How training can help improve quality
What do you need to do to enhance production quality?

Technical advances in manufacturing put a premium – and an expectation – on quality. Customers demand speed, superior quality with increasingly customised formats, and the lowest cost. A global market means they are prepared to travel to get this.

With this in mind, you’ll be looking to enhance the quality and speed of your output, whilst meeting legislative standards and reducing your costs in order to compete effectively. At the same time, you’ll be wanting to eliminate the unnecessary costs of scrap material and lost labour hours involved in poor quality production. Both in terms of technology usage and product development, innovation is central to success.

Measurement plays a fundamental role in the innovation process. To develop new products and processes, companies need to measure quantity, quality and performance.

The specifics vary across industry sectors, but the need for accurate measurement is vital. Measurement provides structure, removes chaos, reduces waste, ensures open and fair markets, supports precision, and saves money and time.

How metrology helps to assure production quality

Driven by technology, modern manufacturing environments are moving towards automated and integrated processes that enable ‘right first time, every time’ fabrication of bespoke products. Metrology is a key enabler of quality and is used to assess and ensure the fit, performance and functionality of parts. This supports the targets of zero waste and a carbon neutral outcome.

Are skills impacting quality?

Advances in technology and the introduction of automated measuring systems have led to a loss of traditional first principles measurement skills in many workplaces. In response, National Physical Laboratory (NPL), the UK’s National Measurement Institute, has developed measurement training programmes that enhance the skills of your workforce. This is particularly important when critical skills are being lost through staff retiring or through company restructuring.

Training that can lead to overall quality improvements

NPL sets the standards for metrology training in the UK, helping customers gain maximum value from their measurement systems. Our training courses are developed with industry and are designed to encourage learners to make a difference within their workplaces, helping them to generate a return on investment for their employers while improving corporate measurement capability.

- Fewer errors and increased productivity
- Reduction in the requirement for technical support
- Lower scrap and re-work levels
- Improved quality control, accuracy and repeatability
- Behavioural changes – decision-making, questioning and planning culture

e-Learning

Our e-Learning Training Programme is a new series of online, interactive training courses designed to improve measurement skills. The courses offer rich multimedia presentations, quizzes and optional tutoring, and are available as a completely self-paced learning experience.

- Reduce time away from the job and fit training into your schedule
- Save travel costs and adjust training to suit you
- Have your lessons any time, anywhere
- Sequence your own learning and access only the materials you require
- Own your progression and receive immediate feedback

In support of the optimisation of process and production quality, we strive to help organisations to reduce the effects of overengineering, where product design is more complex, or have performance capabilities in excess of needs. In the same way, overprocessing creates waste that we look to reduce or eliminate with better measurement, so helping to improve productivity and reduce overall costs.

77% of customers would recommend NPL training to a colleague

82% of customers rate the technical aspects of NPL training as ‘excellent’

To find out more about our e-Learning programme and how it can help you to improve production quality, visit www.npl.co.uk/e-learning