

Assuring the safety and compliance of your materials, joining processes, NDT operators and final products

Inspection services overview guide



LRQA

Working with you at every stage to deliver safe and compliant products

For the manufacturing, engineering and construction sectors, ensuring you meet the required standards is crucial for the functionality, effectiveness, and safety of your products, processes and supply chain.

It can be difficult to navigate all the standards, codes and regulations that apply both at home and in territories where you export. This can affect your ability to trade and increase the risk of equipment failure or operational accidents.

We can work with you to help ensure your materials and component parts meet the required specifications and that all operations comply with regulations and globally recognized standards through our comprehensive range of inspection and assurance services. In this overview guide, we explain more about the requirements that may be relevant for your industry, why they are important and how LRQA can help.

Pressure equipment certification

The Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) in the EU and Pressure Equipment Safety Regulations (PE(S)R) in the UK, apply to the design, manufacture and conformity assessment of pressure equipment and assemblies with a maximum allowable pressure greater than 0.5 bar. These regulations provide a legal requirement for manufacturing, selling and putting into service all items of pressure equipment in those respective territories.

Certified products are marked with SEP, the CE mark and/or UKCA mark respectively, which demonstrates that the required quality and safety standards have been met and can therefore be sold in the relevant territories. To help you achieve your PED certification and CE marking, or PE(S)R certification and UKCA marking, our team of experts can explain the different routes to conformity. We are aware of the UK Government's announcement regarding the intention to extend the acceptability of CE marking indefinitely. Once the regulations have been revised and added to the statute we will revise any guidance accordingly.

Materials and joining

The importance of traceability of materials has increased in recent years and is becoming a major industry concern. To build confidence with your customers, our experts can bring you the assurance you need, from inspecting the materials to be joined, to qualifying the joiners. We can help you make sure your materials are correct for the joining procedures being implemented.

Welding certification is a critical element in the provision of assurance of the structural and pressure integrity of fabricated components and systems. Code compliant welding procedures and operator qualifications demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure consistent and safe welding practices. Independent witness and review provides customer confidence and a level of assurance that safety-critical assets are being welded safely and achieve the desired quality levels required by the regulation and codes of construction.

Key services

Here, you can find a selection of key LRQA services that support manufacturers and engineering companies all around the world. If you can't find what you're looking for, get in touch to discuss your requirements with one of our experts.



Compliance & certification

Ensure your equipment, assets and processes comply with the right codes, standards and regulations.

Services	Used by	Why is it important?
EN 10204 Type 3.2 certification	Suppliers of metal materials into the pressure equipment sector in the EU. Increasingly used in other territories and sectors, such as oil and gas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification ensures materials are verified and of expected quality, guaranteeing the validity of the manufacturer and the products supplied to the buyer. • It gives clear sight of the history of the material, so it can be used with confidence.
PED certification and CE marking	Manufacturers of pressure equipment and assemblies with a maximum allowable pressure greater than 0.5 bar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures safety and quality standards are met. • Required for equipment to be sold within the EU.
PE(S)R certification and UKCA marking	Manufacturers of pressure equipment and assemblies with a maximum allowable pressure greater than 0.5 bar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures safety and quality standards are met. • Required for equipment to be sold within the UK.
ISO 3834 certification	Welding companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the quality of your welded products. • Gives customers and other stakeholders confidence that an organization is committed to quality control and continual improvement. • Contributes to increased performance and lower costs. • LRQA holds ISO 17065 accreditation, which covers conformity assessment — requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services.
ASME AIA services	Manufacturers of pressure vessels, piping and components for nuclear facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving a certificate of authorization and the certification mark stamp from ASME ensures your equipment is safe and compliant for use.
Construction Products Regulation and CE marking	Manufacturers of construction products or kit used in a permanent way in buildings and civil engineering works.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our extensive accreditation experience allows us to offer a wide range of services to help you meet the requirements of the ASME Code. • Ensures safety and quality standards are met. • Required for products to be sold within the EU. • LRQA holds ISO 17065 accreditation, which covers conformity assessment — requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services.
Management systems certification	All organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accredited certification to the core quality, environmental and health & safety standards shows that you have implemented your management systems effectively, helping to improve performance and making your organization an attractive supplier, employer, and partner.
Training	All organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops the knowledge and skills of your team to improve the safety, effectiveness and performance of your systems and processes.





