



ASTRA

AEROSPACE STANDARD

PROCEDURE

Independent Operator Review and Reliance Arrangements

AF-AST-PR-025

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Aviation / Space / Defense / Future systems

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Publication and operation	Prepared publication. Actual technical approval, consultation, institutional adoption, operational effectivity and individual scope activation require separate authentic records.

Purpose and application

Independent evaluation of the operator itself and any bounded use of another party results. The programme requirement does not establish external recognition or international acceptance.

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

Independent evaluation of the operator itself and any bounded use of another party results. The programme requirement does not establish external recognition or international acceptance.

Trigger: The accrediting operator is preparing to launch, the independent review interval approaches or a reliance arrangement is proposed.

Accountable process owner: Independent Oversight Function. 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-025 – Independent Operator Review and Reliance Arrangements

Trigger: The accrediting operator is preparing to launch, the independent review interval approaches or a reliance arrangement is proposed.

1. Define an independent mandate

The oversight function establishes the legal operator, active/requested activities, actual review authority, resources, protected access and report recipients. Review before launch and within the maximum 36-month interval, with earlier review after serious concerns.

2. Appoint competent disinterested reviewers

Verify technical coverage and independence from the operator, related consultancy and reciprocal self-approval. Include people capable of challenging laboratory, operational, educational or statement methods actually in scope. Prestige or seniority is not sufficient competence evidence.

3. Request the actual system and case population

Obtain governance, delegations, ownership, financial separation, personnel, profiles, completed cases, refusals, findings, appeals, registry and recovery information. Identify inaccessible essential evidence and unresolved readiness actions before promising a positive conclusion.

4. Plan representative review trails

Select cases and methods across material activities, sites, consequence levels, changed conditions and adverse histories. Compare stated procedures with actual performance. Examine whether the operator can competently evaluate the services it accredits rather than only administer forms.

5. Challenge decisions and independence

Review sampling, technical witnessing, uncertainty, panel participation, finding closure, case conflicts and exact outcome claims. Examine institutional influence and the ability to refuse unsupported outcomes. A majority vote or positive file count does not close a technical deficiency.

6. Evaluate tools, resources and continuity

Inspect local validation, evidence access, public/private projection, semantic recovery, protected remedies and financial capability. Separate successful software tests from demonstrated field competence. Confirm that cessation plans preserve open cases, records and correction channels.

7. Issue findings and a bounded report

State reviewed scope, actual evidence, limitations, findings and required correction. Verify closure independently where required. Do not publish a general international-recognition claim from this internal programme review or imply that unreviewed activities are covered.

8. Control any reliance agreement

Before relying on another party results, document exact parties, activities, acceptance conditions, competent evaluation, monitoring, territories, confidentiality and withdrawal. Check authenticity and fit for each actual use. The accepting party retains responsibility for its acceptance decision.

Hold / escalation: Missing genuinely independent reviewers, inaccessible essential evidence, unsupported methods or unresolved blocking findings prevents a favourable operator-readiness or reliance conclusion.

Record handover: AF-AST-FR-006, AF-AST-FR-018, AF-AST-FR-019, AF-AST-FR-027.

3 Completion, holds and handover

Missing genuinely independent reviewers, inaccessible essential evidence, unsupported methods or unresolved blocking findings prevents a favourable operator-readiness or reliance conclusion.

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-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-027	Internal audit, management and independent operator review

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
Independent accrediting-operator review Core 29.3	Before launch / last review No more than 36 months	Earlier after serious concerns; no reciprocal self-approval.

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 fictional peer review finds sound governance but no competent witnessing for a proposed technical method. The report recognises the bounded evidence and retains the method as unavailable. It does not describe the whole operator as universally approved.

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
6.5 / 17	Independent oversight	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
29.3 / 47	Independent accrediting-operator review	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
29.4 / 47	Consistency and technical learning	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates

ASTRA ID / page	Source subject	Implementation use
30.3 / 48	Reliance and cooperation agreements	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
57.5 / 82	Independent accrediting-operator review	Requirement, objective evidence and local child predicates
62.3 / 88	Evidence validity before conformity	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate
62.7 / 89	Decision replay and consistency	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate
80.3 / 124	Competent independent closure	Explicit verification and acceptance predicate

E3 Detailed operating extensions

AF-AST-PR-025 — Independent Operator Review and Reliance Arrangements

Implementation basis: 3.2 (p. 12); 6.5 (p. 17); 29.3 (p. 47); 30.3 (p. 48); 57.5 (p. 82); 62.3 (p. 88); 62.7 (p. 89); 80.3 (p. 124)

X25.1 Establish a disinterested operator-review mandate

Define the accrediting operator, activities, scope, independence, protected access, technical expertise and reporting route.

