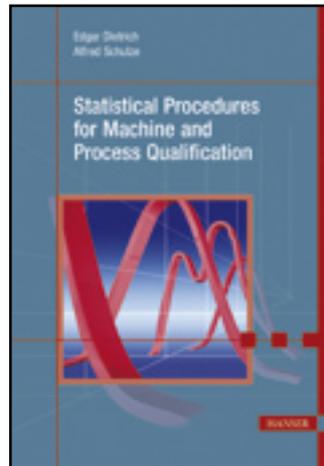


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Preface

Edgar Dietrich, Alfred Schulze

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Preface to the 6th edition

This book is based on 20 years of experience in dealing with the statistical procedures in industrial production. Due to Q-DAS[®] customers from all over the world, we treat this subject every day facing various facets and requirements of the application.

Several classical textbooks on statistical procedures are available, containing rigorous theory. However, these theories can hardly be applied in practice. A one-to-one realization is impossible and, in the worst case, they can even lead to wrong results. By contrast, we have developed our own ideas which were discussed with many experts and decision-makers from the industrial production as well as with international standards committees. After these ideas had been assessed as applicable, they were implemented in the software and could easily be used in practice. As a result, the positive effects and great benefits of these procedures have confirmed our approach and way of thinking for many years. Hence, we continue to improve these procedures and optimize our software solutions continuously. The guidelines of conglomerates included in this book prove the reasonable implementation of the statistical procedures as described in this publication.

Today, the application of statistical procedures in industrial production is aimed at the precise display of complex situations, incidents and processes. This is made possible by using the software solutions that provide high quality information/data through statistical values and characteristics, in order to evaluate the situation with the help of specified benchmarks. The display of the results in connection with the respective task, by means of significant graphics, is a crucial point that we emphasize. Moreover, we have tried to comment on the respective backgrounds in order to make the application of statistical procedures palatable to Operators.

Our thanks go out to the Q-DAS[®] Academy GmbH staff for their professional support while creating this book. Special thanks go to Ms. Mesad for the layout and the textual and graphical preparation of our specifications.

Q-DAS[®] has also provided a demo version of qs-STAT[®] along with this book. Most of the graphics and examples can be found in this version. The software includes the corresponding datasets. You may download the qs-STAT[®] demo version from the Q-DAS[®] homepage (www.q-das.de) or you may order it directly from Q-DAS[®] and you will receive a CD.

Weinheim, March 2009

Edgar Dietrich and Alfred Schulze