



Identifying Authorized Suppliers and Establishing Material Traceability

29 May 2020

■ Identifying Authorized Suppliers

- AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR:
 - An organization that distributes product within the terms of a contractual agreement with the Original Component Manufacturer (OCM). Contractual agreement terms may include, but are not limited to, distribution region, distribution products or lines, and warranty flow down from the manufacturer. (Franchised distribution is considered synonymous with authorized distribution.) [Source: SAE AS5553 - Counterfeit Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical (EEE) Parts; Avoidance, Detection, Mitigation, and Disposition]
- While a number of websites exist that claim to offer a “one stop shop” to identify Authorized Suppliers, *these websites are not dependable*
 - These websites are managed by third parties
 - These websites *are not endorsed by the OCM*
 - Original Component Manufacturers find a number of suppliers for their products on these websites who are not Authorized Suppliers
- The Original Component Manufacturer remains the only reliable sources to identify Authorized Suppliers (i.e. OCM website or OCM written confirmation)

Establishing Material Traceability

- Refers to the ability to track procured material back to an authorized source. Authorized source/distributor records enable traceability/tracking to the Original Component Manufacturer (OCM).
- Verification of traceability must include entire chain of custody to the OCM or to the OCM's Authorized Distributor(s)
 - Artifacts may include ...
 - Certificate of Conformance / Compliance
 - Shipper
 - Packing List
 - Distributor Receipt
 - OCM EDI/Invoice
 - Artifacts should verify the following, at minimum ...
 - Same part number throughout
 - Same lot code / date code throughout
 - Quantity shipped to each supplier is what each supplier received
 - Purchase Order numbers on receivers match those on shippers or packing lists

[For more guidance, see SAE AS5553 - Counterfeit Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical (EEE) Parts; Avoidance, Detection, Mitigation, and Disposition, and SAE ARP6328 - Guideline for Development of Counterfeit Electronic Parts; Avoidance, Detection, Mitigation, and Disposition Systems]