



ASTRA

AEROSPACE STANDARD

PROCEDURE

Provider Agreements, Authorisation and Outsourced Work

AF-AST-PR-022

FIRST EDITION

30 September 2026 | English master text

Aviation / Space / Defense / Future systems

Publication identity and use

Control	Publication information
Code and title	AF-AST-PR-022 — Provider Agreements, Authorisation and Outsourced Work
Edition and publication date	FIRST EDITION 30 September 2026 English master text
Accountable function	Corporate Secretary
Controlling technical basis	AF-AST-STD-001 / AF ASTRA-100:2026; supplied 248-page FIRST EDITION, Clauses 0–80 and Annexes A–AR.
Source fingerprint	fe0f775b3f57e43c7ad6b3d4ab17ac0ff872d3ce8c88fcd9ae9a0116b23209b1
Portfolio	108 retained document codes; F01–F08; 68 retained technical subjects. All-space and verification domains are applicability tags, not additional families.
Publication and operation	Prepared publication. Actual technical approval, consultation, institutional adoption, operational effectivity and individual scope activation require separate authentic records.

Purpose and application

Provider competence, written authorisation, binding cooperation arrangements, subcontracting and retained issuer responsibility. Ordinary applicants remain separate from delegated operators.

Source requirements and added implementation detail

The controlling ASTRA source is identified above by content fingerprint. Numbered source clauses and annexes retain their own authority. The retained operating material is restructured and expanded with implementation methods, additional profile controls, worked synthetic examples, decision diagrams and record contracts. Added implementation detail is not presented as an earlier institutional approval or as a change to the supplied core standard. Any additional binding criterion requires the applicable technical adoption process.

The displayed publication date identifies the edition; it is not a fabricated authoring, test, approval or operational date. Actual records retain genuine event times and controlled versions. No named outside organisation or standard is incorporated as a normative reference. AF internal instruments and separate legal or contractual duties remain applicable within their actual scope.

Acceptance boundary

A positive grant requires every applicable mandatory condition to PASS, every N/A to have independent justification, every in-scope nonconformity to be verified closed, and competent independent authority. HOLD, unknown state, missing evidence, a favourable average, a signature image or a completed form cannot substitute for those conditions.

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1 Scope, trigger and responsibility

Provider competence, written authorisation, binding cooperation arrangements, subcontracting and retained issuer responsibility. Ordinary applicants remain separate from delegated operators.

Trigger: An external party performs assessment work, supplies technical evidence or seeks authority to act for AF.

Accountable process owner: Corporate Secretary. Actual named appointments and deputies are recorded separately. The process owner coordinates execution; technical review, independent conformity decisions and operational permissions retain their separate mandates.

Input	Output / destination
Actual request or triggering event, scope and current technical basis	A traceable process record linked to its case/object and the required form modules.
Competence, conflict, authority and access evidence	Approved assignment and lawful access before affected work begins.
Original observations, technical results, limitations and prior history	Reasoned accept/hold/escalation decision; preserved adverse evidence and recipient communications.
Controlling clocks and genuine event timestamps	Actual due/completion records in SC-003 and the relevant register; no administrative reset.

2 Operating sequence

PR-022 – Provider Agreements, Authorisation and Outsourced Work

Trigger: An external party performs assessment work, supplies technical evidence or seeks authority to act for AF.

1. Classify the relationship

The Corporate Secretary distinguishes an ordinary applicant, technical subcontractor, relied-upon result provider, delegated operator and legal accrediting issuer. Identify each actual performer and their tasks. A common owner or an MoU title does not establish authority or equivalence.

2. Verify exact competence

Evaluate actual methods, ranges, sites, personnel, independence, resources, reporting and decision capability. Review current and historical restrictions and adverse results. Supplier registration, a broad certificate or a future staffing plan cannot substitute for the requested technical competence.

3. Confirm structural independence

Assess ownership, related activities, finances, consultancy and actual influence. The accrediting entity does not accredit itself or deliver the conformity services it accredits. Avoid nominal reciprocal approvals that conceal the same conflict.

4. Obtain prior operating authorisation

An organisation acting for AF requires prior written permission and an executed binding Cooperation and Authorization MoU for actual technical and territorial scope. Competence attestation, operating permission and an individual applicant outcome remain separate decisions.

5. Write complete scope and duties

Record parties, versions, task boundaries, final decision responsibility, witnessing/access, source flow-down, confidentiality, marks/registry, notifications, fees, liability, remedies, continuity and records. Actual governing law and dispute terms need competent selection. Prohibit onward delegation unless expressly authorised and technically controlled.

6. Verify delivery and sub-tier implementation

Confirm that relevant specifications, configuration, acceptance, change, evidence and retention duties reach the actual performer. Check acknowledgement and representative outputs. The commissioning issuer retains its assigned acceptance and oversight duties despite subcontracting.

7. Monitor changes and adverse events

Review performance, complaints, changing staff/methods/sites, unsupported digital dependencies and loss of authority. A provider incident triggers affected-output and shared-scope review. Do not allow a commercial replacement to erase a technical failure or invalid prior result.

8. Exit with preserved responsibility

On suspension, termination or cessation, protect holders, open cases, remedies, records, status information and lawful transfer. The receiver verifies the complete dossier and any required new evaluation. Transfer of files or contract assignment does not transfer broader accreditation or AF authority.

Hold / escalation: Undefined performer, missing competence, unresolved structural conflict, absent prior written approval/MoU or uncontrolled delegation prevents acting for AF in the affected scope.

Record handover: AF-AST-FR-003, AF-AST-FR-006, AF-AST-FR-018, AF-AST-FR-019, AF-AST-FR-028.

