplier quality standards, processes and KPIs across a global business group with sites in Europe, the USA and Asia.

Global Initial Sample Inspection Process

Design and roll-out of the company-wide initial sample inspection process for purchased parts to VDA Volume 2 – transferring the automotive standard to an industrial company.

Second Sources for Several Material Groups

Qualification of additional suppliers as a second source, from potential analysis to start of production.

Medium-Voltage Station for PV Power Plants

Quality responsibility for a turnkey solution with inverter, transformer and medium-voltage switchgear in a 20-foot container – from assessment of manufacturing and test processes through sampling to start of series production.

INDUSTRIES

Automotive Tier 1 and Tier 2, electronics and sensor manufacturing, metalworking and industrial manufacturing

COMMODITY GROUPS

Wafers, PCB/PCBA, glass, seals, metal parts, cables, plastic parts, control cabinets, assemblies, outsourced processes