## THE ROUTE TO MCERTS CERTIFICATION



MCERTS is the Environment Agency's (EA) Monitoring Certification Scheme. The scheme provides a framework within which environmental measurements can be made in accordance with the EA's quality requirements. The scheme is aimed at both manufacturers, users and operators.

MCERTS is a key part of the EA's Operator Monitoring Assessment (OMA) scheme. Its aim is to strengthen the EA's auditing of operators' self-monitoring arrangements for industrial processes, which are regulated under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR).

OMA audits are conducted by the EA and an overall score awarded. The higher the score, the fewer audits made. A high OMA score can be obtained by installing MCERTS products or using MCERTS services.

Therefore both process operators and equipment manufacturers can realise financial benefits of MCERTS certification.

The EA has appointed CSA Group-Sira as its chosen Certification Body to operate the MCERTS certification schemes.

#### WHO IS CSA GROUP-SIRA?

CSA Group-Sira is a leading certification provider working with a wide range of industrial clients.

We have unparalleled experience and expertise in instrumentation testing, calibration and certification, and are the chosen partner of the Environment Agency, to operate its MCERTS certification schemes.

CSA Group-Sira is able to offer customers a high quality, flexible and totally impartial solution to their environmental compliance requirements.

#### The MCERTS services provided include:

- Continuous Water Monitoring
- Continuous Air Monitoring Systems
- Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems
- Environmental Data Management Software
- MCERTS Training & Competence
- Self Monitoring of Flow

# WHY SHOULD YOU OBTAIN MCERTS CERTIFICATION?

- EPR permits for process operators specify MCERTS certified products and services
- Process operators using MCERTS products can gain a higher OMA score
- Provides independent third party approval of product performance
- Increased sales opportunities due to the acceptability of MCERTS-approved products
- MCERTS is a mark of quality, giving manufacturers a competitive edge in the marketplace









#### THE 5 STAGE APPROACH TO MCERTS CERTIFICATION

CSA Group-Sira has developed a 5 stage approach for manufacturers who wish put their products through MCERTS assessment, including recertification.

#### MANUFACTURER REQUIREMENTS

Manufacturer contacts
CSA Group-Sira explaining their
compliance requirements

Via phone, email or website enquiry. CSA Group-Sira is also happy to offer an initial meeting to explain the process and answer any questions.

Manufacturer places a contract with CSA Group-Sira for certification

# The certification work that is contracted includes:

- Establishing a certification committee
- Agreeing the scope of certification
- Finalising a test plan
- On-going project monitoring and liaising between manufacturer and certification committee
- Reviewing the evidence submitted
- Production of report and certificate
- Issue of certificate and posting on CSA Group-Sira's website

Commission of tests (direct with test house)

Client engages test house to conduct relevant testing and issue of test reports in line with the agreed test programme.

Manufacturer collates test data and submits to CSA Group-Sira

Manufacturer now able to sell MCERTS compliant products

#### THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

#### STAGE 1

Pre-Contract

Quotation sent within 10 days of receiving application.

#### STAGE 2

Certification Committee Meeting

Existing evidence is reviewed at this meeting and a test programme is generated in agreement with the Certification Committee.

The manufacturer decides where the testing is conducted, but CSA Group-Sira should be kept informed to ensure they are acceptable.

Minutes will be taken by CSA Group-Sira and circulated within 10 days.

#### STAGE 3

Implementation

Testing duration depends on availability of test house.

#### STAGE 4

Assessment of test data

Assessment typically takes 4-6 weeks

### STAGE 5

Certification

#### **CSA GROUP-SIRA RESPONSIBILITIES**

CSA Group-Sira sends application pack and arranges an initial meeting

#### The application pack includes:

- Application form
- Guidance notes
- MCERTS standard
- Details of laboratories that perform testing

Certification Committee meeting

The Certification Committee consists of a Director of CSA Group-Sira, an independent expert and generally a representative from the Environment Agency.

The Committee members must be acceptable to both CSA Group-Sira and the manufacturer, and must not have worked for the manufacturer for at least 2 years.

CSA Group-Sira performs MCERTS manufacturing audit

This is to ensure the manufacturer can consistently produce products to the same standard and the correct controls are in place.

Test data is assessed by Certification Committee

If the Certification Committee considers the test data satisfactory, certification can take place.

MCERTS requirements are fulfilled: certificate issued

For more information, please contact CSA Group-Sira to discuss your MCERTS requirements:

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