



# INCREASED CAR SAFETY AND RELIABILITY

IECQ. Automotive Qualification Programme: for increased electronic component dependability

IEC QUALITY ASSESSMENT  
SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC  
COMPONENTS (IECQ)





## Too many tests

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The automotive industry relies on component makers located throughout the world. Automotive electronic component manufacturers usually use their own equipment to conduct reliability tests. Each component manufacturer has different tests, different standards, and different report formats for reliability testing. This makes it difficult for car manufacturers to reliably compare components from different suppliers.





## One test to rule them all

IECQ AQP (Automotive Qualification Programme) gives the automotive industry a standardized way of testing the components to ensure their reliability. This way, automotive manufacturers know how the performance of components compare.

IECQ AQP will help automotive manufacturers avoid multiple tests and related costs. It can also be used by independent, third-party certification bodies to make sure that components meet automotive industry standards.





## Built with assurance

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Automotive manufacturing requires considerable investment and manufacturers need to be able to demonstrate that their products will perform as expected.

### *Certified with confidence*

IECQ AQP ensures that sampling, test processes, test results, along with production controls are monitored and verified by an impartial third-party certification body.

### *Saving time and money*

With the Programme automotive manufacturers are able to:

- Reduce the number of steps needed for international certification;
- Eliminate duplicate testing;
- Provide common report formats and real-time validation with live, online Certificates of Conformity;
- Obtain independent monitoring and verification;
- Reduce overall certification time (including for the component manufacturer);
- Accelerate product roll-out schedule; and
- Achieve easier acceptance by regulators, retailers, buyers and vendors in many countries.



IECQ has approved laboratories in direct support of IECQ product testing. This approach helps automotive manufacturers to reduce time and cost of seeking qualified laboratories, training, management, monitoring and verification.

#### *Reducing liability*

- The automotive manufacturer is able to ensure that components used in manufacturing are of highest quality, enhancing customer confidence and reducing liability. This is achieved through the implementation of an annual reliability plan, as part of AQP.
- Certification can act as an advanced detection of potential technical problems in product reliability and enable earlier correction.

- If an automotive manufacturer's product is recalled, third-party certification can demonstrate that the manufacturer acted in good faith. This will help decrease reputational and liability risks.



Photo credit: Honda



## Automotive Qualification Programme

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IECQ AQP provides the automotive industry with an efficient way to ensure that the components that they are buying meet expected quality, safety and reliability requirements.

