16949Academy vs. a consultant

Quickly determine your best option for implementing IATF 16949:2016 with the 16949Academy or an outside consultant, with our convenient 16949Academy vs. a consultant comparison matrix. You'll learn the benefits and risks of hiring a consultant, compared with leveraging our extensive knowledge here at the 16949Academy.

Using our comparison matrix, your decision will be an informed decision. You'll know which choice is right for your company, based on cost, ease of use, time required and comprehensiveness.

Outside Consultant	16949Academy
A good consultant is expensive, due to the time they have to spend onsite in your organization. Unfortunately, a bad consultant costs even more.	Because you aren't paying for a consultant's time, the cost is 90% lower! Even if you choose to pay for Online Mentoring, you're still paying only a fraction of the cost of a consultant.
The consultant does all the work for you: interviews, analysis, creation of documents, and any necessary corrections.	You do this yourself, but not ALL by yourself. We guide you on the inputs required, which documents you need – and, the documents are 80-90% completed already. You only have to add your organization's specific information.
Documentation will be fully customized for your company, your policies, and your processes.	With our fully editable templates, you can change up to 70% of the document to match your organization's needs.
A consultant can do all the work for you, so it seems like you save your time for other things.	When documents are created internally, by your own employees, they are more invested in the rules and the outcomes. They are more likely to follow the new documentation, because it wasn't forced on them from outside. Everyone saves more time.
A consultant can specify what steps to take, what to stay away from, and what you	We do that, too. And without looking over your shoulder. We also provide step-by-step

should focus your efforts on.	guidance via our free Expert Advice Community and our optional Online Mentoring (separate charge).
An on-site consultant learns your weaknesses, knows your strategies, and has easy access to company secrets.	No one outside your company has access to your confidential information. Even if you choose Online Mentoring, we only have access to a small amount of inside information.
The consultant reviews and corrects all the documents, making sure you're compliant with IATF 16949.	So do us. We'll fully review three of your documents at no charge. If you want even more help, you can use our Online Mentoring service for an additional fee.
A consultant can show you the IATF 16949 certification criteria, and tell you exactly what you need to get ready for certification.	Yes, we can do that. Our documentation templates include 100% of the IATF 16949 requirements, and provide guidance on what can and cannot be omitted. In addition, we're always here to talk to you about what you can expect from an auditor.
Since your IATF 16949 consultant will also perform the audit, you are assured compliance.	We won't do that. As you might expect, it is considered a conflict of interest when the same person designs and then audits the system. It can actually cause you to fail the certification.
At the end of the project, the consultant leaves – and takes all that expert knowledge with him. Often, employees don't even understand how to maintain the documentation, leading to declining use and eventual abandonment of all those documents you paid for.	When you do it yourself, you keep all that knowledge inside your organization. Employees learn how to maintain the documentation, improve upon it, and use it on a daily basis.
Consultant fees are usually fixed and encompass the entire project. If you don't like his work, you'll probably still have to pay for his services.	You pay only once, and only for what you need, and you can use the templates as many times as you like. With our Online Mentoring service, you pay a monthly fee and you can cancel at any time.

A consultant can make your implementation quicker.	Yes, we can't argue with that. It will take you about 30% longer to implement IATF 16949 with our templates.
The consultant is a nice guy, and we like having him around.	Well, we can't hang out at your office. But we're nice guys, too :)