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The Value of ISO Certification in Vehicle Type Approval

Why formal ISO certification?

The global uptake of ISO 9001 certification has increased significantly over the last ten years and with the following benefits it is perhaps easy to understand why:

- Operational efficiencies and cost savings
- Increased consumer confidence
- Provides a framework for continuous improvement
- Opens the door to new business where ISO certification is a condition of supply, particularly in the supply chain
- Reduce waste and increase productivity
- Improve employee motivation, awareness, and morale

The benefits listed are pretty compelling but having formal ISO certification also has the potential to save you time and money during the automotive certification process and the following explains why...



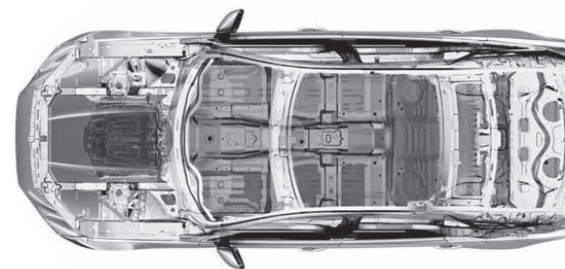
Automotive certification and Conformity of Production

Conformity of Production (CoP) is a key part of the vehicle type approval process. Put simply, it involves the evaluation of your manufacturing processes to ensure that each product is built in accordance with the approved specification.

Type approval framework directive 2007/46/EC, allows CoP to be confirmed by either of the following routes:

- Assessment by the Type Approval Authority of your CoP arrangements covering approvals held, witnessing tests, examining test results and assessing control plans
- ISO 9001 certification in which the systems, processes and control plans for CoP have been included and verified as effective

So having a quality system in place means your level of CoP assessment may be significantly reduced. If you are interested in obtaining formal ISO certification then VCA can help.



VCA as your certification partner

As well as being the UK vehicle type approval authority and a technical service, VCA is a UKAS accredited body for ISO 9001 and is also recognised by the IATF for ISO/TS 16949 automotive specific quality standard. This means that VCA can provide a 'one stop' service for vehicle type approval, CoP and ISO certification.

And with approaching 40 years experience of supporting the automotive industry with their type approval and certification activities, VCA can add real value to the process, including bringing industry 'best practice' knowledge to the table. Our auditors have real world experience of your industry so understand the issues you face.

What next? To find out more contact: mekala.kannan@vca.gov.uk

www.dft.gov.uk/vca