Inspection

We can assess your people and inspect equipment, assets and components to effectively optimise performance and minimise risk.

Services	Used by	Why is it important?
Welding and welder operation qualification	Welding companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will witness welder and welding operator qualification tests, to help ensure that your welders meet the required industry and regulatory standards. Demonstrates the skillset of your welders and gives your customers confidence in the quality of your products. From April 2023, it will be a legal requirement for manufacturers/operators of pressure equipment that need to comply with PED or PE(S)R to be suitably qualified by a Notified Body (NoBo) or Recognized Third-Party Organisation (RTPO) accredited to ISO 17024. We hold ISO/IEC 17000 series accreditation for conformity assessment and are a Notified Body (NoBo) and a Recognised Third-Party Organisation (RTPO)) in the EU and Approved Body and a Recognized Third-Party Organization (RTPO) in the UK.
Welding procedure qualification	Welding companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures that current welding procedures are being followed to meet national and global construction and regulatory standards. Gives you confidence that proper controls and processes are being implemented to guarantee a better quality of welding on a consistent basis. Reduces the need for costly reworks to not only increase productivity but also improve cost efficiency.
One-stop solution for welding certification	Welding companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates the need to deal with multiple organizations for your welding certifications by providing a fixed fee service for the entire weld certification process, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> witness of welder and weld procedure tests laboratory testing (NDT & DT) welder and weld procedure certification weld certification management
Materials inspection	Manufacturers and purchasers of all material product types e.g. plate, pipe, wrought, forged and cast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides assurance that the materials meet the required specifications. Gives customers and users confidence that components form a safe, reliable end product.
In-service inspections	Organizations that use pressure systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains compliance with legal requirements. Improves the reliability, availability and maintainability of your pressure plant.



Supply chain assurance

Trust your supply chain partners to deliver on their commitments.

Services	Used by	Why is it important?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vendor site inspection Vendor assessments & audits Supply chain sustainability Legal & regulatory compliance 	Organizations with complex and/or high-value supply chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures your specifications for materials and/or the manufacturing process are met from design and raw material procurement right through to assembly, testing and shipment. Increases transparency by providing crucial information about a vendor's capabilities, machinery, management systems, and other important data. Helps you to optimize your supply chain quality, mitigate any risks, and protect your brand.



Why choose LRQA?

We work side-by-side with you, listening first to gain a comprehensive understanding of your business including its risks, challenges, and needs.

Using our broad expertise across specialisms and industries, we'll help you identify areas that need improvement before creating solutions that will support your business.

Our continued support helps ensure that your suppliers, equipment, processes, and projects perform in line with expectations and comply with relevant laws, regulations, and best practices.



Client focus and safety ethos

Our passion is to deliver a quality service with integrity, independence and a keen safety ethos.

This, coupled with a wealth of technical experience, knowledge and professionalism provides confidence for you and your customers throughout the whole process.



A team of leaders

Our highly trained inspectors are leading experts in their sectors and specialisms.

They are authorized to undertake reviews in accordance with global and regional industry standards, deploying knowledge of certification, inspection and assurance.



Global reach, local insight

LRQA offers specialist inspection and assurance services in over 80 countries. Whatever your sector, we can help you anticipate, mitigate and manage risk.

Our team of over 1,500 inspection experts use extensive local sector knowledge to help thousands of clients safely and sustainably establish best practices.



Effective partnership

We support businesses of all sizes and many of the world's most recognizable brands rely on LRQA to partner with them on multi-year, complex projects – from compliance programs to bespoke supply chain solutions.

We have led the way in shaping our industry and continue to take every opportunity to collaborate with clients and pioneer new ideas, services and innovation.



YOUR FUTURE. OUR FOCUS.

About LRQA:

LRQA is a leading global assurance partner, bringing together decades of unrivaled expertise in assessment, advisory, inspection and cybersecurity services – underpinned by data-driven insights – to help its clients navigate a new era of risk.

Operating in more than 160 countries with a team of more than 6,000 people, LRQA's award-winning compliance, supply chain, cybersecurity and ESG specialists help more than 61,000 clients across almost every sector to anticipate, mitigate and manage risk wherever they operate.

Get in touch

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