The Reason Why Q-DAS Is Not qs-STAT

The System Integration team (SI) usually works at the customer’s premises. Our main tasks are analysing systems, planning installations, configuring and installing the software, showing how to use the software and recognizing optimization potentials. This is the reason why we experience firsthand what Q-DAS means to our customers. A firm statement frequently issued by our long-standing customers is “We apply Q-DAS”.

Every company has its own past and each product has a specific background.

Whenever customers say they are using “Q-DAS”, they normally refer to qs-STAT. Without a doubt, this is our best known product and actually the best-selling Q-DAS software product. And since the software for statistical evaluation laid the foundation of the company and its success, this is quite a pleasant association. Still today, qs-STAT is part and parcel of our product portfolio and the heart of our company. However, “Q-DAS” is more than just qs-STAT by now.

During the last years, Q-DAS developed further software products with new functionalities. But why did Q-DAS do this when the original product was actually a success? There are two reasons.

1. More details about the measured value

Due to a multitude of analysis options, evaluation strategies, reports, etc., qs-STAT is able to evaluate processes, provide results that can be validated and identify room for improvement. However, the evaluation and thus the assessment of process qualification can only be as good and detailed as the data on which it is based. Even though measured values with tolerance limits are sufficient for statistical evaluations and calculations of capability indices, they do not give enough information to answer our customers’ real questions the Q-DAS System Integration team has to face every day.

• ”Can you evaluate order ABC123 for our customer `company XYZ´?”
• ”Why has the process variation been so high since yesterday?”
• ”Are these 34 values really outliers?” etc.

qs-STAT is indeed able to answer these questions, however, only if the required information is available in qs-STAT. This is the reason why Q-DAS offers software products such as procella and qs-STAT – they record measured values and store additional information like machine, order, etc. Moreover, users may enter their comments immediately (manufacturing error, part eliminated, tool breakage ...) in case of any deviations.

This is only one important feature helping to identify abnormalities in production quickly and providing an option of how to react to it. If you conduct such an analysis only at the end of the data flow, your reaction will come too late. And in most cases, this costs a pretty penny.

You thus recorded the data in a suitable quality. In order to evaluate them in qs-STAT, Q-DAS offers a database today allowing for various filters and queries. You are thus able to process the data with regard to the questions mentioned above.

Typical example: How does the product behaviour change when parts are produced by two machines, in several cavities or at different times of the day?
2. Automatism means less effort

After storing all data in the database why take the trouble to evaluate all data manually? What if you are currently evaluating a certain process and shortly after you completed the evaluation, the same process provides you with measured values leading to serious process disturbance? In such a situation, the Q-DAS product M-QIS helps you to keep track. It analyses processes permanently and, in case of need (e.g. when the process no longer reaches the process capability index), provides you with a report on the part and characteristics causing problems. This program ensures that you are always up-to-date without having to apply qs-STAT – all reports are sent as a PDF file by email.

Moreover, the system automatically creates recurring reports, such as weekly reports, etc. and sends them electronically.

This consideration led to the development of the Q-DAS CAMERA Concept. Its target was quite simple: “Manufacturing processes have to be transparent!”

In order to reach this target, the Q-DAS CAMERA Concept includes all tools required to deliver reasonable quality and to conduct automated analysis.

The CAMERA Concept consists of different phases from C for “collecting” to A for “archiving”. The graphic above shows that the most important phase (“evaluating”) is still available and includes qs-STAT. All other products support qs-STAT or are responsible for its automation. Thus, Q-DAS does no longer only refer to qs-STAT nowadays.

Due to the Q-DAS Camera Concept, the software does not start with the evaluation of data (as is the case in qs-STAT) but with the recording of data. procella and O-QIS record and visualize measured values. Additionally, the operator is able to evaluate these data and add additional information. So the information about measured values is saved with the same high quality to the database. Here it is available for evaluation. Only now you process the data in qs-STAT. M-QIS is kind of a remote-controlled version of qs-STAT. You do not make the evaluation but the system performs it automatically.
and provides all employees with suitable reports.

This fact shows that qs-STAT still occupies centre stage but it is complemented by many other software products allowing for easier evaluation and quicker reactions (especially during the recording of data).

**The CAMERA Concept is already implemented in your company – at least phases of it!**

We did not reinvent the wheel to hit on the ideas the CAMERA Concept represents – that is a matter of fact. Almost every company has to face at least some of these phases, even when they do not apply Q-DAS software. However, companies consider and act upon these ideas in different ways. What makes the whole situation even more complicated is that a uniform standard does not exist. Non-validated software for evaluations, paper-based recording of data and missing mandatory recording and specification of alarms in production are just few of the problems we encounter in reality.

Q-DAS gives you the option the implement this system as a whole. You will get all you need from one source. We do not only provide you with software components leading to this complex and strong interaction, but we offer many years of experience in implementing the CAMERA Concept, too.

In collaboration with your staff, our team is able to define such a concept meeting the individual requirements of your company and we introduce it step by step. I am a member of the System Integration (SI) team, too, and one of my main tasks is to implement the Q-DAS CAMERA Concept. Together, we can replace “your Q-DAS“ by the “Q-DAS CAMERA Concept“. I am pleased to support you.