Completion / hold: No self-accreditation, reciprocal nominal approval or assumed external acceptance follows from the review.

X25.2 Sample operator-level vertical cases

Review authentic or explicitly synthetic trails across governance, admission, methods, people, evidence, decisions, remedies, finances and registry.

Completion / hold: A review of the standard text is not a review of implemented operator competence.

X25.3 Challenge reliance boundaries

For third-party results, examine actual scope, method, site, period, configuration, limitations, monitoring and withdrawal conditions.

Completion / hold: An MoU, membership or similar title is not sufficient evidence of equivalence or an unrestricted reliance right.

X25.4 Close findings and state limits

Preserve the independent report, original findings, verified corrective effect and actual follow-up interval under the core.

Completion / hold: Successful document review establishes only the stated review boundary, not universal international acceptance.

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.

P07 — Measurement and uncertainty

Measurand, instrument/range, corrections, sensitivity, covariance, coverage, time/space sampling and calibration.

Derivation and evidence: Complete measurement model; valid raw data.

Completion test: Uncertainty and detection capability are fit for the approved decision rule.

P12 — Human and protective response

User/task, representative conditions, essential steps, feasible intervention, health-support interface and emergency resources.

Derivation and evidence: Specialist criteria and observed performance.

Completion test: Every essential protection is effective; no invented universal physiological limit.

P14 — Software, AI and models

Purpose/domain, source/build/weights/data, dependencies, target, errors, uncertainty, prohibited behaviour and change limits.

Derivation and evidence: Independent verification and model/use validation.

Completion test: Essential scenarios and target conditions pass; experimental outputs remain separate.

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.

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.

Domain / source page	Coverage	Required boundary
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

