About Us

Cenelec Standards Inspections Ltd was formed in 1986 by the now retired Alan Gibson to assist companies with their requirements to inspect and maintain Electrical and Instrument equipment in potentially explosive atmospheres.

In 1992 Alan was joined in business by youngest son Jonathan Gibson who is the current Executive Director and major shareholder in the company.

Today the company can boast a workforce in excess of 100 operating in over 38 different countries recorded in 2013 with an ever expanding client base of over 90.

Hazardous Area Inspection and Maintenance continues to be the core business but we have also developed new lines of service including CompEx Hazardous Area Training centres in Newcastle (North East England) and Abu Dhabi (UAE).

Mobile land rig condition assessment, Hazardous Area Classification, fixed wire and circuit breaker testing, instrument calibration, Mechanical ignition capable assessments, Rope Access and confined space entry are a few additions to the services provided.

The Company is PAS99 approved which is the highest hallmark of Quality for an Integrated Management System and strong customer focus with a personal approach is paramount in our deliverables.

Our workforce, who vary in age and skill sets, are targeted to meet the stringent client pre-requisite criteria on demonstration of core competence to carry out tendered works; be it from newly qualified apprentices, to seasoned campaigners who have moved into lecturing in the centres to pass on career experiences, the company cater to the client’s needs with a focus on quality and satisfaction.
Cenelec Standards Inspections (CSI) core business focuses on offering the total support package to clients who wish to comply with DSEAR in the UK or the equivalent international requirements; offering services in Inspection, Installation and Maintenance of equipment for use in, or associated with, Hazardous Area locations. Services include electrical and non-electrical equipment inspection and maintenance, hazardous area classification packages (2D & 3D), periodic fixed wire testing, equipment calibration, and global training services.

Our aim is to build strong relationships with our clients through cost effective compliance, adaptable and dependable mobilisation, accurate and reliable results, and by offering our clients a professional and approachable service. We are proud to have large internationally recognised clients in the oil and gas, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, with whom we have built up long standing relationships that span many years.

The Complete Explosive Atmosphere Service Provider

Hazardous Area Services
With thorough research, quality control, and investment in the most sophisticated equipment, Cenelec Standards Inspections Ltd take the guesswork out of Hazardous Area Inspection and Maintenance activities.
Initial Inspection Services

BS EN (IEC) 60079-14 section 4.3 describes the requirement to complete a 100% initial detailed inspection of all equipment, both electrical and non-electrical, to be used in or associated with a hazardous area prior to final commissioning. CSI not only carry out the initial inspection; we can also compile a verification dossier containing the necessary documentation required by BS EN (IEC) 60079-14. This dossier includes equipment manuals, certification, special conditions of use, installation testing results and safe system calculations.

Regardless of scale our comprehensive services will meet your requirements - whether it be the expansion of an existing site or plant, packages at a vendor location, or during the final construction of a completely new onshore or offshore facility - our attention to detail and quality of deliverables will always remain the same.

What are the ATEX Directives?
The term ‘ATEX’ applies to atmospheres that are potentially explosive due to the possible presence of dusts, vapours or gases that are likely to ignite or explode.
Periodic Inspection Services

BS EN (IEC) 60079-17 outlines the details for ongoing inspection of equipment used or associated with a hazardous area, whether it be Gas and Vapour or Dusts.

CSI can help you to comply through "regular Periodic Inspection"; utilising 3 different grades of inspection - Visual, Close and Detailed - each of which provides an increased degree of investigation.

Using our vast inspection experience we will work in conjunction with your own engineering and maintenance teams to analyse any existing inspection and maintenance records, allowing us to create a suitable inspection program that supports a cost effective route to both compliance and safe operation of equipment and plant.

All inspectors with CSI are demonstrably competent, surpassing the requirements set out in section 4.2 "Qualification of Personnel" of BS EN (IEC) 60079-17. As a minimum inspectors hold a valid CompEx Ex01 – Ex04 certificate and a generic safety passport, as well as being kept up to date with the latest standards and techniques through our internal personnel development plan.
Maintenance And Repair Services

Ensuring that equipment is correctly maintained is at the core of BS EN (IEC) 60079-17 as well as the equivalent international standards, for example API 14FZ.

