

RAISING THE BAR FOR OPERATOR QUALIFICATIONS.

The Operator Qualification Integrity Process is a framework developed by OQ SMEs across stakeholder groups of Operators, Contractors, Gas Associations, Regulators, OQ Service Providers, and Consultants with the aim to elevate the integrity of OQ while relying on many provisions within ASME B31Q. Voluntary actions by OQIP users will increase consistency and standardization by “raising the bar” above and beyond the current manner which OQ is deployed. OQIP also serves as a guide for continuous improvement for both operators and contractors.

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PEOPLE ELEMENTS

- Trainers | Proctors | Evaluators | Auditors
- Selection Criteria & Credentialing:
 - Education
 - Training
 - Experience
 - Qualifications & Certifications
- Validation & Maintenance of Credentials
- Applies to Internal, External, & Independent Individuals



PROCESS ELEMENTS

- ASME B31Q Standard & Covered Task List
- Core Competency Driven
- Content Focus on Common, Universal Truths
- Training Consistency
- Testing Methodology, Integrity & Security
- Skill & Ability - Observe/Verify Performance
- Management of Change Elements



VALIDATION ELEMENTS

- Internal Self-Audit & Program Effectiveness Reviews
- External / Independent Audits
- Recordkeeping/Documentation



OPERATOR QUALIFICATION INTEGRITY PROCESS PILOT PROGRAMS

The OQIP Coalition members have focused on holding 3 Proof-Of-Concept Pilot programs across the United States. These OQ Integrity Process Pilot programs are a part of our Plan, Do, Check, Adjust, continuous improvement practices. The companies listed below are those whom have volunteered to be part of piloting the program elements and practices, and report back to the full Coalition membership group so program improvements and lessons learned can be incorporated into the program and documentation. See Pilot Programs below:

PILOT PROGRAMS

1. New Mexico Gas Company, Albuquerque, NM;

- a. State Regulators from the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission;
- b. Contractors performing PHMSA OQ Covered work;
- c. OQ Service Provider, Industrial Training Services (ITS).

2. SEMCO Energy, Port Huron, MI;

- a. State Regulators from the Michigan Public Service Commission;
- b. Contractors performing PHMSA OQ Covered work;
- c. OQ Service Provider, ENERGYworldnet (EWN)

3. Puget Sound Energy, Bellevue, WA;

- a. State Regulators from the Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission;
- b. Contractors performing PHMSA OQ Covered work;
- c. OQ Service Provider, Midwest Energy Association (MEA)

The framework for the OQIP Pilot Programs include the associated stakeholders engaging together, identifying existing gaps, and shoring up those variances; incorporating and adopting the elements, processes, and expectations of the OQIP program; identifying and measuring successes and improvements needed; validating the People, Process, and Program Validation metrics through documented audit records of experiences and deployment findings; revision to the OQIP through evaluation output and improvement modification actions necessary to assure a common, streamlined, and standard approach to the deployment of OQ, with Integrity as the foundation.

To review the FULL DOCUMENT and the WHITE PAPERS, visit oqip.org/oqip-program



101 W. Renner Road, Suite 460
Richardson, TX 75082
Phone: 972-680-0261
Email: info@oqip.org