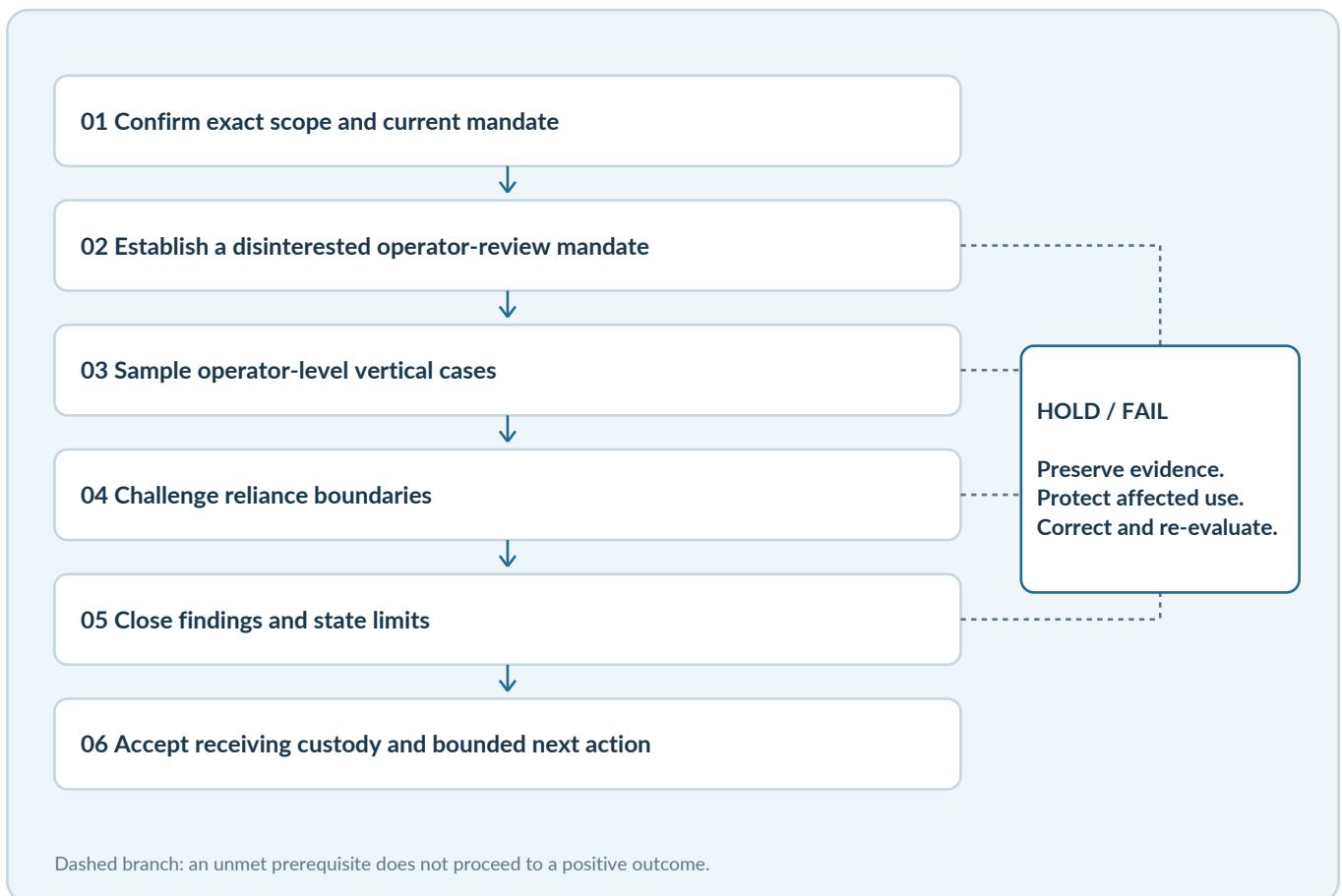
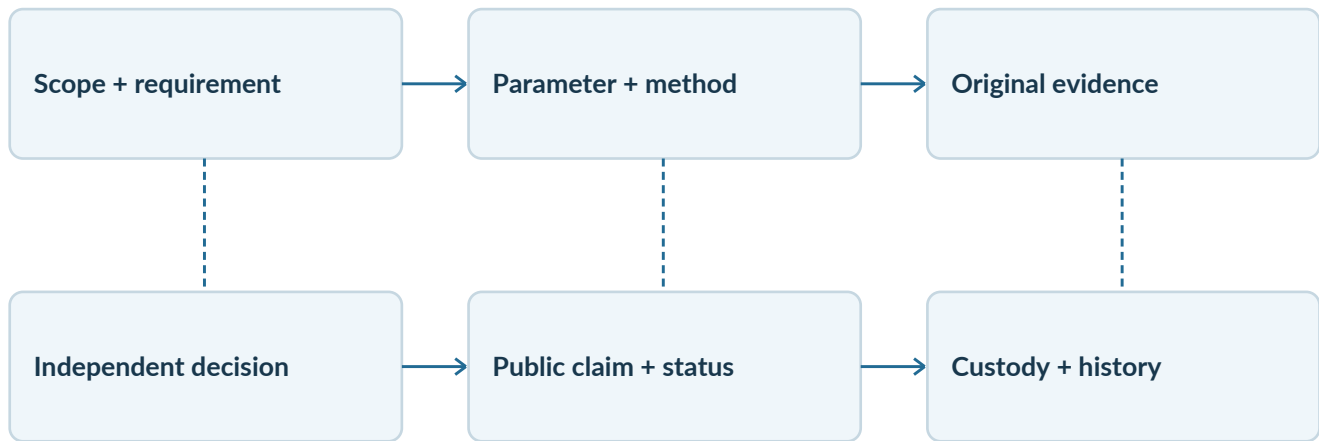


Figure — Implementation sequence for AF-AST-PR-025. Explanatory diagram; the source prerequisites and actual authority remain controlling.



