USACE Quality Assurance & Quality Control Processes

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SAME – Meet the Corps Day March 3rd & 4th, 2020



US Army Corps of Engineers BUILDING STRONG.

USACE Quality Assurance/Quality Control Processes



- 1. Construction Quality Management Responsibilities.
- 2. Contractor Quality Control (QC) functions.
- 3. Government Quality Assurance (QA) functions.



1. Construction Quality Management Responsibilities

- Quality construction is a dual-responsibility, and requires a combined effort, between Contractor and Government.
 - Contractor \rightarrow Quality Control (QC).
 - Government → Quality Assurance (QA).
- <u>Contractor Quality Control</u> Contractor's system to manage, control, and document activities to ensure compliance with the Contract.
- <u>Government Quality Assurance</u> Government's system to assure end product quality, by monitoring the contractor's QC activities and performing independent testing and/or inspections of contract work.
- Both the QC and the QA systems are scalable to reflect the inspection requirements of the project and various stages of work.



2. Contractor Quality Control (CQC)

- <u>Contractor Quality Control (CQC) Plan</u> The contractor is required to develop and submit to describe how they will manage quality on the contract. Contract specifications define the work plan minimum requirements.
 - Job Site QC Plan Defines the contractor's on-site quality control organization, testing and procedures to be implemented to ensure <u>construction</u> complies with contract documents.
 - Design QC Plan Defines the contractors organization and procedures for internally reviewing <u>design</u> documents for compliance with contract documents.
 - Factory QC Plan Defines the contractor's organization, testing, and procedures to be implemented at the factory to ensure <u>manufactured</u> items comply with contract documents.



2. Contractor Quality Control (CQC) Cont.

Implementation of the contractor's quality control program occurs through a three phase inspection process for each feature of work

- **Preparatory Phase** Meeting lead by KTR prior to starting new Feature of Work (FOW).
- Initial Phase Observation at beginning of new FOW to verify Plan is correct and appropriate.
- Follow-up Phase Daily check of process to determine if changes to Plan are needed.



2. CQC Organization

- Contractor Quality Control Systems Manager (CQCSM) Responsible for the overall management of Contractor Quality Control. Full authority to stop work until corrections are made.
- Additional CQC Personnel employed by the prime contractor required to assist the CQCSM executing quality control.
 - Design Quality Control ManagerCertified Weld Inspector

 - Submittal Clerk
 - Electrical Engineer
 - Mechanical Engineer
- Additional CQC Personnel subcontracted by the prime contractor to assist the CQCSM in executing testing requirements.
 - Testing Laboratories
 - Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) Technicians
 - CWI's



2. Example of Contractor's Quality Control Organization



3. Government Quality Assurance

- QA activities start prior to contract award and include:
 - Design reviews
 - BCOES Reviews
 - Quality Assurance Plan (QAP).
- QA Testing Generally 5% of the frequency of the CQC tests.
 QA Observance of CQC Tests Generally 10% of CQC.



3. Implementation of Quality Assurance

- <u>QA activities prior to start of construction</u>:
 - Review of preconstruction submittals including product data, shop drawings, work plans, qualifications, samples, etc.
 - Holding a meeting of mutual understanding on quality with the contractor's quality control staff to ensure both parties have the same expectations on how quality will be managed on the project.
- <u>QA activities after start of construction</u>:
 - Performing surveillance of the contractor's quality control program, performing inspections, participating in meetings and assisting in resolution of issues.
 - Documentation, documentation, documentation!



3. Example of Government's Quality Assurance Organization on Civil Works Projects



3. Government Quality Assurance Organization

Support from Operations Personnel

- Lake Office Rangers and Mechanics
 - knowledge of project
 - Know local contractors.
 - Operate GOV equipment
- Operation Field Engineers
 - Assist on remote locations.
 - Support on issue resolution.





*OPs is the User\Customer on Civil Works Projects.



Quality Assurance Organization Cont.

- Support from SWT Engineers (Engineering Branch and Operations)
 - Co-review of shop drawings, product data, & work plans.
 - On site engineering support, if necessary.
- Support from Area Office Technical Support Staff
 - Co-review of schedule updates.
 - On site support as required.
 - Identifying and documenting lessons learned.







QA at Offsite Rehab Facilities

- Major components sent to machine shops for rehabilitation.
- Performance of "as-received" inspections and reports.
- Verification of "as-received" conditions through review of submitted reports & photos.
- Review of rehab scope with on site QC manager & project manager.
- Performed in-process QA inspections of all components.
- "Witness Point" Inspections.





On Site Quality Assurance

- Inspect all rehabbed or new components upon arrival at site.
- Operation testing upon reassembly
- Witness 100% of contractor completed measurements. Witness torqueing of all major connection bolts.
- Operations Electrician performs Gate Operability and Capability Inspection (GOCI).



Construction Quality Management Outputs

- Submittal Review Comments
- Daily Inspection Reports (Both QA/QC)
- Deficiency Logs
- Testing Data
- Trip Reports
- Meeting Minutes

Delivery of project that meets or exceeds the quality standards required by the contract.



Questions?

