SEQual®

On-site assessment insights 2023
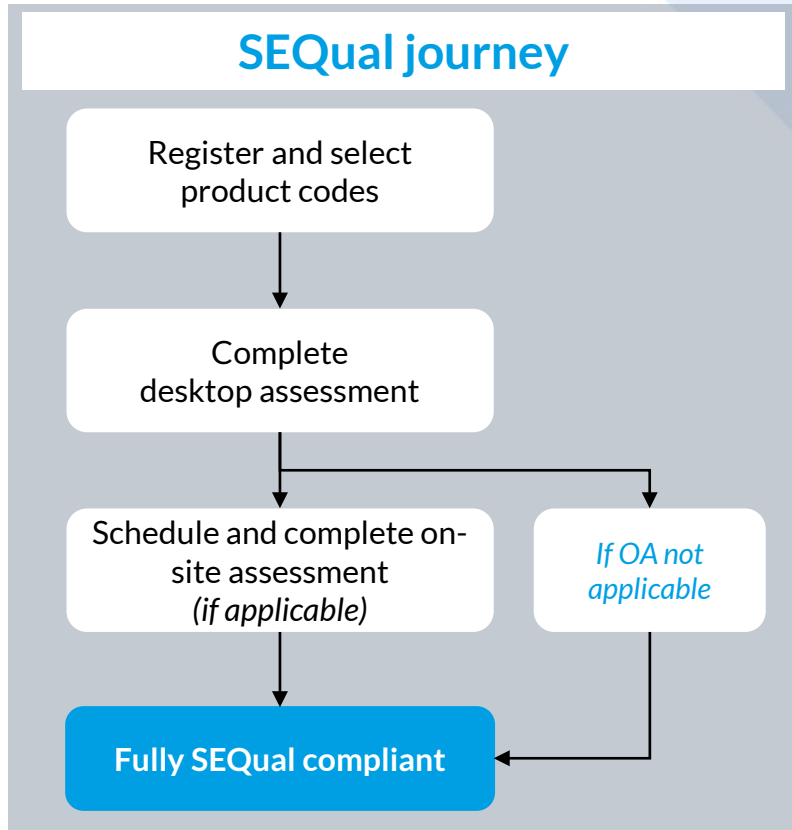
Who are the SEQual buyers?

- SEQual is a not-for-profit, industry-owned scheme providing supplier pre-qualification and assessment services.

- SEQual assesses a supplier's processes to assure buyers that the supplier has the resources and capability in place to deliver the products and services they offer.

- Buyers search this information for suppliers that meet their specific requirements for delivery of the desired products or services.

Benefits for Buyers: Pre-qualification assessments on Buyers' collective behalf. Can act as a Buyer's "approved vendor list". Reduce scope / number of Supplier audits to be conducted and vendor questionnaires to be sent out / reviewed.

Benefits for Suppliers: Reduce duplication of effort and expose Suppliers to potential clients.

Benefits for Industry: Decrease risk; increase efficiency; enable cost savings for all.

What is the SEQual journey

SEQual journey

Register and select product codes

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Complete desktop assessment

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Schedule and complete on-site assessment *(if applicable)*

If OA not applicable

↓

Fully SEQual compliant

Requirement for an on-site assessment driven by product codes

- i.e. higher-risk activities / products / services will require an on-site assessment.

- Risk assessment is based on **risk to client site.**

SEQual on-site assessments

- 127 on-site assessments conducted in 2023

- 18 major non-conformances raised

- 115 minor non-conformances raised

- 141 positive practices identified

Grading of on-site assessment findings

Positive practice	Major non-conformance	Minor non-conformance	Observation	Discrepancy
An area of good practice over and above the stated requirement.	• Absence or total breakdown of a system. • Lack of implementation of a system. As a single incident or a combination of several similar incidents.	An isolated or sporadic lapse in the content or implementation of procedures or records, which could reasonably lead to the failure of the system if not corrected.	A minor problem or the early signs of a problem that needs review and consideration within the overall context of the products and services provided.	Any differences between responses provided in desktop assessment submission and responses/evidence provided during OA.
	Significant risk to the buying community in relation to the products and services provided.	There is a potential or minimal risk to the buying community in relation to the products and services provided.		
	Legislative non-compliance.			