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

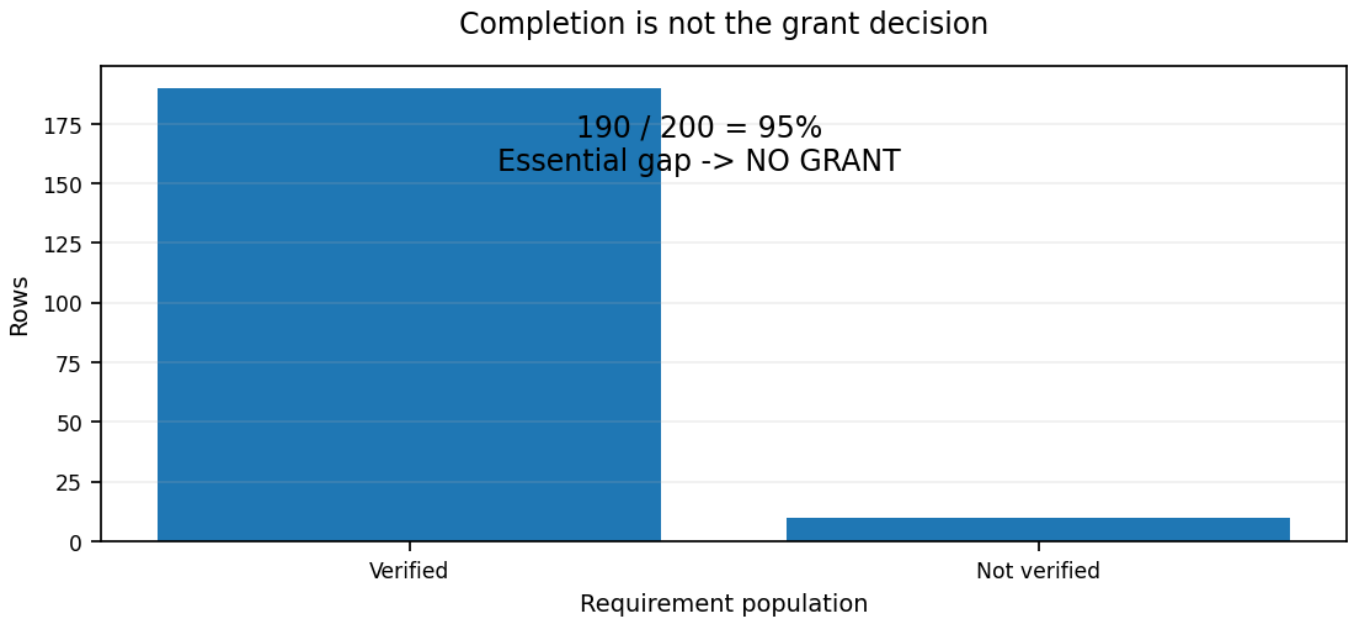


Figure Q03 — Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

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.Q04 Committee arithmetic and accreditation panels

Source: ASTRA Annex AM, Q04, page 203. All numerical inputs in this example are synthetic.

Substantive participation minimum = $\text{ceil}(2N/3)$

Affirmative minimum = $\text{ceil}(2V/3)$

Variables and units

N is the eligible committee population; V is the number of substantive yes/no votes. These equations concern the technical committee, not an applicant panel.

Example inputs

Synthetic committee: N=9, V=6, yes=4, no=2. Separate accreditation panel: three eligible members, two affirmative and one adverse.

Calculation and checks

1. Participation: $\text{ceil}(2 \times 9 / 3) = 6$; actual V=6 meets it.
2. Affirmative: $\text{ceil}(2 \times 6 / 3) = 4$; actual yes=4 meets it.
3. Accreditation panel: all three must participate; at least two support and all technical gates must pass.
4. Two participating panel members voting yes do not form a valid three-person panel.

Decision interpretation: The committee arithmetic passes for the stated case. The separate panel can decide positively only if technical gates and eligibility are all established.

Validity limits: Abstentions are not substantive committee yes/no votes. Rounding is upward. A mathematical majority never resolves missing technical evidence or an ineligible member.

