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Revision 1.0

Counterfeit Parts Avoidance Plan



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1 Purpose

This document describes the plan for the avoidance, detection, mitigation, and disposition of counterfeit parts by Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc. All employees of Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc. are responsible to comply with the requirements and processes identified in this plan.

2 Application

This plan outlines the procurement activities at Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc. If a particular purchase warrants departure from this plan, the best practice is to make the purchase only after considered evaluation of the risk of receiving counterfeit parts, with increased scrutiny of the procured parts, and in consultation with management and/or the customer.

3 Applicable Documents

SAE AS5553

Counterfeit Electronic Parts; Avoidance, Detection, Mitigation and Disposition

ISO 9001

Quality Management Systems – Requirements

AS 9100

Quality Management Systems – Requirements for Aviation, Space and Defense Organizations

4 Definitions

4.1 Suspect Part

A part in which there is an indication by visual inspection, testing, or other information indicating that the item may have been misrepresented by the supplier or manufacturer and may meet the definition of a Counterfeit Part.

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4.2 Counterfeit Part

A part identified as a copy or substitute, without the legal right or authority to do so, or a part whose material, performance, or characteristics are knowingly misrepresented by a supplier. Counterfeit Parts include but are not limited to:

- Used, refurbished, or reclaimed parts represented as new product.
- Parts with a different package style, type, construction, or surface plating/finish than the required or ordered product.
- Parts that have not successfully completed the full production and/or test flow of the Original Component Manufacturer (OCM) or Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and are represented as completed product.
- Parts sold or delivered as up-screened products that have not successfully completed the up-screening process.
- Parts sold or delivered with modified labeling or markings intended to misrepresent the form, fit, function, or grade of the product.

Note: Refurbished, up-screened, or up-rated parts identified accordingly are not considered counterfeit product.

4.3 Approved Vendor

Vendors identified on Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc.'s Approved Vendor List (AVL). Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc. AVL includes vendors that have been assessed and determined to be a low risk for supplying counterfeit parts and, where appropriate, vendors approved by the customer.

Note: For reference only, other definitions are available in Section 3.3 of the AS5553 Standard.

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5 Requirements

5.1 Counterfeit Parts Control Plan

5.1.1 Parts Availability

Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc. aims to keep originally designed and/or qualified parts available throughout a product's life cycle. Fortasa Memory Systems, Inc. uses the management tools recognized in its ISO 9001 certification to address part availability.

5.1.2 Purchasing

Procuring parts from an Approved Vendor is Fortasa Purchasing Department's standard practice. Approved Suppliers are primarily OCM/OEMs and approved distributors.

Purchasing is responsible to flow down the following Counterfeit Parts clause with all purchase orders:

Counterfeit Parts Avoidance: In order to mitigate counterfeit parts entering the supply chain, the seller must fulfill the purchase order using only parts from the Original Component Manufacturer (OCM)/Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) or authorized distributors. Independent distributors, brokers, or other secondary sources shall not be used for items on this purchase order. If counterfeit parts are furnished under this purchase order, such items shall be impounded. The seller shall promptly replace such items with items acceptable to and the seller shall be liable for all costs relating to impoundment, removal, and replacement.

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5.1.3 Terms and Conditions

The Counterfeit Parts clause is noted on the Purchase Order Terms and Conditions:

Counterfeit Parts. If suspect/counterfeit parts are furnished to CUSTOMER by SUPPLIER under the Order, or are found in any of the Products delivered hereunder, such items will be impounded by CUSTOMER. The SUPPLIER shall promptly replace such suspect/counterfeit parts with parts acceptable to CUSTOMER, and SUPPLIER shall be liable for all costs relating to the removal and replacement of said parts, including without limitation, CUSTOMER's external and internal costs of removing such counterfeit parts, of reinserting replacement parts and of any testing necessitated by the reinstallation of SUPPLIER's Products after counterfeit parts have been exchanged. SUPPLIER shall be fully liable for all such costs, even if such cost might be considered indirect, special or consequential damages. SUPPLIER's liability for suspect/counterfeit parts shall not expire for sixty (60) months after delivery. At CUSTOMER's request, SUPPLIER shall return any removed counterfeit parts to CUSTOMER in order that CUSTOMER may turn such parts over to its customer for further investigation. SUPPLIER agrees that any government or quasi-government directive, such as a GIDEP alert, indicating that such parts are counterfeit, shall be deemed definitive evidence that SUPPLIER's parts contain counterfeit parts.

5.1.4 Purchasing Information

Receiving will review the supplier documentation against the purchase order terms and conditions and the quality requirements flowed with the order.

5.1.5 Verification of Purchased Product

Receiving Inspection will examine the product to ensure the drawing, specification, part number, manufacturer, and/or other related information is accurate as a means to identify suspect counterfeit parts prior to acceptance. Increased scrutiny should be applied if the following are observed: nonstandard packaging, mixed lots, mixed dates, parts from various sites, scratches, bends, test dots, faded marking, chemical residue, or other signs of use.

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Suppliers shall provide a certificate of conformance (C of C) or packing list with each shipment. The following items should be clearly noted:

- Fortasa's name and address
- Manufacturer's name and address
- Fortasa's purchase order (PO) number
- Manufacturer's part number (and revision when applicable)
- Customer drawing number and revision (when applicable)
- Quantity
- Date Code
- Lot code
- Signature of authorized company representative

When applicable, the Supplier will provide a statement of conformance to any manufacturer, government, industry, or drawing specification.

5.1.6 In-Process Investigation

Suspect or counterfeit parts are placed on a nonconforming material document. (FMS-QA-026) Suspect or counterfeit parts identified after acceptance are segregated to a nonconforming part location and documented in the Corrective Action System on the communication log.

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5.1.7 Material Control

If the Corrective Action System determines that a part is a counterfeit, the part will be designated as “Scrap” to ensure that the counterfeit part does not re-enter the supply chain.

5.1.8 Reporting

All verified occurrences of counterfeit parts must be reported to Management. Management determines if the legal department must become involved to properly and legally address receipt of the counterfeit parts with the supplier. Management is responsible to determine how the occurrence is reported internally and to customers, the government, Government Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP), and other industry reporting programs.

For reference, Guidelines for Reporting Counterfeit Parts are listed in Appendix G of the AS5553 Standard.

6 Employee Training

Fortasa Incoming Inspection personnel is responsible for identifying and reporting to the Management any and all Counterfeit or suspicion of counterfeit material received from suppliers.

Mandatory employee training and continuing education on identifying Counterfeit materials must be performed on a yearly basis.



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7 Revision History

Revision	Date	Description	Author
1.0	1/3/2013	Initial Release	John Kuracek
2.0	6/15/2018	Added Terms & Conditions clause for counterfeit parts. Added document reference QA-F-026. Updated header. New owner and management approval.	John Kuracek