TÜV SÜD

Product Service

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PPMA

NEWSLETTER

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LAIDLER ASSOCIATES

Safety Systems Technology

We are the market leaders in machinery safety, which covers machinery safety legislation and remedial engineering, providing solutions on a world-wide basis. Our experience in machinery safety compliance enables reassurance that your product has been independently assessed for compliance. The machinery division of TÜV SÜD Product Service consists of Laidler Associates and Safety Systems Technology, who offer consulting and engineering services to ensure compliance with relevant machinery safety legislation.

We trust you will enjoy this issue. If you have any questions on any of the related topics please contact us, and we will be happy to help.
Jean-Louis Evans - Managing Director

Automating Manufacturing Programme

Successful implementation of automated or robotic systems can drive productivity, reduce waste, improve precision and ultimately increase the competitiveness of companies. This government funded programme provides the opportunity for UK manufacturers to benefit from independent, impartial expertise to assist in the implementation of appropriate automation solutions.

The programme is managed by the British Automation and Robot Association (BARA), on behalf of UK Government. The independent experts delivering the programme have been carefully selected by BARA, on the basis of their knowledge and expertise, to ensure they will provide valued support to the clients.

The programme commenced on the 1st September 2011 and will run through to the 31st March 2013. Support is available in two stages, firstly through an overview of manufacturing operations to identify potential opportunities to apply automation, and secondly through more detailed support to develop these opportunities through to implementation.

For further information, please visit www.automatingmanufacturing.co.uk

Testing at Manufacturer's Premises

Ensuring your product is fully compliant with all relevant legislation can be an onerous task but one that is simplified though the "Testing at Manufacturer's Premises" scheme run by TÜV SÜD Product Service. Laboratory testing has been traditionally seen as the route to compliance for products such as white goods and telecoms, but if the product fails or requires modification it has to return to base before being resent to the lab.

This is where the "Testing at Manufacturer's Premises" scheme comes into play. If the testing is carried out on your site if any updates or modifications are required, these can be carried out promptly and the product can be back under test with as little downtime as possible. In most cases, a full test programme can be carried out in 3-4 days including fixing non-compliances.

Scope of work

Our consultant engineers are able to test a variety of products and equipment including information technology, telecommunication, white goods, brown goods and laboratory products under this scheme. The testing is covered by our internationally accepted CB-scheme accreditation issued in accordance with ISO 17025. In addition, we are appointed by the BIS as a Notified Body under the Low Voltage Directive (2006/95/EC).

For further information contact TÜV SÜD Product Service on 01489 558100 or email info@tuvps.co.uk.

VALIDATION FOR SAFETY

After December 31st 2011, it will no longer be acceptable to use the EN 954-1 standard for the safety related part of machine control systems; this venerable standard is being replaced by EN ISO 13849-1. The new standard brings many changes, but one that seems to have received little attention from plant engineers and, indeed, many others is the requirement for validation.

Section 8 of EN ISO 13849-1 states "the design of the SRP/CS (safety related parts of the control system) shall be validated" and goes on to state that details of validation are given in EN ISO 13849-2. But what does validation involve? Fortunately, EN ISO 13849-1 spells this out very clearly, as follows:

"The validation shall demonstrate that each safety-related part meets the requirements of ISO 13849-1, in particular:

- the specified safety characteristics of the safety functions provided by that part, as set out in the design rationale, and
- the requirements of the specified category [see ISO 13849-1, clause 6].

Validation should be carried out by persons who are independent of the design of the safety-related part(s)."

The standard explains that "persons who are independent" doesn't necessarily mean that validation must be carried out by a third party, but it cautions that the degree of independence should reflect the safety performance of the safety related part.

The need for independent validation is clear when it is considered that an important part of the validation process is re-examination of the design of the SRP/CS and of the risk assessment on which the design is based. Engineers carrying out this exercise on their own work could easily duplicate mistakes they made at the design stage.