ASTRA connections: 3.4; 4.3; 15.3; Annex B

Committee participation threshold

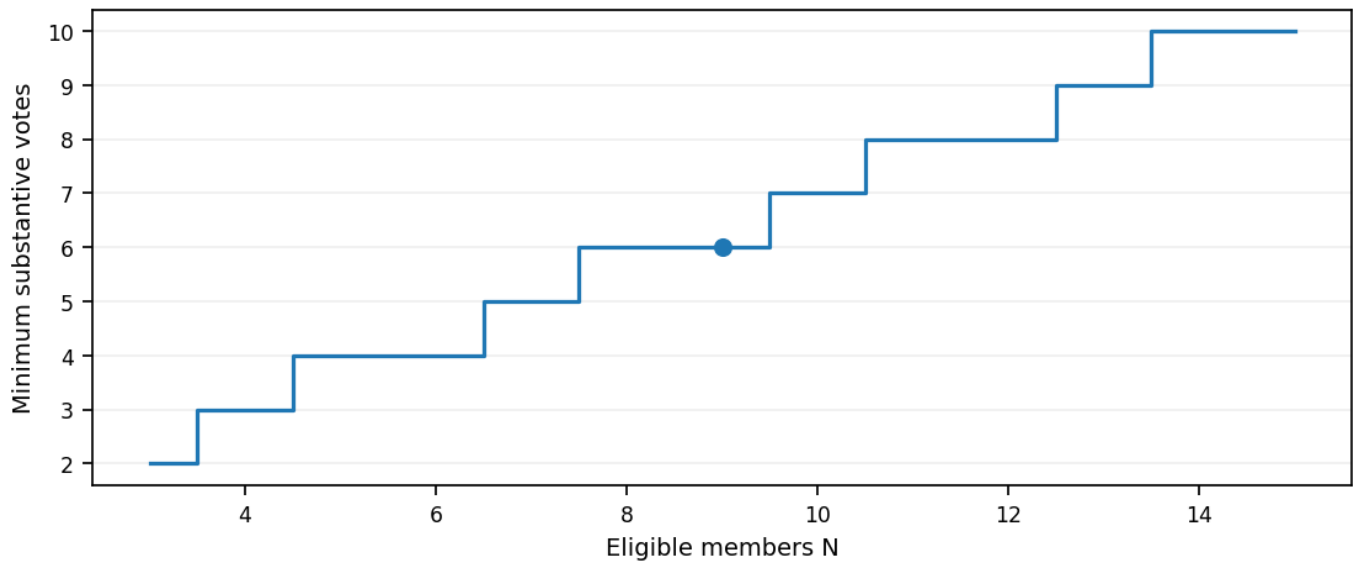


Figure Q04 – Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

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.

