

Locate the applicable automotive requirements

Identify the current automotive requirement authorities and distinguish the standard edition, certification Rules, interpretations, customer requirements and historical references.



Rules 6 is not a sixth edition of the standard

Fictional case: an automotive supplier receives a purchasing note saying "ISO/TS 16949 certified" and an internal slide titled "IATF sixth edition". Quality lead Ren must correct the references and identify the actual requirements applicable to a defined site/customer scope. Primary IATF pages were checked on 20 September 2026 for this lesson.

Your role and the reference condition

Automotive quality-system lead and customer interface

Normal: The requirement register identifies source, edition/revision, applicability, owner and review date.

Certification status is confirmed through authorized evidence, not inferred from training.

Gap: Historical ISO/TS wording and scheme Rules numbering are being treated as interchangeable current standard names.

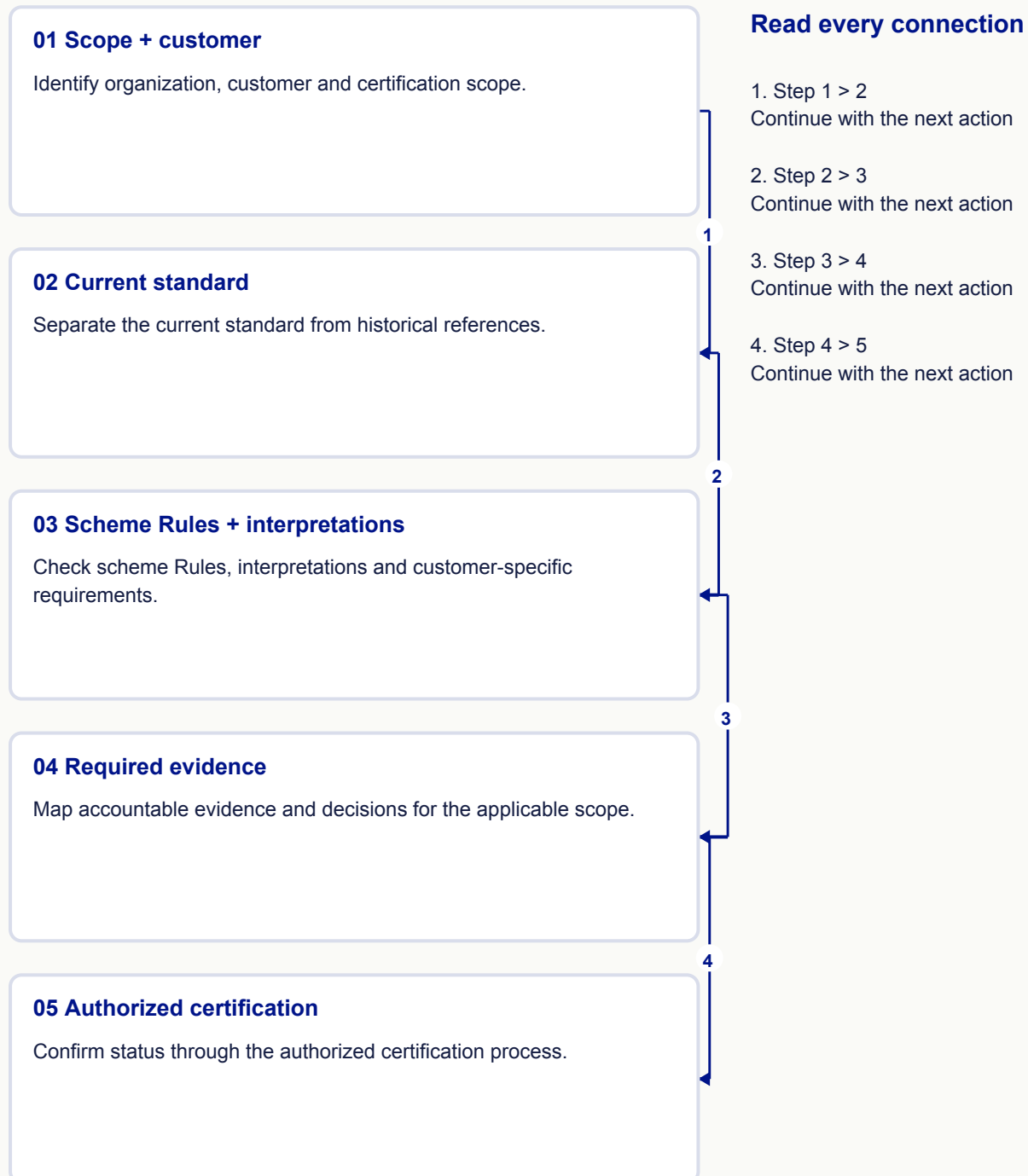
Work within these conditions

1. IATF 16949:2016 first edition replaced ISO/TS 16949:2009.
2. Rules 6 became effective 1 January 2025; July 2026 planning places the second standard edition at mid-2027 with explicitly indicative timing.

Fictional teaching case. Supplied observations support the exercise; proposed actions are not verified customer results.

See how the method works

Begin by identifying the organization, product, customer and certification scope. IATF16949:2016 replaced the historical ISO/TS16949:2009 reference; certification Rules sixth edition are a separate document effective January2025. A July2026 IATF communiqué plans the second standard edition for mid2027 and explicitly treats timing as indicative. Do not treat that future edition as already published. Check current interpretations and customer-specific requirements alongside the applicable standard. Map responsibilities and evidence without claiming that a lesson, internal checklist or completed template establishes conformity. Certification status and scope depend on the authorized process; they cannot be inferred from familiarity with the terminology.



Method exhibit: Scope + customer, Current standard, Scheme Rules + interpretations, Required evidence, Authorized certification.

Follow the evidence and decisions

Inspect the supplied case inputs

Authority	Status checked 20 September 2026
Standard	IATF 16949:2016 first edition
Historical reference	ISO/TS 16949:2009 replaced
Certification scheme Rules	6th edition effective 1 January 2025
Planned standard revision	Second edition planned mid-2027; timing indicative
Additional applicable sources	Current SIs/FAQs and customer-specific requirements to verify for scope

01 / Define the organization and customer scope