3 Completion, holds and handover

Undefined performer, missing competence, unresolved structural conflict, absent prior written approval/MoU or uncontrolled delegation prevents acting for AF in the affected scope.

Decision and authority boundary

A positive grant, renewal or extension requires valid scope, every applicable criterion fulfilled, sufficient usable evidence, closure of every in-scope nonconformity, current competent independent decision authority and effective required permissions. No score, majority vote, membership status or future corrective promise replaces a missing gate. An operational technical release, a programme outcome and an administrative publication are separate actions.

Required record	Capture responsibility
AF-AST-FR-003	Admission and evidence-reuse review
AF-AST-FR-006	Case conflict and assignment
AF-AST-FR-018	Operator agreement and authorisation schedule
AF-AST-FR-019	Laboratory/inspection competence and validity
AF-AST-FR-028	Programme change, transition and closure

The performer hands the actual record to the designated owner or reviewer. The receiving function verifies scope, version, usable evidence, open conditions, original dates and the action it may take. Sending an email, completing a form or setting a database flag is not acceptance of that handover.

4 Timing and escalation

Control / source	Trigger and interval	Required response
Ongoing outcome Core 16.1	Independent conformity decision Maximum 24 months	Shorter profile permitted; AF 9100 retains its own controlling rules. Instance results have no invented ongoing validity.
Routine surveillance Core 16.2	Decision / last completed surveillance Maximum 12 months	Complete evaluation; booking is not completion.
High-consequence / novel / integrity exposure Core 16.2	Decision / last completed surveillance Maximum 6 months	Use the shortest triggered interval for inseparable mixed scopes.

Use actual awareness, notification, completion, decision, issue and expiry timestamps with a declared time zone. Days are calendar days unless explicitly stated otherwise. Month intervals end on the corresponding date, or month-end where that date does not exist. Earlier applicable duties prevail. Source: Annex H.

5 Worked application and failure response

Synthetic example: A synthetic contractor has competent laboratory methods but seeks to issue AF product certificates. The laboratory evidence is insufficient for the full certification-to-decision route; additional evaluation, independent authority and a correctly scoped executed agreement are required.

Before closure, challenge a missing essential input, an expired or conflicted role, wrong configuration, contradictory evidence and an incomplete receiving handover where applicable. Record expected and actual behaviour. A completed synthetic exercise tests reasoning or workflow only; it cannot replace required technical witnessing.

E1 Explicit acceptance and evidence contract

Apply the following logic to the exact evaluated object and responsible function. A procedural checkpoint, product characteristic, competence decision and public credential are different objects. Their states shall not be collapsed into one score. Source: ASTRA 62.1–62.7 and Annex AL.

State	Sufficient basis	Required next action
PASS	Applicable; current approved predicate met by valid, purpose-specific evidence.	Retain the original evidence and bounded inference. Other mandatory gates still apply.
FAIL	Applicable; valid evidence demonstrates that the approved predicate is not met.	Contain affected use; retain the failure; assess cause, extent and required corrective verification.
HOLD	Applicability, criterion, method, evidence, uncertainty or authority is unresolved.	Resolve the missing basis. Do not manufacture a value, favourable default or product-defect conclusion.
N/A	Activity trigger and retained responsibility are absent; independent exclusion approval exists.	Retain the scope-specific reason and reassess when activity or responsibility changes.
UNSET	Only an uncompleted field in this PDF; not a conformity state.	No conclusion is recorded. Complete review before the field can support a decision.

For a compound source clause, create a child-condition ledger containing every separately testable condition, location, phase and operating mode. A sentence-level checkpoint is a navigation aid, not permission to merge unrelated predicates. Each child receives an ID, responsible owner, criterion, method, source evidence, uncertainty where relevant, current state and independent review. The parent cannot PASS while any mandatory child is FAIL, HOLD or UNSET.

An acceptable measurement interval and an acceptable authority chain are independent prerequisites. Use finite, unit-consistent, unrounded values; negative uncertainty, reversed limits, unknown version or wrong-object evidence produce HOLD. For inclusive [L,H] and accepted interval [a,b], PASS requires $a \geq L$ and $b \leq H$; FAIL requires $b < L$ or $a > H$; otherwise HOLD. Approved one-sided or exclusive boundaries retain their own declared predicate.

Positive-decision conjunction

Every applicable mandatory child is PASS AND each N/A is independently justified AND every in-scope nonconformity is verified closed AND scope, competence, independence and actual authority are valid AND required panel participation and voting rules are satisfied. No average, majority preference or payment supplies missing evidence.

E2 Source-to-implementation crosswalk

The references below use the supplied 248-page FIRST EDITION. Each row retains the original clause identifier and source page. The operating instructions in this document elaborate implementation; they do not replace the full source condition or its applicable annexes. A reference to a whole chapter requires selection of every triggered subclause, not only the examples printed here.

ASTRA ID / page	Source subject	Implementation use
3.2 / 12	Accrediting and delivery entities	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
3.6 / 13	Liability, continuity and accountability	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
5.5 / 15	External provision and sub-tier responsibility	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
11.4 / 22	Binding terms and holder duties	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates

ASTRA ID / page	Source subject	Implementation use
11.5 / 23	Authorisation to act for AF	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
25.1 / 42	Activity-specific provider controls	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
30.3 / 48	Reliance and cooperation agreements	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
48.1 / 71	Critical suppliers and actual performers	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
48.2 / 71	Flow-down and acknowledgement	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
48.6 / 72	Performance, transfer and exit	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
63.6 / 91	Interface and lifecycle closure	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate
69.1 / 102	Consent and exact intervention	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate
75.7 / 115	Handover, resource claims and closure	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate
80.3 / 124	Competent independent closure	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate

E3 Detailed operating extensions

AF-AST-PR-022 – Provider Agreements, Authorisation and Outsourced Work

Implementation basis: 3.2 (p. 12); 3.6 (p. 13); 5.5 (p. 15); 11.5 (p. 23); 48.1 (p. 71); 48.2 (p. 71); 63.6 (p. 91); 69.1 (p. 102); 75.7 (p. 115); 80.3 (p. 124)

X22.1 Identify actual performance and retained responsibility

Distinguish scheme owner, accredited provider, delegated operator, supplier and applicant. Name the tasks and locations actually performed by each party.

