



How to Obtain a Production of Product Quality Certificate for ATEX

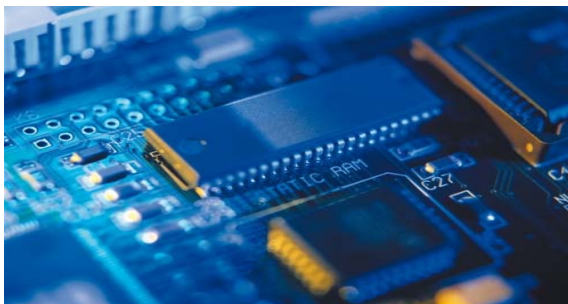
Although it is not necessary to have ISO 9000 certification in order to obtain a Quality Assurance Notification Certificate under ATEX, the two are related.

Both Product and Production Quality Assurance requirements are based upon the international standard, ISO9001: 2000. If an ISO 9000 system is in place it should be easier to obtain the necessary certification under ATEX, although extra requirements must be addressed. These are normally addressed by an **on-site audit** using a technically competent audit team.

The particular areas are:

Production Quality Assurance Certificate

- The quality objectives and the organisational structure, responsibilities and powers of the management with regard to equipment quality.
- The manufacturing, quality control and quality assurance techniques, processes and systematic actions which will be used.
- The examinations and tests which will be carried out before, during and after manufacture and the frequency with which they will be carried out.
- The quality records, such as inspection reports and test data, calibration data, reports on the qualifications of the personnel concerned, etc.
- The means to monitor the achievement of the required equipment quality and the effective operation of the quality system.



Product Quality Assurance Certificate

- The quality objectives and the organisational structure, responsibilities and powers of the management with regard to equipment quality.
- The examinations and tests which will be carried out after manufacture.
- The means to monitor the effective operation of the quality system.
- Quality records, such as inspection reports and test data, calibration data, reports on the qualifications of the personnel concerned, etc.



ATEX Assessments

Sira uses technically competent and qualified auditors to conduct assessments under ATEX. They will have experience in the types of protection employed and the product technology used. This means that the customer gets added value from the audit. The auditor will understand the market and be able to review in that context.

ISO 9000 Systems

Sira is able to full ISO 9001:2000 and ATEX QA Notification certification by integrating the two audits, with an appropriate reduction in costs and disruption to the client.

Surveillance

ATEX QA Notification is valid for three years. Periodic surveillance is applicable, usually



eighteen months after initial assessment or re-assessment providing a suitably accredited ISO 9000 system is in place, and annually if it is not.

IECEX Quality Assessment Report

An IECEX Quality Assessment Report (QAR) is required in conjunction with an IECEx Product Test Report to produce an IECEX Certificate of Conformity. The Quality Assessment Report can be completed with minimal extra work if a valid ATEX QA Notification is held.

For more details, please log onto
www.siracertification.com

Quality Assurance Services

Sira can offer a range of accredited and cost effective Quality Assurance Services:

Preliminary Assessment

Sira has developed a 1-day Quality Assurance Healthcheck project to monitor and review your quality systems.

Designed for manufacturers new to the ATEX directive, or for those with only a small percentage of Ex products under their complete product portfolio, Sira offers preliminary assessments of your quality processes, and will conduct a 'gap-analysis' of your quality system.

This will enable you to understand what you have already got in place, and what you need to do to ensure you meet the requirements.

ATEX Quality Assurance Notification (QAN) and IECEX Quality Assessment Report (QAR)

Complimenting Sira's product certification services, we can also offer the continued surveillance of your manufacturing process by offering QAN and QAR for ATEX and IECEx respectively.

Sira can offer this service at the outset of a project, and can arrange for the audit to be completed when the product is certified compliant, ensuring you can declare full compliance and bring your product to market in as short a lead-time as possible.

ISO 9001: 2000 Certification

Sira can offer **preliminary and full assessment** against ISO 9001:2000 requirements, offering a UKAS accredited certification scheme.

Combined Audits

Where possible, Sira will combine any audit actions, to offer a cost-effective audit package.



Product Repair – Service Facility Certification Scheme

Sira has established a scheme that will offer the assessment and the on-site audit of organisations that provide a Repair and Overhaul service to the Ex industry.

The scheme looks at the procedures of repair and overhaul organisations to give them an **Accredited Certificate** and mark of quality, establishing the company as a recognised repair organisation.

The Sira scheme falls in line with the IECEx Service Facility Certification Scheme requirements. For more details please contact Sira.

More Information

For further information, or to discuss a particular project, please contact us:

Tel: +44 (0) 1244 670 900
Email: qa@siracertification.com
Web: www.siracertification.com