Ren identifies the site, activities, customer relationship and decision being made. He distinguishes a requirement lookup from a claim that the organization is certified.

Why: Applicability depends on scope and the relevant contractual/certification framework. A generic training title cannot establish those facts.

Evidence / check: The register names the scope and the person responsible for confirmation.

02 / Correct historical terminology

He marks ISO/TS 16949:2009 as historical and points to IATF 16949:2016 as the published first-edition standard at the check date. He retains the old reference as a traceable source of the question.

Why: Historical wording may appear in old records or informal requests. Correcting the reference should not silently alter the meaning of a retained historical document.

Evidence / check: The current register distinguishes historical and current authorities.

03 / Separate Rules from the standard

Ren records Rules 6 as the certification-scheme Rules effective 1 January 2025, not a sixth edition of IATF 16949. He identifies applicable scheme responsibilities through the official authority.

Why: Edition numbers belong to different documents. Combining them produces a nonexistent standard label and can send the team to the wrong requirements.

Evidence / check: The register has separate rows for standard and scheme Rules.

04 / Check supplements and customer conditions

He reviews current official interpretations/FAQs and applicable customer-specific requirements, recording revision and relevance rather than copying protected clauses into the training pack.

Why: The base standard title alone may not capture applicable current obligations. The organization needs access to the authorized documents and a controlled applicability process.

Evidence / check: Each additional requirement has a source, applicability decision and accountable owner.

05 / Treat revision plans as plans

Ren records the July 2026 communiqué's mid-2027 publication plan as indicative and schedules source monitoring. He does not claim the second edition is published or invent a transition deadline.

Why: A planned date is not an effective requirement. Current work follows applicable published authorities while preparing for verified future changes.

Evidence / check: The register separates published status, planned change and next review date.

Completed authority and applicability register

Question	Correct classification	Action
ISO/TS 16949:2009?	Historical replaced reference	Correct current lookup; retain history
IATF sixth edition?	Incorrect mixing of documents	Separate 2016 standard and Rules 6
Second edition available?	Planned, not published in checked sources	Monitor official update
Certified site?	Requires authorized scope/status evidence	Do not infer from this register

A customer request uses an ambiguous document name

The customer asks for "latest automotive certification rules" without specifying the intended deliverable.

