

# Notice to Suppliers



## Coronavirus (COVID-19) and SABRe compliance

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**Business Unit:** All

**NTS Number:** 524  
**Issue:** 1  
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For the attention of the Managing Director.

### Scope/Applicability:

All Rolls-Royce Civil Aerospace and Defence suppliers.

### Dear Supply Partner,

#### Introduction:

We continue to face unprecedented personal and business challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. In May 2020 we issued NTS 502 communicating a corporate Quality Plan QP2893 and AESQ guidance on COVID-19 covering time-based requirements for Calibration, NDT, Welding and Special Processes. In September 2020, this guidance and Quality Plan were updated. ([Link to AESQ-documents](#)).

#### The Quality Plan 2893 and AESQ guidance expired on 31st December 2020.

While it's expected that the COVID-19 pandemic will continue for many months, standards organisations, industrial bodies, and accreditation bodies have issued guidance on how to be compliant. It is therefore expected that requirements for time-based events like equipment calibration and personnel re-qualification are fully restored to standard or will follow this industrial guidance.

Following closure of the Quality Plan, exceptions to these requirements must be managed on a case by case basis.

- A. Where COVID-19 causes local disruption, this could be managed by the local Rolls-Royce technical authorities mitigating the risk ongoing in line with SABRE rules.
- B. Where it is a more global disruption, the Rolls-Royce Global Process Owner / Technical Authority may manage this with individual Quality Plans in line with SABRE rules. In these cases, further guidance will be circulated as appropriate.

#### Action Required:

- Please investigate where the AESQ or Quality Plan rules have been implemented and ensure a return to standard is in place.
- Escalate as soon as possible if standard requirements cannot be met so exceptions can be managed with the Rolls-Royce Technical Authorities.
- Please cascade the content of this NTS to your sub-tiers, test laboratories, etc. as appropriate.

It is vitally important that we continue to manufacture and service products that are fit for purpose and compliant to the stringent regulatory requirements that we must all comply with by law. Your continued strong support through these challenging times is very much appreciated.

If you require any clarification on these requirements, please inform your usual Purchasing point of contact.

**NTS Category:**

Quality

**Authorised by:**

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