Following any inspection cycle, records of any issues or repairs identified should be provided to allow for the correct prioritisation of defects raised. As standard CSI provide these results in an easy to understand format, utilising a simple category system to give a clear means of identifying critical repairs or non-conformances found; this aids in the correct prioritisation of their criticality for safety and compliance.

CSI can assist in the completion of your hazardous area maintenance by supplying qualified and experienced personnel, suitable equipment and informed engineering guidance to identify the most cost effective method to implement the remedial actions raised. All completed repairs are followed up with a re-inspection of the equipment and update of inspection records to close the loop on each items’ compliance.

What is an explosive atmosphere?

An explosive atmosphere is an accumulation of gas, mist, dust or vapour, mixed with air, which has the potential to ignite or explode. An explosive atmosphere does not always result in an explosion, but if an ignition were to occur, the flames would quickly spread uncontrollably.

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Non Electrical Compliance

ATEX and DSEAR are not electrical regulations, they detail the expectations on running a facility with potentially explosive atmospheres; this includes everything from people on site, the facilities, and all of the equipment used. One of the aspects that is still a large topic of discussion is ‘Non Electrical’ compliance.

During the last decade time has been given to make the step from EX electrical compliance to EX Electrical and non-electrical compliance, and now the regulators are looking for demonstrable progress.

CSI are at the forefront in helping clients demonstrate compliance to the non-electrical aspects for explosion protection and can assist throughout the process. We have adapted our experience in electrical inspection and maintenance to provide the most cost effective approach for inspecting Non-Electrical ATEX certified equipment under BS EN 13463 or completing an ignition assessment for all equipment installed prior to the instigation of the current standard.

The system used provides clear and concise results identifying key areas that require attention and offers improvements to guide you towards compliance.

It is important to identify, assess and control all ignition sources - including those produced by non-electrical equipment - such as heat from damaged or worn bearings.
Bespoke Software And Data Presentation

Technology is at the heart of all services provided by CSI, we continually push the boundaries to ensure the best possible service for all of our clients.

Firstly to take advantage of the development of approved hazardous area handheld technology we have developed a bespoke software package allowing the inspector to record his findings in detail at the point of work. More recently we have continued this industry leading trend by moving into the latest approved tablet technology.

Information collected during inspection and maintenance activities interacts directly with our secure online portal where clients can access a wide array of reports minutes after download 24 hours a day, anywhere in the world. Our clear and detailed reports can be downloaded in multiple formats to suit your requirements, providing an essential tool for fault analysis and to highlight priority non-conformances that may require immediate action.

It is these constant improvements that are the key to ensuring that we remain the market leading force in Ex Compliance.
Periodic Fixed Wire Testing

The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 state that all systems shall, at all times, be of such construction as to prevent danger and shall be maintained so as to prevent such danger.

The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) recommends that to comply with the regulations, an inspection and testing program should be undertaken at all places of work. This means that a report on the condition of the electrical installation and associated items of equipment must be obtained to form the basis of a repair and maintenance program. This will in turn guarantee so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of your workforce and to keep the flow of your business by minimizing unplanned breakdowns.

Depending upon the type of establishment, the frequency of inspection and testing ranges from annually to every 5 years. However, all electrical installations are required to meet the requirements of the IEE Wiring Regulations (BS7671) for the UK and equivalent standards throughout the rest of the world.

On completion of testing, CSI will issue an “Electrical Installation Condition Report” (EICR) giving a full record of your installation, including: full test results, circuit designation, protection information such as fuse ratings, defect lists and requirements for repair.
Equipment Calibration Services

Calibration, Repair and Pressure testing

CSI can offer a fast, efficient and cost effective calibration, equipment repair, and pressure testing service.

Services are covered by our company certified Quality Management System and completed by highly qualified and experienced technicians offering calibration and equipment repair services, both Nationally and Internationally.

Calibration and pressure testing services can be completed on site to save delivery times or if quantity, size or continued use restricts availability. On site work is completed on an hourly rate basis, with a reduced charge per item calibrated.