Completion / hold: An intermediary cannot claim direct capability or transfer retained final decision responsibility by contract wording alone.

X22.2 Complete authority and competence independently

Check technical capability, written permission, executed operator MoU where triggered and territorial/activity limits.

Completion / hold: An agreement title without actual competent delivery or valid authority does not release the scope.

X22.3 Flow down technical and custody duties

Transmit configuration, criteria, evidence access, changes, incidents, confidentiality, retention and receiving acceptance to the actual sub-tier performer.

Completion / hold: Commercial approval cannot replace technical acknowledgement and demonstrated implementation.

X22.4 Plan monitored transfer and exit

Retain original decisions, open findings, status, liabilities, records and continuing recipients during substitution or cessation.

Completion / hold: Changing provider cannot turn suspended or unsupported evidence into a valid result.

Record contract: the actor records the input baseline, actual work, deviations, result and evidence link; the named receiving function acknowledges access and the permitted next action. A returned or incomplete handover retains the original event history. Use the associated FR modules and RG record links; no document or database field confers actual authority.

E4 Application-specific parameter completion

These are required information groups from Annex AO, not pre-approved engineering limits. For every triggered group, populate actual values or observable attributes before evaluation, with unit, inclusivity, phase/mode, technical derivation, uncertainty/dependence, method version, owner, independent review, authentic approval and change trigger. An absent trigger requires an approved exclusion; an unsupported or missing essential value is HOLD.

P01 — Mission and scope

Legal owner, performer, family/module, object, domain, configuration, location, duration and modes.

Derivation and evidence: Scope tuple and mission concept; approved applicability matrix.

Completion test: No undefined essential object, duty, phase or exclusion.

P03 — Requirements and acceptance

Stable ID, owner, characteristic, units, bound inclusivity, predicate, observation and essential-step marker.

Derivation and evidence: Requirement baseline and Annex AL decision rule.

Completion test: Every condition is evaluable before observations are judged.

P05 — Materials and process qualification

Material type/condition, geometry, sources, variables, qualified window, machine/tool state and hidden properties.

Derivation and evidence: Actual representative qualification; lot/build genealogy.

Completion test: All influential variables and required product properties are supported.

P11 — Communication and timing

Distance, frequency/wavelength, gain/loss, noise, rate, margin, latency, event time, age, clock error and outage.

Derivation and evidence: Validated end-to-end budget and adverse service tests.

Completion test: Required quality, delay and integrity conditions all pass.

P13 — Contamination and samples

Relevant substances/particles, pathway, limit, method/detection, custody, cleanliness, containment and receiving.

Derivation and evidence: Mission-specific technical/protection basis.

Completion test: Required integrity and scientific cleanliness are demonstrated for the actual sample/use.

P15 — Security and command authority

Identities, roles, privileges, keys/trust, target, validity window, command sequence, integrity and interruption response.

Derivation and evidence: Written test authorisation and deployed workflow validation.

Completion test: No prohibited authority or unverified command state is accepted.

P17 — Logistics and environmental claims

Identity, amount, units, condition, losses, allocation, lifecycle boundary, factor provenance and exclusive attributes.

Derivation and evidence: Reconciled custody/quantity records and separate suitability/statement evaluation.

Completion test: Quantity and claim integrity pass independently of technical eligibility.

P18 — Decision, continuity and terminal duties

Closed findings, reviewer competence, independence, authority, status clocks, final-state criteria, custody and open obligations.

Derivation and evidence: Authenticated decisions and verified terminal/transfer evidence.

Completion test: Every mandatory gate is complete; incomplete or unknown terminal state remains explicit.

E5 All-space applicability and bounded responsibility

The following Annex AK tags are selected because the document can support these responsibilities. Applicability is decided for the actual case. Tags do not expand a family, create an operating permission or place a whole mission inside a supplier's limited scope. Resolve domain, phase, mode, environment and retained duty before accepting a claim.

Domain / source page	Coverage	Required boundary
AK01 / 187 Terrestrial engineering and supply	Design offices, manufacturing, material sources, procurement and integration.	Every delivered characteristic and essential supplier interface is traceable to accepted evidence.
AK02 / 187 Test facilities and technical providers	Environmental, structural, materials, calibration and inspection services, including mobile and remote work.	Actual method competence and valid result evidence are separately demonstrated.
AK03 / 187 Launch sites and spaceports	Site infrastructure, handling, ground services, emergency interfaces and actual permissions.	No site outcome is used as vehicle, launch or mission permission.
AK30 / 194 Ground, communication and navigation services	Mission control, RF/optical links, timing, data processing, relays and PNT support.	Availability, correctness, authority and completion are separately demonstrated.
AK31 / 194 Digital and autonomous space systems	Software, programmable hardware, AI, models, twins and defensive security.	All essential behaviours and prohibited transitions are verified for the actual deployment.
AK32 / 194 Retirement and long-term stewardship	Disposal, passivation governance, loss-of-contact states, records and residual obligations.	Final-state claims are truthful and every unresolved duty has an accepted owner.