There is no pass/fail criteria for on-site assessments

Areas of assessment

HSE

- Organisation, resources & capability
- Risk assessment and control
- *Equipment selection, operation and maintenance*
- *Contractor management*
- *Human factors*
- Implementation and control of activities
- Management of change
- *Emergency response*
- *Monitoring, reporting and learning*
- Assurance, review and improvement

Quality

- Competence
- Customer-related process
- *Design and development*
- Purchasing products and services
- Realisation of quality
- *Control of monitoring & measuring equipment*
- *Performance evaluation*
- Control of non-conforming products & services
- *Continual improvement*

Areas in italics are "advanced" elements, and only included in the assessment if determined by desktop assessment responses and / or product code selection
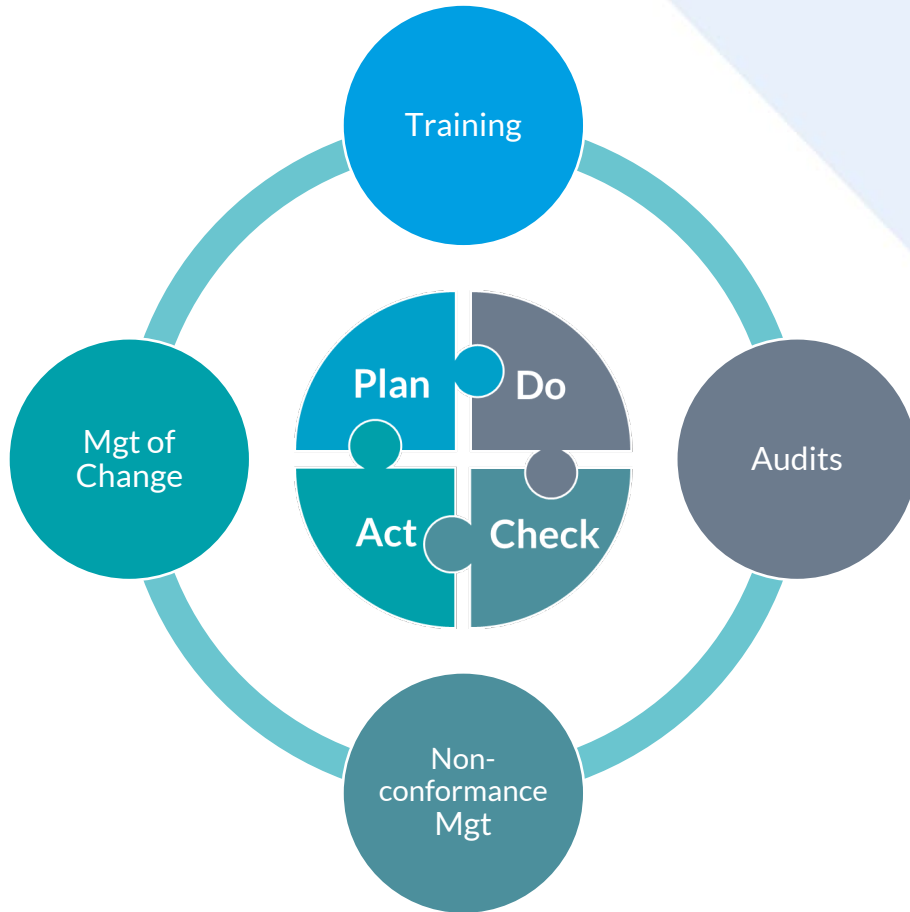
Major non-conformances

		Major	% of assessments with finding	Number of assessments conducted
HSE	• *Equipment selection, operation and maintenance*	05	7%	74
HSE	• *Emergency response*	04	5%	79
HSE	• Organisation, resources and capability	03	2%	127
HSE	• Risk assessment and control	02	2%	127
Q	• Implementation and control of activities	02	2%	127