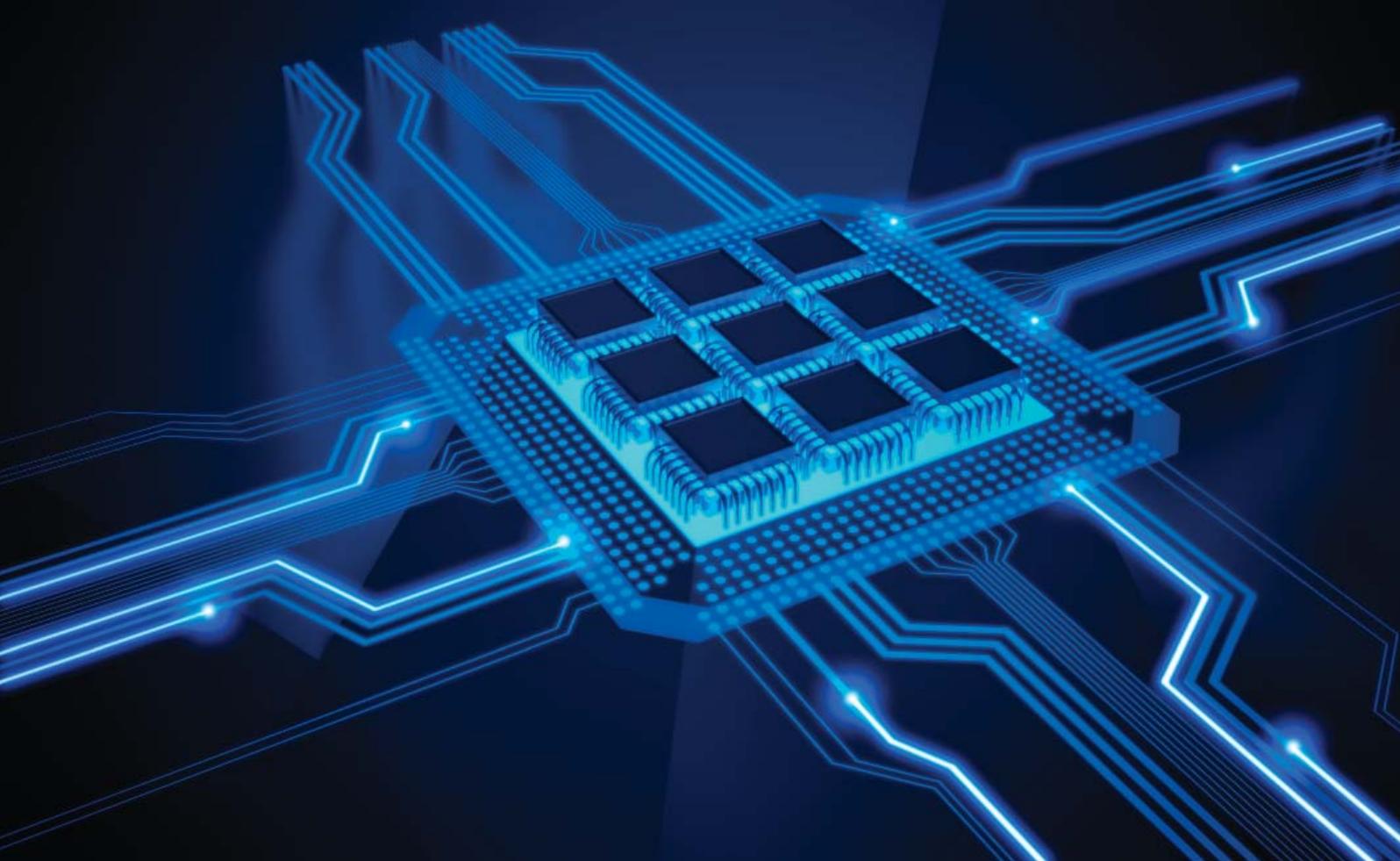
The Programme can be used by independent, third-party certification bodies to verify that products throughout the value chain meet automotive industry standards. Now all parts can be certified where they are manufactured.

## Who issues certification?

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Automotive manufacturers that are interested in applying for IECQ AQP can contact the IECQ Secretariat.

**IECQ Secretariat**  
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Sydney, NSW 2000  
Australia  
Tel: +61 2 8206 6940  
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[www.iecq.org](http://www.iecq.org)



## IECQ

IECQ (IEC Quality Assessment System for Electronic Components) is a worldwide approval and certification system that covers the supply, assembly, associated materials and processes of a large variety of electronic components that are used in millions of devices and systems.

The IECQ Certification System provides manufacturers with independent verification that IEC International Standards and other specifications were met by suppliers who hold an IECQ certification.

The avionics and increasingly other industries depend on the IECQ Electronic Component Management Plan to assess suppliers and safely manage their components' supply chain also to avoid counterfeit merchandise. IECQ also allows manufacturers to more easily comply with increasingly strict hazardous substances regulations.



IECQ operates five certification schemes: HSPM (Hazardous Substances Process Management), ECMP (Electronic Component Management Plan), AP (Approved Process), AC (Approved Component) and ITL (Independent Testing Laboratory). [www.iecq.org](http://www.iecq.org)



## IEC QUALITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (IECQ)

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### About the IEC

The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is the world's leading organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies and administers Conformity Assessment Systems that certify that components, equipment and systems conform to them.

The IEC brings together 165 countries, and over 13 000 experts cooperate on the global IEC platform to ensure that products work everywhere safely with each other. IEC work enables global value chains; allows industry and companies of all sizes to access global markets faster and at less cost, and permits nations to better protect their citizens.

IEC work covers a vast range of technologies: power generation (including all renewable energy sources), transmission, distribution, Smart Grid, batteries, home appliances, office and medical equipment, all public and private transportation, semiconductors, fibre optics, nanotechnology, multimedia, information technology, and more. It also addresses safety, EMC, performance and the environment.  
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