E6 Workflow and evidence relationships

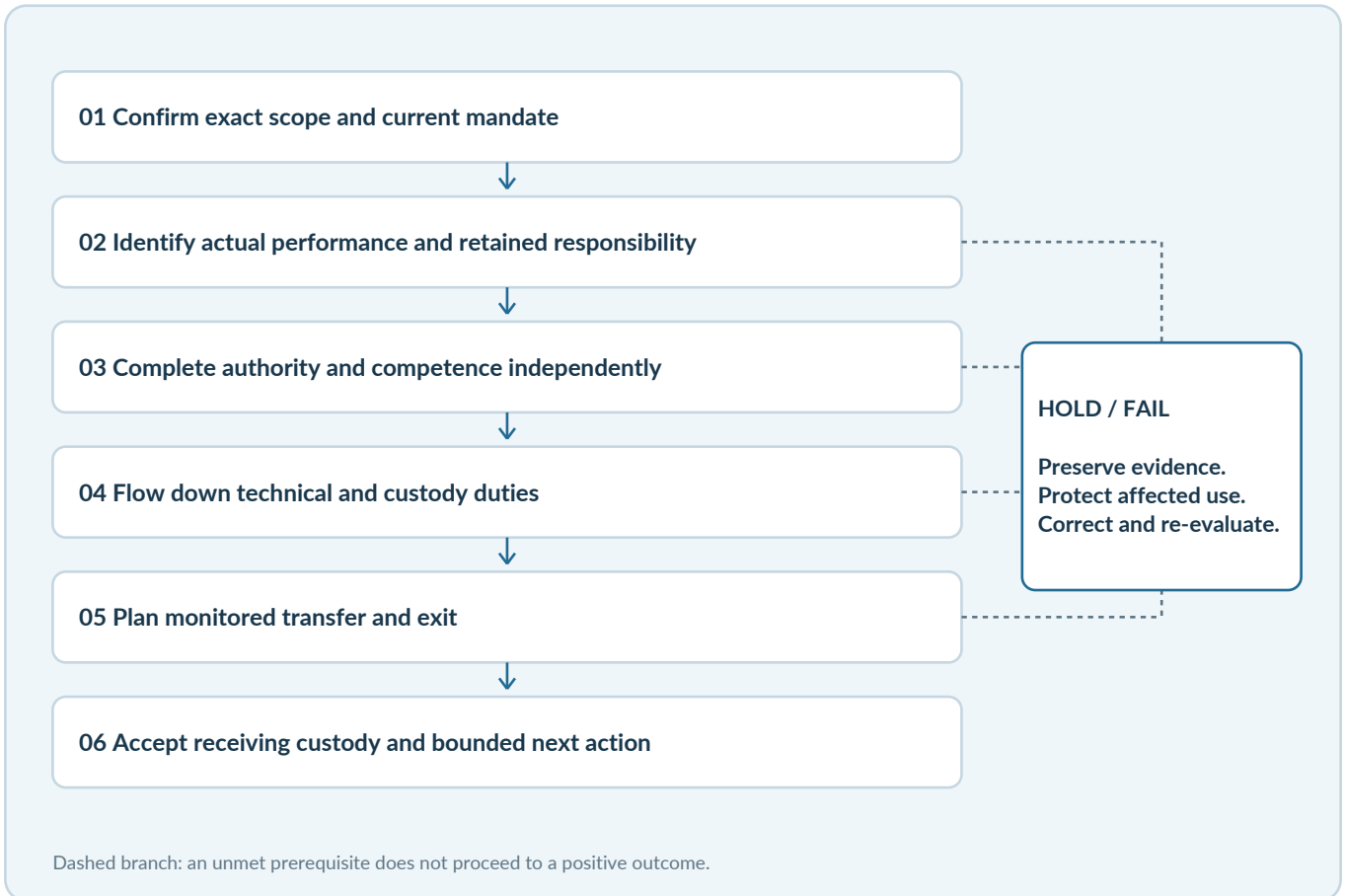
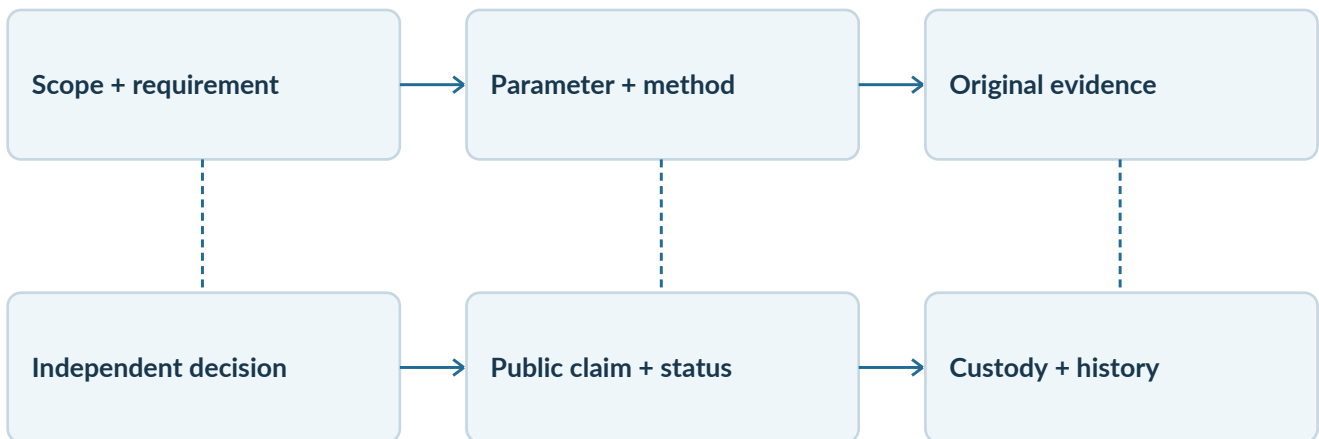


Figure — Implementation sequence for AF-AST-PR-022. Explanatory diagram; the source prerequisites and actual authority remain controlling.