Major non-conformances

Equipment management

Fire drills

Emergency plans

Fire wardens / First aiders

Risk assessment

legislation.gov.uk

- Inspection / maintenance regime not followed

- Lack of written scheme of examination

- Fire drills not completed

- No emergency plan in place

- No fire wardens / first aiders

- No risk assessment in place

Minor non-conformances

		Minor	% of assessments with finding	Number of assessments conducted
HSE	• Organisation, resources and capability	16	13%	127
HSE	• Assurance, review and improvement	16	13%	127
Q	• Purchasing products and services	13	10%	127
HSE	• Implementation and control of activities	10	8%	127
Q	• Competence	10	8%	127

Minor non-conformances

Training

Mgt of Change

Plan

Do

Act

Check

Audits

Non-conformance Mgt

- Training needs identified but not conducted

- Training elapsed

- Audit process not followed

- Audit plan not realised

- Non-conformances not closed out

- Management of change process not followed;

  - Organisational changes

  - Change of location

Positive practice

		PP	% of assessments with finding	Number of assessments conducted
HSE	• Organisation, resources and capability	23	18%	127
HSE	• Risk assessment and control	17	13%	127
Q	• Realisation of quality	17	13%	127
HSE	• Human factors and behaviours	11	12%	90
HSE	• Implementation and control of activities	15	12%	127

Positive practice
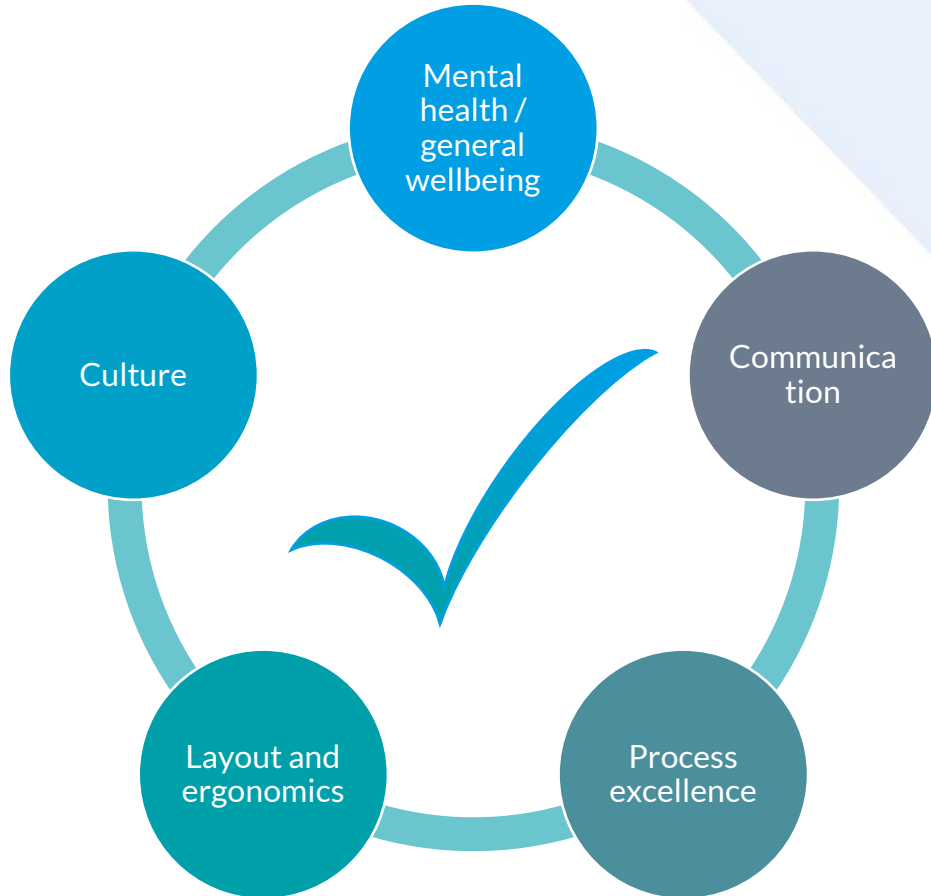
- Mental health / general wellbeing provisions or awareness

- Communication across all levels of the organisation

- Process excellence;
  - Use of technology
  - Engagement & communication tools
  - Robust processes

- Layout and ergonomics

- Culture