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

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

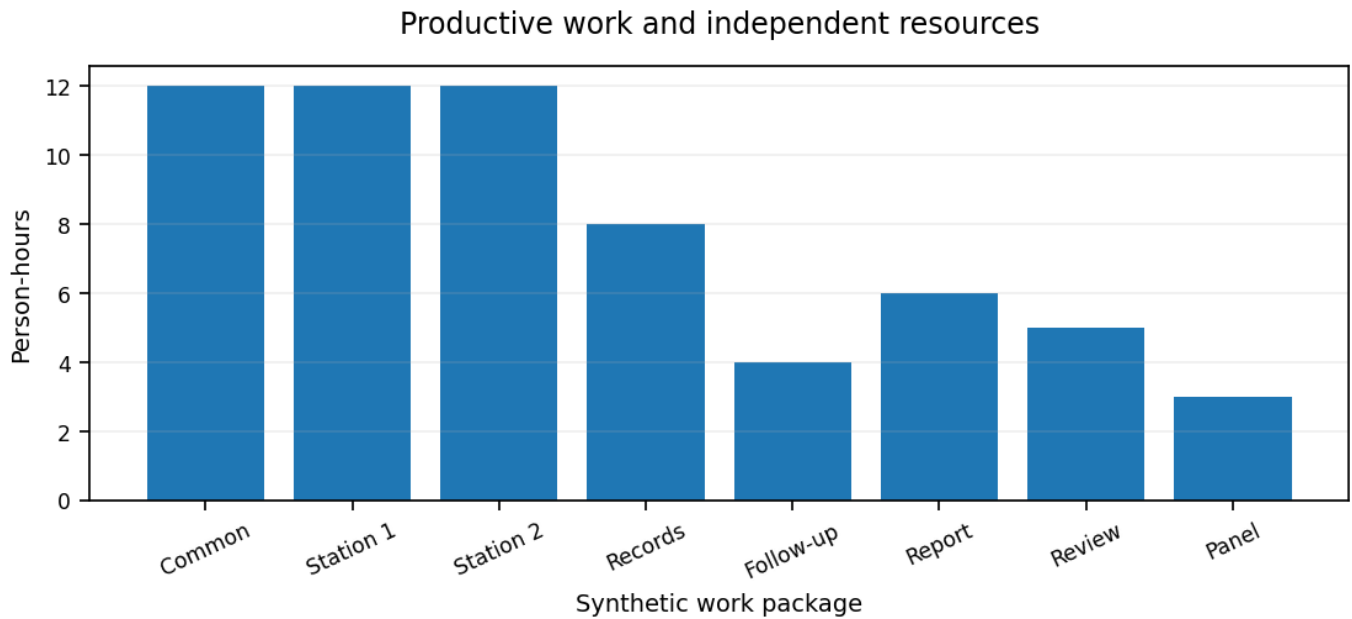


Figure Q05 — Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

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.Q06 Random detection sample size

Source: ASTRA Annex AM, Q06, page 205. All numerical inputs in this example are synthetic.

$$P(\text{at least one detection}) = 1 - (1-p)^n$$

$$n_{\min} = \text{ceil}[\ln(1-C)/\ln(1-p)]$$

Variables and units

p is a fixed issue probability per independent representative observation; C is the selected target detection probability; n is a positive integer.

Example inputs

Synthetic $p=0.10$ and $C=0.95$.

Calculation and checks

1. $\ln(0.05)/\ln(0.90) = 28.433158...$; round upward to $n=29$.
2. $P(\text{detection at } n=29) = 1 - 0.9^{29} = 0.9528987130$.
3. At $n=28$, $P = 0.9476652367$, below the specified target.

Decision interpretation: 29 is the minimum integer sample for the stated independent model; the demonstration does not certify 95% conformity.

Validity limits: This calculation is invalid for unexamined dependence, changing p , biased selection or a judgemental sample represented as random. Detection is also conditional on an effective observation method.