Each relationship carries object identity, controlled version, actual event time and purpose-specific validity.

Figure — Scope-to-custody evidence relationships. A relationship is validated for its decision purpose, not merely because two identifiers exist.

E7 Calculations, assumptions and synthetic charts

The worked calculations below reproduce the supplied standard's Annex AM examples. Charted extensions are newly computed synthetic illustrations of those equations, not measured mission performance or new universal limits. A result is usable only when the actual inputs, model, units, uncertainty and approved application predicate are valid. A successful arithmetic check is not field validation.

AM.Q03 Positive-decision conjunction and essential failure

Source: ASTRA Annex AM, Q03, page 202. All numerical inputs in this example are synthetic.

$$G = S \wedge P \wedge E \wedge F \wedge C \wedge I \wedge A$$

Requirement completion = completed applicable rows / all applicable rows

Variables and units

S=valid scope; P=all predicates passed; E=adequate valid evidence; F=all in-scope findings closed; C=competence; I=independence; A=actual authority.

Example inputs

A synthetic file has 200 applicable rows; 190 are complete. One remaining row concerns an essential protective control. Six other gate groups are true.

Calculation and checks

1. Completion = $190/200 = 0.95 = 95\%$.
2. The unverified essential row makes P false and E false for the requested conclusion.
3. $G = \text{true false false} \dots = \text{false}$.

Decision interpretation: No positive grant. The completion percentage is a planning measure only. A conditional development permission is a separate bounded action, not a conformity certificate.

Validity limits: No averaging, vote or commercial action can change a false mandatory gate. N/A requires independent approval of the absent trigger; it is not a way to remove unfinished work.

ASTRA connections: 15.2; Annex G.1; 62.5; 80

Completion is not the grant decision

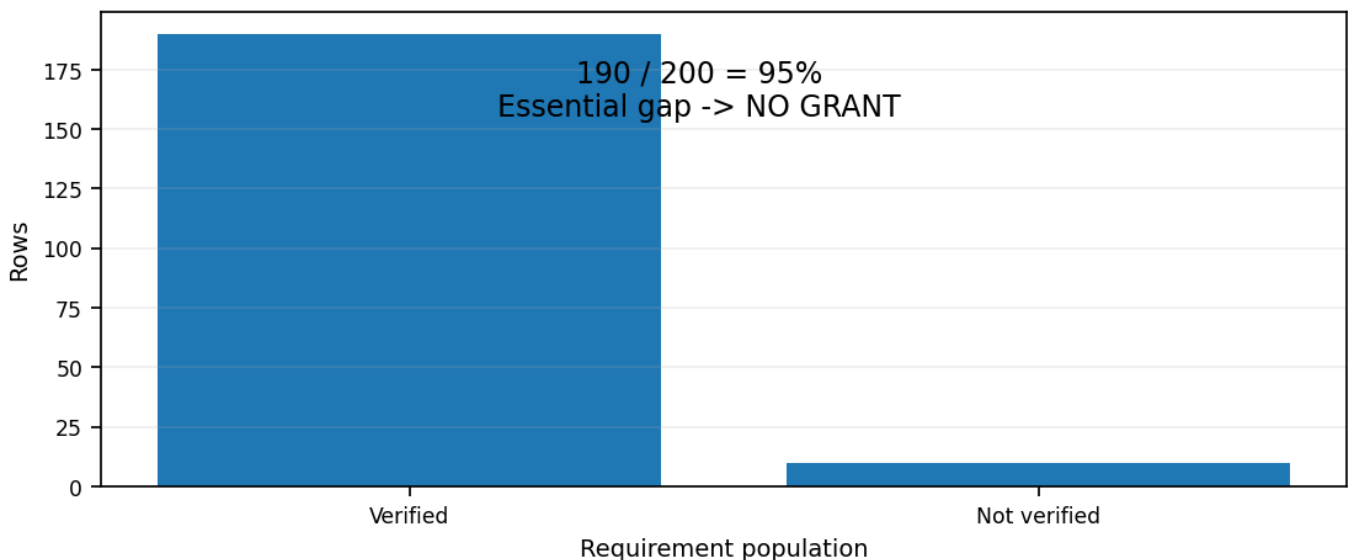


Figure Q03 – Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

Local replay record: retain the actual input manifest, source versions, calculation version, unit checks, independent recomputation, expected/observed boundary results, limitations and decision authority. Do not overwrite the teaching inputs as though they were operational data.

AM.Q05 Productive evaluation time without double counting

Source: ASTRA Annex AM, Q05, page 204. All numerical inputs in this example are synthetic.

$$T_{\text{eval}} = \sum h_i / 8 \text{ evaluator-days}$$

Total resource = evaluation + separate reporting/review/travel resources

Variables and units

h_i are distinct productive technical person-hours. Shared tasks are counted once unless distinct real work is documented.

Example inputs

Synthetic tasks: 12, 12, 12, 8 and 4 productive hours. Report 6 h; independent review 5 h; panel 3 person-hours.

Calculation and checks

1. Evaluation hours = $12+12+12+8+4 = 48$ h.
2. $T_{eval} = 48/8 = 6$ evaluator-days.
3. Separate report/review/panel time = $6+5+3 = 14$ person-hours.
4. Total stated technical resources = 62 person-hours before travel and other separately justified work.

Decision interpretation: Six evaluator-days describes only this synthetic activity breakdown. It is not a universal minimum or quotation.

Validity limits: Do not count a trainee as an independent productive assessor or two passive observers as two completed tasks. Calendar duration, person-hours and evaluator-days are distinct.