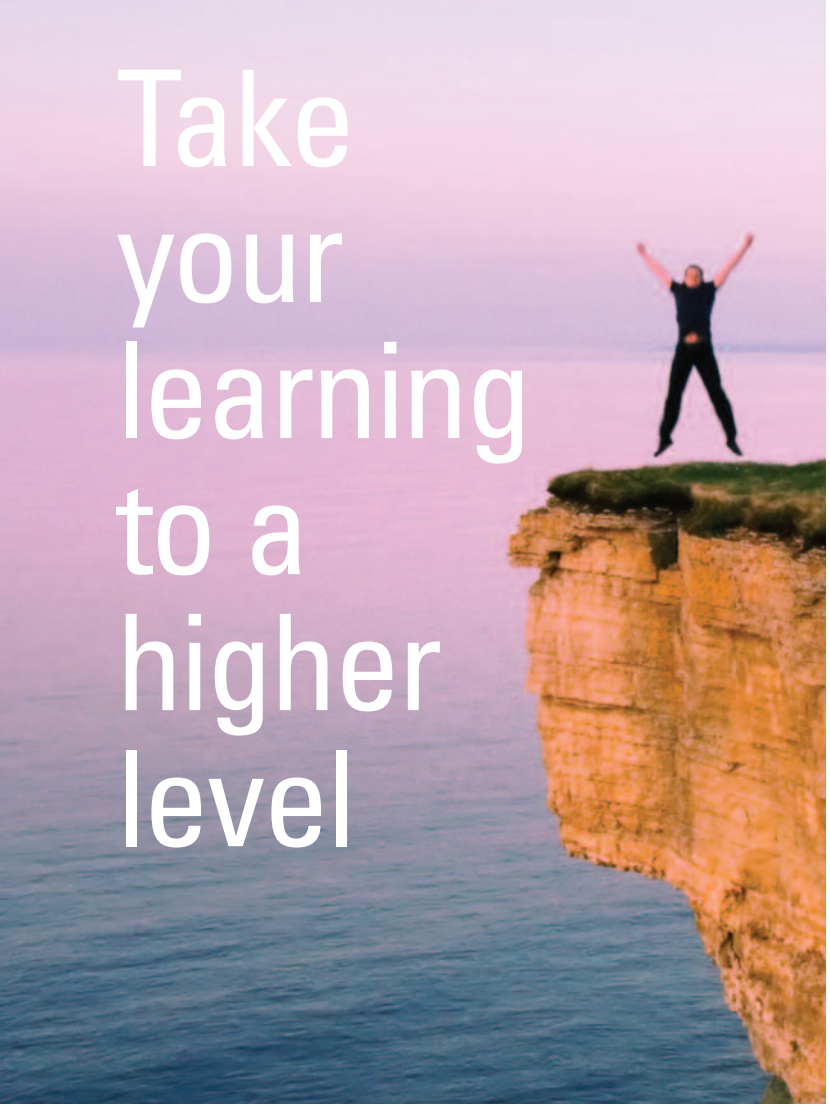
Validation doesn't, however, finish with re-examining the design of the SRP/CS. The implementation must also be examined and, in some cases, its functionality proved by testing.

In addition, the validation must take into account the environmental conditions in which the machine will operate and, where applicable, the effects of lubricants and cleaning materials. Electromagnetic compatibility must be considered, as must the effects of wear and tear as the equipment ages. Finally, the whole validation process must be fully documented.

It might be tempting for plant engineers and managers to think that meeting the requirements of EN ISO 13849 and in particular validation is a problem for the equipment supplier. In part, this is true, but don't forget that almost all plant is subject to routine PUWER assessments and that PUWER assessments always reference the latest standards, even if these came into force after the equipment was put into service. In other words, EN ISO 13849 is definitely the concern of plant engineers and managers.

It has to be said, however, that validation in line with the standard is no trivial exercise. For this reason, many companies are finding that the services of an expert consultant to assist with this process is an excellent way of saving time and money, as well as ensuring that the requirement for independent validation is met.

Take your learning to a higher level



TÜV SÜD Product Service is providing a range of specialist training courses throughout 2011, including:

- **FREE Machinery Safety Workshops**
  4th October - Solihull
  1st November - Fareham
  6th December - Livingstone
- **Functional Safety Seminars**
  11th October - Solihull
  15th November - Newbury
- **University Certificate Courses**
  - **European Machine Safety Requirements**
    17th October - Solihull
    21st November - Newbury
  - **Electrical Machinery Safety**
    24th October - Solihull
  - **Functional Safety**
    28th November - Newbury

book now

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Webinars: A new way of learning!

Webinars are a new medium that allow presentations and training to be communicated over the web. It is very simple to enjoy the benefits as all you need to view and hear webinars is internet access and a sound-enabled PC.
And our webinars are free and take no longer than 60 minutes!

Our webinars are presented by TÜV SÜD Product Service experts, providing you with up to the minute information that affects you as compliance professionals along with the opportunity to interact from the convenience of your office or home.

Upcoming Webinars

An Introduction to ATEX – Machinery and Explosion Protection
Wednesday 26th October 2011, 2pm

For more information on these topics and to register for one of our webinars, please visit our website at **www.tuvps.co.uk/webinars**.
If you have any further questions, please contact Simon Middleton at smiddleton@tuvps.co.uk or Tel: +44 (0)1489 558221.

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