**Early Production Containment Commitment (EPC)**

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of EPC is:

* 1. To reduce the risk to Solero Technologies, LLC and to protect the Supplier through increased detection.
  2. To document Supplier efforts to gain control of its processes during start-up and launch so that any quality issues that arise are quickly identified and corrected at the Supplier's location and not at the customer's manufacturing location.
  3. To increase involvement and visibility of the Supplier’s top management.

1. **SCOPE**
   1. Unless otherwise directed, this procedure applies to all Solero Technologies, LLC’s Production Suppliers. It is used for all pre-production and production requirements that require PPAP or whenever mandated by Solero Technologies on any parts that present significant risk to a Solero Technologies plant. For example: at annual shutdown or model year change.
2. **RESPONSIBILITY**
   1. Supplier Responsibility
      1. Establish a containment process.
      2. Document the EPC Plan (including functional testing and error proofing if applicable), using the CP format referenced in the APQP and CP Reference Manual respectively as mentioned in IATF 16949 appendix A. The development and documentation of the EPC Plan is expected to occur during the APQP Process. The EPC Plan is not a substitute for the PCP but is over and above the PCP and is used to validate it.
      3. Indicate compliance with the EPC requirements, Suppliers are required to attach to each shipping label a special marking as agreed to between the Supplier and Solero Technologies.
   2. Solero Technologies, LLC’s Responsibility
      1. The EPC quantity / timeframe will be agreed with the Supplier based on customer requirements.
      2. Review and approve the EPC plan and communicate approval to the Supplier.
      3. Coordinate EPC material as required.

1. **DEFINITIONS**
   1. EPC: Early Production Containment
   2. PCP: Production Control Plan
   3. APQP: Advanced Product Quality Planning
   4. CP: Control Plan
   5. PPAP: Production Part Approval Process
2. **GUIDELINE**
   1. Containment process must include:
      1. Identification of the person responsible for the containment process.
      2. Development of an EPC Plan consisting of additional controls, inspection audits and factors in the production process (set-up, machinery, fixture, tooling, operator, material/components, preventive maintenance, climate).

Additional controls could include:

### Off-line, separate and independent check from the normal production process

### Increased frequency/sample size of receiving, process, and or inspections

### Defined / coordinated sub-Supplier containment and or sub-Supplier support/audits as required

### Increased verification of label accuracy

### Increased error proofing validation

### Increased involvement and visibility by top management, including increased Management Internal Audits.

### Other items as specified by Solero Technologies or the Supplier

* + 1. Prompt implementation of containment and corrective action if non-conformances are discovered.
  1. Exit Criteria
     1. TheSupplier will be eligible to self-exit EPC (unless otherwise specified by Solero Technologies) provided it meets the quantity / timeframe agreed to with no discrepancies found at the Supplier or Solero Technologies. In the event the self-exit criteria has been met but the EPC plan continues to identify non-conformances, the EPC plan must be kept in place until process controls and capabilities have proven effective and the PCP is validated to Solero’s satisfaction.
  2. Consequences of Shipping Nonconforming Material
     1. Failure to execute EPC may result in Controlled Shipping.
     2. Shipment of discrepant material during the specified EPC period or any other time may result in Controlled Shipping.

**EPC Time Frame: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**EPC Quantity of Parts: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Part Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Part Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please acknowledge your acceptance by returning a copy of this document and your EPC plan signed by the Plant Manager**

**Plant Manager**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Supplier Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_