ASTRA connections: 12.4; Annex F.1; 58.2

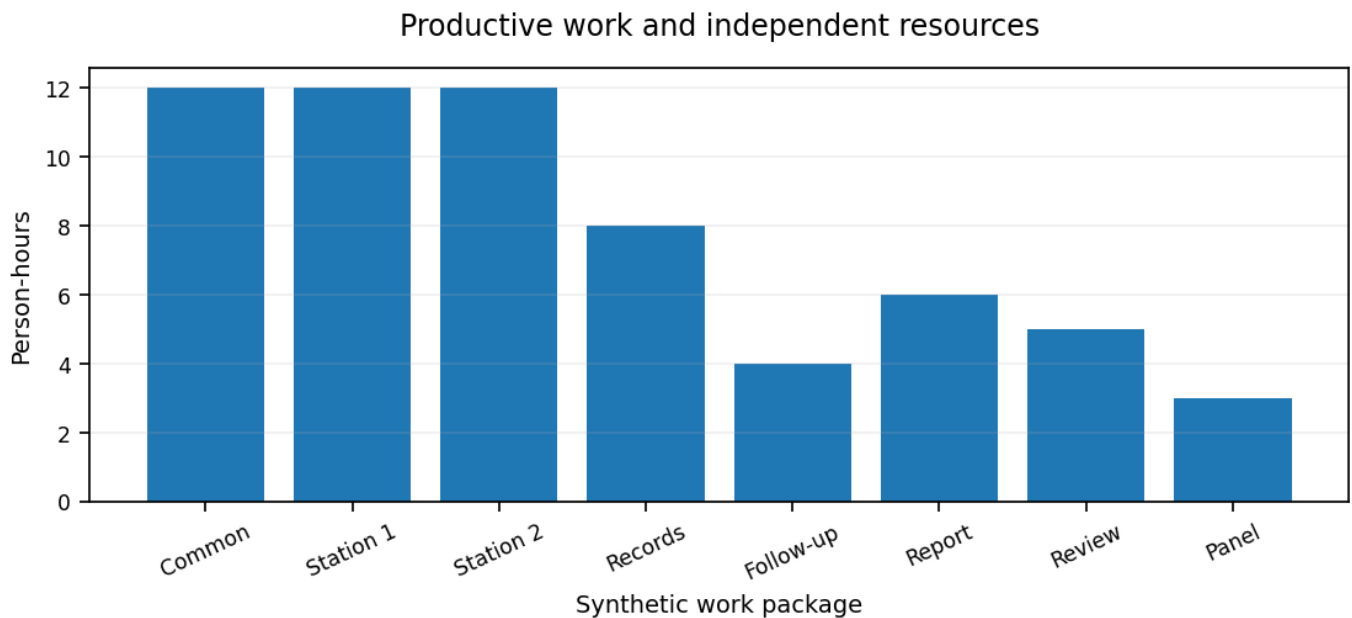


Figure Q05 – Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

Local replay record: retain the actual input manifest, source versions, calculation version, unit checks, independent recomputation, expected/observed boundary results, limitations and decision authority. Do not overwrite the teaching inputs as though they were operational data.

AM.Q23 Material genealogy, yield and retained work

Source: ASTRA Annex AM, Q23, page 222. All numerical inputs in this example are synthetic.

Input = good + reject + tests + losses + work_in_progress

First-pass yield = $\text{accepted_first_pass_output} / \text{input}$

Variables and units

All quantities shall use a consistent lot and period. Recovered material remains linked to its origin and is not counted twice as new production.

Example inputs

Synthetic input=500 units; good first-pass=410; reject=30; destructive tests=10; process losses=20; work in progress=30.

Calculation and checks

1. Reconciliation=410+30+10+20+30=500 units.

2. First-pass yield=410/500=82%.

3. If 20 rejected units are later recovered, the recovery does not increase original input or first-pass output.

Decision interpretation: The quantity balance closes. Technical identity, condition and acceptance evidence still determine whether the 410 outputs are eligible.

Validity limits: A closed balance does not prove authenticity, completeness or material quality. Mixing quantities with different units or unverified scrap/recovery transfers invalidates the reconciliation.