Decision

Clarify the required authority and scope through the customer interface, provide the verified current references and avoid promising certification evidence that has not been checked.

Reasoning

Ambiguity should be resolved before turning a phrase into a compliance claim or internal requirement.

What would change the decision?

The clarification record identifies the customer's actual requirement and retained decision.

Practise with a changed case

Correct a misleading launch slide

New fictional slide says "Certified to IATF 16949 sixth edition; ISO/TS remains current; new standard effective mid-2027." No certification record is supplied.

Slide claim	Evidence available
Sixth edition standard	Rules 6 publication only
ISO/TS current	Official replacement history
Mid 2027 effective	Indicative publication plan
Certified	No scoped status evidence

Your task

1. Rewrite each claim to match the supplied authoritative status.
2. Identify which certification evidence is missing.
3. Define a future source-review action without inventing a transition deadline.

Use the next page to record your reasoning before reading the answer.

Your practice worksheet

Correct a misleading launch slide

Claim

Correct authority

Published/planned status

Missing scope evidence

Owner/review trigger

Complete your reasoning before turning to the answer. Use the separate learner workbook for group practice.

Check your reasoning and transfer it

1. Separate IATF 16949:2016 first edition from certification Rules 6, effective 1 January 2025. ISO/TS 16949:2009 is historical and replaced. The second edition's mid-2027 publication timing is indicative, not an established effective date.
2. Remove the unsupported certified claim until the applicable authorized site/scope/status evidence is verified. Assign an owner to monitor official updates and assess published transition requirements when available.

Suggested completed record

Incorrect claim	Corrected statement	Boundary
Sixth edition standard	Rules 6 is a separate document	Do not rename the standard
ISO/TS current	Historical replaced reference	Preserve historical records
Effective mid-2027	Indicative planned publication	No invented deadline
Certified	Status not established here	Require scoped evidence

Plausible wrong turns

1. A training pack does not certify an organization.
2. A publication plan is not a published or effective requirement.

Evidence of a sound answer

1. Distinguish all authority types.
2. Use a dated status check.
3. Avoid unsupported certification and transition claims.

Take the learning back to work

Commitment	Agreed follow-through
Owner	Automotive QMS owner and customer interface
Record	Controlled authority/applicability register and scoped status evidence
Review	At official updates, customer changes and planned periodic review
Verification evidence	Current authoritative references with documented applicability
If unresolved	Clarify ambiguous requirements and assess published changes before updating operational commitments.

Help someone else apply the method

Prepare

1. Authority-name cards
2. Official-source links
3. Blank applicability register

Minutes	Activity and coaching prompt
5	Sort the document types Which edition number belongs to which document?
8	Review the current register What is published and what is planned?
10	Repair the launch slide Which claim requires evidence beyond a source lookup?
5	Debrief updates Who monitors a change and what triggers review?

Debrief

1. Do not turn the register exercise into clause reproduction.
2. Require explicit dates for time-sensitive status statements.

Individual or remote practice

Create separate rows for standard, Rules, supplements and customer requirements before writing a status summary.

Connect the method and check its boundaries

Before application

1. Organization/customer/certification scope
2. Access to current authorized requirements

Outside this lesson

1. Reproduction of the standard
2. Certification from a training exercise

IATF: About 16949

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IATF 16949:2016 first edition replaced ISO/TS 16949:2009.

Historical ISO/TS terms are retrieval aliases with a correction, not current certification labels.

IATF: Rules 6 publication

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Rules 6 became effective 2025-01-01; it is separate from the IATF 16949 standard edition.

Public primary-source summary; underlying paid standards/forms are not reproduced.

IATF: July 2026 revision 2 status

IATF: July 2026 revision 2 status

The July 2026 communiqué plans second-edition publication for mid-2027; timing is indicative.

A planned revision is not a published standard; recheck before authoring or release.

IATF: Sanctioned Interpretations

IATF: Sanctioned Interpretations

Official sanctioned interpretations supplement the published standard; verify the currently applicable official revision and scope.

Use current applicable SIs, FAQs, customer requirements and licensed standard; this catalog is not a requirements repository.

Open this lesson and its visual aids