



**SUBJECT:** IATF Unique Site Identifier (IATF USI)  
**ISSUE DATE:** September 2022  
**REF:** 009

## IATF Global Oversight

### IATF Stakeholder Communiqué

The purpose of this Stakeholder Communiqué is to advise all IATF Stakeholders about the introduction of a unique identification number for IATF 16949 certified organisations.

The IATF Unique Site Identifier Code (hereafter called IATF USI) will be introduced on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 in the IATF 16949 Certification Scheme.

The purpose of the IATF USI is to ensure that all types of physical locations involved in an IATF 16949 certification (i.e., manufacturing sites, extended manufacturing sites and stand-alone remote support locations<sup>1</sup>) will be assigned a permanent identifier that will exist in perpetuity.

The assignment of an IATF USI will be implemented in several steps.

In the first step, all manufacturing sites with a valid (i.e., issued or suspended) IATF 16949 certificate will automatically be assigned an IATF USI in October 2022. This will also include associated manufacturing site extensions which will be assigned their own IATF USI.

The assignment of an IATF USI to stand-alone remote support locations will take place at a later point in time as further preparatory work steps are needed before assigning an IATF USI to these locations.

The concept ensures that as long as a physical location stays at the same physical address, the IATF USI will be kept over the lifetime of the IATF 16949 certification.

The IATF USI is maintained even in the following cases:

- a change of the client's location name
- a manufacturing site extension becomes a certified site and vice versa
- a stand-alone remote location becomes a certified site and vice versa
- change of certification body (transfer process)
- previously certified site starts over with new initial certification (either with the previous or new certification body)

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<sup>1</sup> stand-alone remote support location: support locations that have no manufacturing but provide only supporting functions to other manufacturing sites



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The IATF USI is only reassigned in the case of a move of a client location to a different physical address (site move/relocation).

### **Structure/Format of the IATF USI:**

The IATF USI is a six digit, randomly generated alphanumeric code which cannot be modified.

Subsequent requirements, including timescales, will be communicated in related Sanctioned Interpretations in due course based on the following principles:

- the IATF USI will have to be shown on every IATF 16949 certificate whenever a new certificate is being issued or re-issued;
- the client will have to communicate the IATF USI to the new certification body as part of a transfer process;
- the client will have to communicate the IATF USI to a new or existing certification body in case of a new initial audit following a previous certificate cancellation, expiration or withdrawal;

After the implementation date clients shall be knowledgeable about their existing IATF USI(s) and will have to provide these to their certification body auditors at the next upcoming audit.

Certification body auditors will have to check the IATF USI in the IATF certificate validity check portal prior to conducting the next audit and will have to record the IATF USI in the IATF CARA Report(s).

### **How will IATF 16949-certified organisations know about their IATF USI(s) and how will certification body auditors be able to identify the IATF USI(s) for their audited client locations?**

1. Open the “IATF Certificate Validity Check” from the IATF Global Oversight website or directly enter: <https://85.214.203.6/> into your internet browser
2. Enter the IATF no. of your currently valid certificate
3. The IATF USI will be displayed

If you have any questions, please [contact](#) IATF Oversight.