ASTRA connections: 18.4; 48.4; Annex AC; 75.4

Original input reconciliation

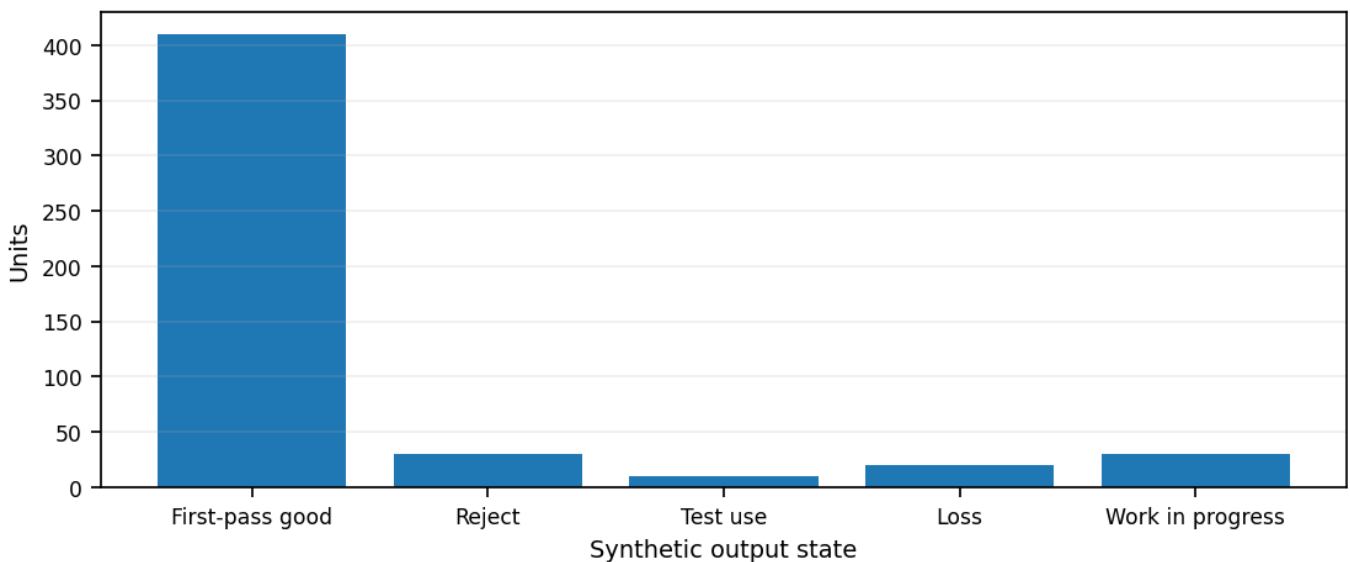


Figure Q23 – Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

Local replay record: retain the actual input manifest, source versions, calculation version, unit checks, independent recomputation, expected/observed boundary results, limitations and decision authority. Do not overwrite the teaching inputs as though they were operational data.

E8 Adverse cases and independent replay

Challenge	Expected handling	Evidence retained
PR-022: Identify actual performance and retained responsibility – required basis missing	An intermediary cannot claim direct capability or transfer retained final decision responsibility by contract wording alone.	Original input, unresolved value, affected requirement and scope; named action owner.
PR-022: Plan monitored transfer and exit – handover or review incomplete	Changing provider cannot turn suspended or unsupported evidence into a valid result.	Expected and observed state; independent replay; correction/retest; receiving acknowledgement.

Before local reliance, also select every relevant AP01–AP48 challenge in the core. Keep fictional tests isolated from live credentials, commands and recipients. For each test define the requirement, precondition, expected response, execution steps, actual observations, evidence, defect consequence, correction, retest and acceptance. This publication supplies test designs and examples, not completed local validation records.

Appendix A – Controlling source requirements

The following text is reproduced from the supplied ASTRA FIRST EDITION. The clause identifier and page refer to that 248-page source. These excerpts and their evidence fields must be read with all triggered normative annexes. Newly authored implementation steps elsewhere in this document do not amend the core standard.

3.2 – Accrediting and delivery entities

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 12.

The legal entity making an accreditation decision shall be identified separately from the applicant body and from the entity providing the assessment services being accredited. It shall not accredit itself or its own assessment operation, including through nominal reciprocal arrangements. It shall not also deliver the conformity-assessment services it accredits or applicant-specific consultancy compromising that accreditation. Related training, sector engagement and shared administration shall be assessed for actual influence, finances, access and ownership, with a genuinely independent arrangement where separation is necessary.

Required evidence: Legal delivery model; related-activity analysis; independent oversight and liability arrangements.

3.6 – Liability, continuity and accountability

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 13.

Each operator shall maintain resources and arrangements for its actual liabilities, including suitable insurance or justified equivalent provision where appropriate. It shall remain responsible for outsourced technical work and its final decisions. Exit or insolvency planning shall protect holders, pending cases, records, status information and lawful transfer. An agreement assigning tasks to a contractor shall not be used to disclaim obligations retained by the issuer or to obscure who is answerable for an incorrect conclusion.

Required evidence: Liability assessment; financial capacity; continuity/closure plan; retained-responsibility clauses.

5.5 – External provision and sub-tier responsibility

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 15.

Outsourced work shall have defined technical scope, actual performer, location, qualification, acceptance, evidence access, notification, records and exit conditions. Critical obligations shall reach the lowest relevant performer with acknowledgement and verification. The commissioning organisation retains its assigned acceptance and oversight duties. A subcontractor certificate shall be checked for authenticity, method, site and current status and treated as relevant evidence, not a substitute for fitness for the actual task. Unapproved substitutions shall trigger hold and review.

Required evidence: Supplier scope and status; flow-down; sub-tier acknowledgement; actual work verification.

11.4 – Binding terms and holder duties

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 22.

The agreement shall identify parties, versions, exact services, evidence and access obligations, fees, limitations, independence, reporting, witnessing, subcontracting, liability, confidentiality, marks, registry publication, surveillance, remedies, termination and records. The holder shall provide materially complete information, maintain conformity, report changes, permit agreed oversight and cease prohibited claims. Governing law and dispute terms require competent selection for the actual relationship; no universal legal jurisdiction is created by this standard.

Required evidence: Executed participation terms; scope schedule; actual authorised signatories.

11.5 – Authorisation to act for AF

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 23.

An external organisation acting for AF in accreditation, certification, delegated recognition or scheme operation shall hold prior written permission and an executed binding Cooperation and Authorization MoU with its actual technical and territorial scope. Competence evaluation, operating permission and the individual applicant outcome are separate decisions. Ordinary applicants and members are not required to enter that operator agreement merely to participate. Onward delegation is prohibited unless expressly authorised and technically controlled.

Required evidence: Competence decision; written approval; executed MoU; controlled delegation and scope.

25.1 – Activity-specific provider controls

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 42.

A provider shall identify each assessment activity, legal responsibility, scheme/profile, methods, resources and final decision authority. Certification and verification bodies shall demonstrate their full application-to-decision process in addition to supporting technical evaluations. Personnel and external experts shall meet role-specific criteria. Requested activities lacking actual demonstration remain outside scope. The activity labels in Annex I are routing labels, not additional family counts or proof of external standing.

Required evidence: Provider activity schedule; legal/technical responsibility; complete representative process.