All works are carried out using UKAS certified equipment.

Equipment Supply

CSI can supply all required testing and instrumentation equipment at competitive prices. Equipment is supplied fully calibrated ready for use. Whether it is specific makes and models required or guidance on the types of meters available for specific tasks CSI are able to provide the level of service and response expected by any client.

Time Scales

Calibration services can be completed at a standard time scale of around 5 - 7 working days and expedited services can be completed at an addition cost.
Global Drilling Rig Compliance & Improvement Projects

The global drilling and production industry is still feeling the impact from disasters around the globe, such as Piper Alpha and Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico.

Global Drilling and Engineering managers are now looking for support in the form of global standards and technical guidance to demonstrate ‘due diligence’.

CSI are ready to help and have been working across 37 countries, onshore and offshore, helping many clients gain compliance demonstration.

Hostile territories where other companies have feared to tread are not an issue for our competent inspectors and engineers.


We are proud to say we have saved clients up to $10 million through our help.

What is an EPD?

An EPD is an explosion protection document which contains the findings of a risk assessment of any work activity involving flammable/explosive atmospheres. It may be incorporated or at least referenced in the Safety Statement, be part of other risk assessment documentation or included in the Safety Report for those establishments subject to the European Communities (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations.
Global Electrical Engineering Training

CSI and its training partner have now expanded the range of training available to our clients on a global scale.

This not only includes competencies with Explosion Protected Equipment, but also core electrical competencies. These include High and Low Voltage, Explosion Safety, Engineering management and much more.

We can supply these courses internationally in English, Dutch and German. A recent partnership between Cenelec Standards Inspections (CSI) and Dutch company Quercus has opened training avenues globally and CSI, as a training provider, pride ourselves in ensuring the best training possible to our clients.

Not only do we provide approved technical training for tradesmen working in hazardous areas, we provide foundation courses for management, to provide a comprehensive overview of hazards and standards involved in working in potentially explosive areas.

The Engineering Equipment and Materials Users Association (EEMUA) together with JT Limited have jointly developed a Competency Validation and Certification scheme, known as CompEx, targeted at electrically trained operatives who wish to gain core competencies and knowledge of installations within hazardous and potentially explosive atmospheres. All our training facilities are JT Limited approved centres and successful candidates are awarded JTL CompEx 1-4 certification for core competencies, recognised internationally as minimum standards for craftsmen working in potentially explosive atmospheres.

The potential to expand our training facilities to any area globally given the demand is Cenelec and Quercus’ aim, to provide the high quality training from JTL approved instructors and assessors who have operated within potentially explosive atmospheres and have the experience to pass on relevant information to the clients.

CompEx

We provide foundation courses for management, to provide a detailed overview of hazards and standards involved in working in potentially explosives areas.
Additional Services

In addition to being Hazardous Area and equipment specialists, Cenelec Standards Inspections Ltd, have built an impressive portfolio of additional services we can offer; these include but are not limited to:

- Area classification assessments and provision for 2D or 3D zonal layouts
- Circuit breaker testing and inspection
- Instrumentation supply or hire
- Test Equipment supply or hire
- PAT Testing
- Fire system inspection and testing
- Emergency lighting – Installation, Inspection and Testing
- HVAC control systems
- CCTV installation
- CAT 5&6 Installation

Our extensive range of services ensures we are able to assist clients in all aspects of hazardous area compliance.
The core of any quality management system is "plan, do, check, act" and this is the backbone of the CSI integrated management system.

We are regularly audited by an external certifying body (UKAS) and have consistently achieved the highest levels of performance for: ISO 9001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 14001, ISO/TS 29001, and ISO 27001.

More recently we are proud to say that we were the first company to be given the umbrella certification PAS 99 which covers the requirements of 9001, 14001, and 18001.

These hallmarks of quality allow CSI to issue compliance certification for all of our services and many bespoke projects. No matter what the project you can always be assured of a top quality service, repeatedly, from Cenelec Standards Inspections Ltd.
The expertise to assist you in potentially explosive atmospheres in your work environment worldwide.