ASTRA connections: 9.3; Annex F.5; 55.3

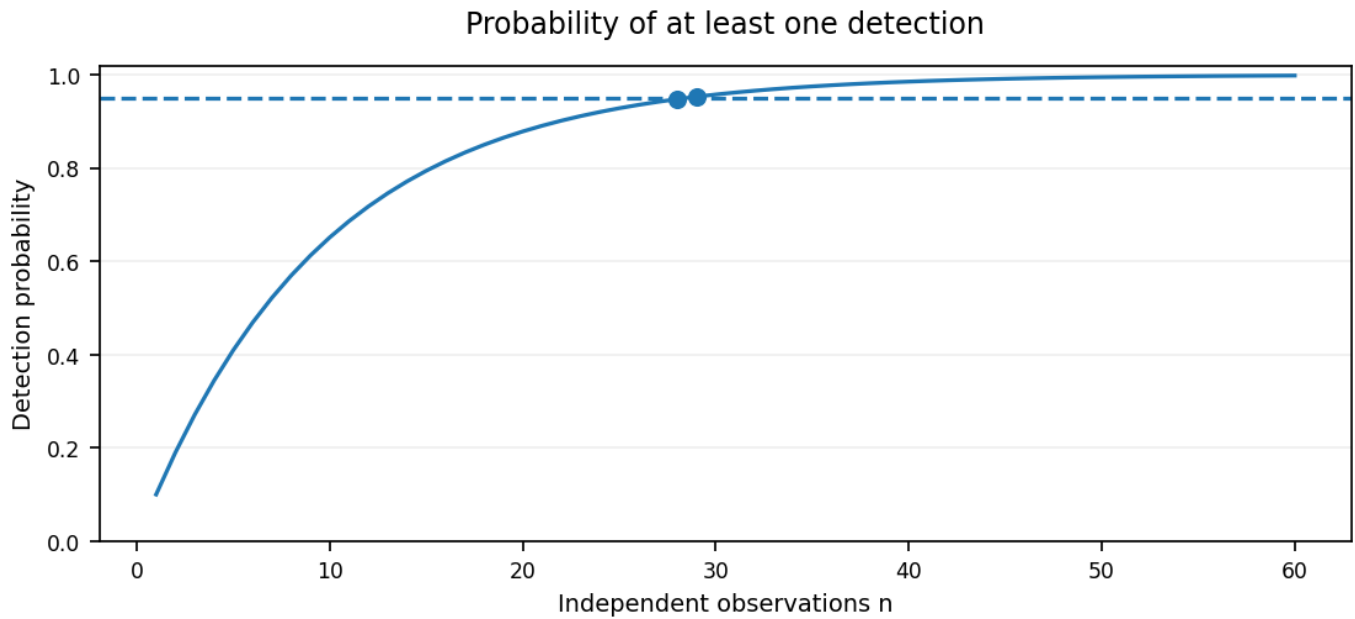


Figure Q06 – Synthetic visualisation. The axes and stated scenario define the quantity; no graph is an accreditation score, approved operating envelope or evidence of a real mission.

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-025: Establish a disinterested operator-review mandate – required basis missing	No self-accreditation, reciprocal nominal approval or assumed external acceptance follows from the review.	Original input, unresolved value, affected requirement and scope; named action owner.
PR-025: Close findings and state limits – handover or review incomplete	Successful document review establishes only the stated review boundary, not universal international acceptance.	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.

6.5 – Independent oversight

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 17.

The oversight function shall have protected access to unedited results, conflict information, trends and resources needed to challenge programme management. It shall report material unresolved threats to a disinterested constitutional route. Implicated officers shall not select their own investigator or control the evidence made available. Oversight may recommend restrictions, reassessment or governance correction; it shall not replace competent case findings with a preferred commercial result.

Required evidence: Oversight mandate; access and budget; independent reports; resolved or escalated threats.

29.3 – Independent accrediting-operator review

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 47.

Before launch and at intervals no greater than 36 months, obtain an independent review of the accrediting operator's competence, impartiality, technical coverage, governance, decisions and actual implementation, with earlier review after serious concerns. The reviewers shall be competent and free of reciprocal self-approval. Their findings, limits and corrective results shall be recorded. This internal programme requirement does not itself establish membership of an external recognition arrangement or international acceptance.

Required evidence: Independent reviewers; operator evaluation; findings/closure; evidenced limits of standing.

29.4 – Consistency and technical learning

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 47.

Use anonymised case comparisons and calibrated exercises to test whether different competent teams reach compatible interpretations and decisions. Investigate material disagreement, including unclear criteria and evidence limitations. Do not force uniform outcomes when objects or evidence genuinely differ. Share lessons through controlled updates and training without exposing confidential information or changing requirements informally. Significant method weaknesses shall trigger review of affected past work.

Required evidence: Inter-evaluator exercises; disagreement analysis; lessons; affected-case correction.

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.

57.5 – Independent accrediting-operator review

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 82.

The independent operator review shall examine actual governance, competence, impartiality, technical methods, resources, case trails, decisions, remedies and registry integrity. Reviewers shall be genuinely independent and have adequate protected evidence access. The interval and pre-launch requirements in Clause 29.3 remain controlling. Review findings shall have verified correction and a bounded report. Completion of this internal programme review shall not be represented as external recognition or universal international acceptance.

Required evidence: Independent mandate and reviewers; actual case sampling; findings/closure; bounded report and continuing actions.

62.3 – Evidence validity before conformity

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 88.

The evaluator shall first determine whether evidence belongs to the correct object, configuration, period, method and authorised performer and whether it is usable for the intended inference. Only valid relevant evidence shall enter a conformity predicate. Rejected, corrupted, missing, unobservable or wrong-version evidence shall remain identified. Evidence may be valid and show failure; an invalid test is not a valid pass or a valid proof of product failure.

Verification: Check provenance, configuration, method capability, original data and uncertainty separately from result classification.

Acceptance / hold rule: Validity is established before PASS or FAIL is assigned; otherwise use HOLD with an explicit invalidity or evidence-gap reason.

62.7 – Decision replay and consistency

Source: AF-AST-STD-001, page 89.

A decision shall be reproducible from the same frozen requirements, parameter values, original evidence, calculation version, uncertainty model and role assignments. Two competent reviewers reaching different results shall identify the differing input, predicate, assumption or expertise before closure. Interpretation records may clarify a term but shall not change limits after results are known. Equation inputs shall retain unrounded values.

Verification: Independently replay a selected boundary case and reconcile every difference.

Acceptance / hold rule: The replay produces the same supported state, or the case remains HOLD pending a controlled technical resolution.

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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