30.3 – Reliance and cooperation agreements

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 48.

Any agreement to rely on another party's results shall identify parties, exact activities, acceptance conditions, competent evaluation, monitoring, territorial limits, confidentiality and withdrawal. Verify authenticity and fit for each actual use. Do not infer acceptance from an MoU title, shared event, commercial partnership or similar standard number. The party making an acceptance decision retains responsibility for that decision. Mutual familiarity is not independent competence evidence.

Required evidence: Executed bounded agreement; evidence checks; monitoring; truthful acceptance statements.

48.1 – Critical suppliers and actual performers

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 71.

The organisation shall identify suppliers and sub-tier performers according to the technical consequence of their outputs. The scope shall record what each party actually performs, where it operates, its competent personnel, process or method capability and necessary evidence access. A trading or coordinating organisation shall not claim direct performance of outsourced work. Shared ownership, customer nomination or another certificate shall not remove the commissioning organisation's retained acceptance and oversight responsibilities.

Required evidence: Supplier/performance map; criticality; exact capability checks; retained-responsibility and access records.

48.2 – Flow-down and acknowledgement

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 71.

Purchasing and subcontract terms shall transmit relevant specifications, configuration, quality and safety conditions, changes, inspection, evidence, notification and retention duties to the actual level of performance. The organisation shall verify acknowledgement and implementation, not only that standard terms were attached to a purchase order. Conflicting instructions shall be resolved before dependent work. Onward delegation and substitution shall be controlled, with technical acceptance distinct from commercial approval.

Required evidence: Requirement flow-down matrix; sub-tier acknowledgement; actual implementation checks; controlled substitution.

48.6 – Performance, transfer and exit

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 72.

Supplier monitoring shall include adverse results, changes, delivery and technical performance using defined populations and denominators. A systemic failure shall trigger review of dependent sources and products, not merely reassignment to a new supplier. Transfers shall verify receiving capability and preserve open findings, technical restrictions and historical records. Exit shall identify remaining warranties, notifications, record custody and unresolved obligations. Changing a supplier or issuer shall not make unsupported evidence valid.

Required evidence: Supplier performance review; systemic extent; transfer acceptance; open-duty and custody records.

63.6 – Interface and lifecycle closure

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 91.

The scope shall include relevant upstream and downstream duties, including supplied design data, ground services, communications, receiving facilities, environmental custody and long-term records. Transfers shall identify the sender, receiver, evidence and acceptance. A contractor delivering one subsystem shall not be made responsible for unrelated mission duties, but an integrator shall not exclude duties it retains because they are performed by others.

Verification: Trace each interface to an accountable performer and retained owner.

Acceptance / hold rule: No essential responsibility, evidence handover or terminal obligation is orphaned.

69.1 – Consent and exact intervention

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 102.

Record participating assets, owners, consent, service objective, configuration, permitted interventions and prohibited actions. Design assurance, service-provider competence and permission for a specific operation shall remain separate. An assumed common ownership or commercial order shall not replace the actual technical authority and access rights needed for the intervention.

Verification: Check the consent and authority chain against the declared operation and assets.

Acceptance / hold rule: All required authorities and compatible scope boundaries are valid before intervention; otherwise the activity remains blocked.

75.7 – Handover, resource claims and closure

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 115.

The final claim shall state actual production, quality, quantity, conditions, uncertainty, exclusions and accepted receiving responsibility. Demonstration of a resource process creates no ownership, extraction right or operating permission. Waste, residues, hazardous inventories and long-term custody shall have accepted disposition.

Verification: Reconcile reported outputs, accepted products, rights/permissions and final-state evidence.

Acceptance / hold rule: The claim is bounded to measured and accepted achievement; undeveloped scale-up and unknown disposition remain separate.

80.3 – Competent independent closure

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 124.

The independent reviewer shall have verified technical coverage, lawful evidence access and no prohibited case relationship. Technical dissent shall be resolved by evidence, corrected scope or further work. Where a three-person panel is required, all three eligible members shall participate and the established vote rule shall apply only after the technical gates are satisfied.

Verification: Check competence, conflict, access, panel and reasoned decision records.

Acceptance / hold rule: Both the technical conjunction and applicable authority/panel rules pass; a vote cannot cure absent evidence.

Appendix B — Local adoption, validation and receiving acceptance

Gate	Required evidence	Outcome when incomplete
Authority and identity	Actual operator, scoped mandate, permissible result class, named owner, independent decision and remedy functions.	No live scope release.
Requirement population	All applicable clauses and annexes mapped to child conditions, with reasons and independent approval for exclusions.	HOLD the affected conclusion.
Parameters and methods	Prospective values/attributes; technical basis; valid methods; representativeness; calibration, uncertainty and approved predicates.	No dependent acceptance.
People and evidence	Current demonstrated competence; conflict clearance; original usable source evidence; actual configuration and event times.	Reassign or obtain sufficient evidence.
Local tools and tests	Actual deployment tested with positive, boundary, missing, invalid and prohibited inputs; original failed cases retested.	No consequential reliance on unaccepted tools.
Independent closure	Every mandatory requirement PASS, approved N/A, all in-scope nonconformities verified closed, panel rules where required.	No grant, renewal or extension.
Claims and continuity	Decision-linked scope/status; source history; genuine custody, receiving access, retention, urgent notices and terminal duties.	Restrict publication or transfer until resolved.

Record authentic approval and activation in AF-AST-FR-001 and AF-AST-SC-004 or an equivalent controlled record. The edition label is not an effective date for a particular case. Preserve historical decisions under their actual controlling basis; a newer document does not retroactively create missing competence or evidence. Source: Clauses 4, 31, 61, 62 and 80; Annexes P and AR.

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