Content of MLA Training classes:

- History and purpose of MLA
- How and what to define the project target
- Detailed explanation of 8 milestones (gate reviews)
- Round table concept
- Methods and basic principles of maturity level assurance
- Positive and negative examples for the project management
- Typical conflict of interests
- Role of the participants at the round table
- Opportunities for cooperation
- Group work

Other Training Info

Target Audience

- Quality Engineers and Manager
- Product/Manufacturing Engineers and Manager
- Project responsible and managers
- Product planners
- Responsible manager of cross-functional development teams
- Supplier's customer team and project leaders
- Key account managers

Prerequisites for attendance:
No pre request - it would be an advantage to have experiences in project management

Supplementary Material
VDA Volume Maturity Level Assurance for New Parts

Cost & Durations

- **Duration:** 1 day
- **Public Training Fee:** 2,000RMB/Person (incl. VAT)

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质量管理中心中国分公司
CHINA

MLA (Maturity Level Assurance)

English version

DRIVE WITH US INTO YOUR FUTURE!

Version: July 2024

MLA
(Maturity Level Assurance)

Why MLA and its training are so important?

MLA is a project management tool created by German automotive experts. The 3rd edition 'VDA Volume Maturity Level Assurance for New Parts' has the following outstanding points:
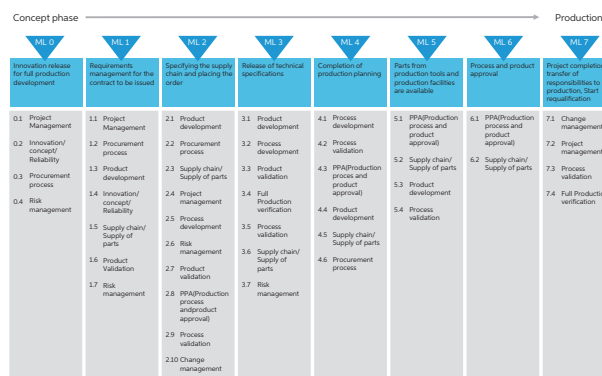A stronger focus on Cyber Security and is important during the development process of software; Integration of further measurement criteria and notes regarding software maturity level assurance, including requirements with regard to automotive cybersecurity; definition of A-, B-, C-, D-samples has been newly added.

MLA is similar to the well-known APQP process, but it contains certain advantages. Comparing MLA with APQP, MLA is updated and APQP is very old and don't consider digital challenges of today's cars. And MLA has the advantage that at the beginning of a project you divide suppliers into risk class A/B/C. Only high risk A supplier will be take in close loop round-table decision between OEM - Tier 1.

The dialog with the customer and supplier along the supply chain is the key for successful project management.

The cross functional project management at a project team has to be defined at the beginning of a project. The progress of the project is based on 8 milestones (gate reviews).

See MLA graphic (on the right hand side)

MLA (Maturity level assurance for new parts)

Each gate review, MLA provides a detailed questionnaire that is important to achieve.

All tasks (gate review) have to be evaluated with traffic light systematic. Critical tasks (red traffic light) will be the key to gate review until closed and it needs to have management support.
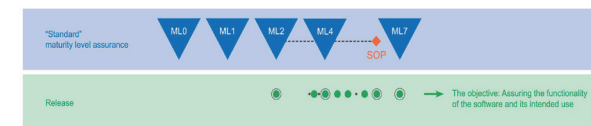
For Volkswagen Group MLA is a mandatory requirement defined in QPNI. Project Management for

Daimler Group and BMW Group is based on MLA. That's why MLA is a mandatory request for all German OEM's.

MLA should be also used for project management along the supply chain. Many German Tier 1 suppliers are following the MLA guideline. This is based on the V-Model structure.

The Advantage of MLA versus APQP

MLA integrates capability maturity model for software guarantee, but the application of software in vehicles is not mentioned in the current APQP standard.

Timing of software maturity level meetings, depending on release planning/software delivery.

Agile Software development need to be integrated into mile-stone plan. The interaction between customers and suppliers has to be assured from the very early stage at a project. The communications between customers and suppliers on major project information. Risk management and project control, including the process development and release of parts and production will be review on each milestone.

APQP is a one way road from OEM to suppliers. Late response by OEM who has an impact on the project cannot be addressed and escalated like in MLA, where OEM can get red traffic light evaluation too.

MLA is a one way road from OEM to suppliers, and critical issues can be addressed and solved (e.g. late define specification by OEM on late approval which hold project of suppliers and sub-suppliers).

What is the content for the MLA Training?

The training imparts knowledge about maturity level methods (assessment, contents, control and report systematics) that are necessary in maturity level regulatory processes in the product development process. Furthermore, the measurement criteria are worked out in detail workshop mode. Finally, the contents are applied in practice during a group exercise to stimulate "cross-functional round table" understanding.