



# Procedure for the evaluating inspections of powder manufacturing plants

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## 1. Scope

This procedure sets out the criteria applied by QUALICOAT for the assessment of inspection reports for powder plant manufacturers.

## 2. Reference standards

- QUALICOAT Specifications (latest edition)
- EN ISO / IEC 17000: Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles
- EN 45011/EN ISO / IEC 17065
- EN ISO / IEC 17067: Conformity assessment — Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes

## 3. Terminology

**Nonconformity:** failure to comply with a requirement leading to a repetition of the inspection.

**Issue:** Refusal or failure to comply with a requirement not included in the list of nonconformities defined by QUALICOAT.

**Correction** (remedy of a nonconformity): action taken to eliminate a detected nonconformity.

**Corrective action:** action taken to eliminate the cause of a detected nonconformity or other undesirable situation in order to prevent recurrence.

**Preventive action:** action taken to eliminate the cause of a potential nonconformity or other undesirable potential situation.

**GL:** General Licensee i.e. a national or an international association holding the QUALICOAT general licence for a defined territory.

**Testing laboratory:** Independent quality testing and/or inspection bodies duly authorised by the General Licensee or QUALICOAT.

## 4. Handling and assessment of inspection reports

The **inspector** shall complete a powder master inspection report and record the findings on the appropriate summarizing sheet. These documents shall then be submitted to the **GL** or to the QUALICOAT Certification Body in countries without **GL**.

The **GL** shall review the inspection report, add his/her comments and recommendations and submit the report to the QUALICOAT Certification Body via Email.



The QUALICOAT Certification Body shall assess the inspection report, and send a confirmation email stating the final inspection result to the **GL** or directly to the powder manufacturer if the manufacturer is directly managed by QUALICOAT.

## 5. Nonconformities and issues

Topics	Ref. Specs.	Ref. MIR-Powd	Issues	Nonconformities
Failure to admit an inspector to carry out an inspection	-	-		X
Missing laboratory equipment	4.1.2	1, 2, 3		X
Laboratory equipment out of order (Tests 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10)*	4.1.2	1, 2, 3		X
Laboratory equipment out of order (Tests 5, 6, 9, 11,12)*	4.1.2	1, 2, 3	X	
Calibrations missing	2.2, 2.3, 2.12	1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4	X	
RAL cards expired for more than 1 year	-	3.6	X	
Missing curing conditions in TDS	4.1.1	5.1		X
Incorrect P-No in TDS	4.1.1	5.1		X
Other Missing information in TDS	4.1.1	5.1	X	
Incorrect P-No on label	4.1.1	5.2		X
Other missing information on label	4.1.1	5.2	X	
Misuse of the QCT logo	Appendix A1, 5.3	5.3		X

The following rules apply for the first inspection and routine visits:

Situation	Result	Consequences
No issues or non-conformities	Inspection satisfactory	No follow-up necessary. Next inspection in 36 months.
Up to three issues	Corrective action requested	Manufacturer must prove <b>within 3 months</b> that the issues have been resolved. *
One non-conformity or more than three issues	Inspection unsatisfactory	Visit must be repeated within 3 months. In case of unsatisfactory repetition, the plant will be inspected every 3 months until a satisfactory assessment is available. **

\* If the manufacturer fails to prove that the issues have been resolved within the defined period, the inspection will be considered unsatisfactory, and a repetition visit shall be conducted within **3 months**. If the GL and QUALICOAT consider the proof satisfactory, the inspection is positive.

\*\* During this period, no new approvals will be granted.