

## Best Practice # 140

**Best Practice Title:** Performance of Commercial Grade Surveys

**Facility:** Multiple.

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**Brief Description of Best Practice:**

The CGD subgroup determined that a consistent approach to performance of Commercial Grade Surveys was needed. The subgroup has developed an example procedure, using best elements from multiple sites, to establish the process for planning, performing, and documenting surveys that are not based on nuclear quality program standards. This supports Acceptance Method 2 of CGD, *Commercial Grade Survey of a Supplier*. The scope includes evaluating supplier activities at a specific location to determine the extent to which credit can be taken for the ability of the supplier to control activities associated with critical characteristics of commercial grade items and services. The procedure also includes the qualification process for survey team leads and selection of survey team members.

**Why the best practice was used:**

Implementing CGD programs (including implementing procedures for commercial grade surveys) in accordance with ASME NQA-1 are relatively new to Department of Energy (DOE) sites. EPRI guidelines and 10 CFR Part 21 formed the basis for CGD specifically in the commercial nuclear industry. ASME NQA-1 expanded on the EPRI guidelines, but leaves the process for implementing the requirements to the project/facility specific QA program. There are a multitude of CGD programs and procedures (including commercial grade surveys) being used today.

**What are the benefits of the best practice:**

Since there is a multitude of CGD programs and procedures (including commercial grade surveys), it is imperative to incorporate the experience and lessons learned from the commercial nuclear industry, DOE sites, and suppliers of nuclear items and services into a collaborated example procedure that can be used as a consistent and significant starting point for developing project/facility specific implementing commercial grade survey procedures.

**What problems/issues were associated with the best practice:**

None. This example procedure has incorporated Subject Matter Expert experience and lessons learned from the commercial nuclear industry and DOE sites. It is also consistent with a recent collaboration effort that involved Uranium Processing Facility [UPF] Project (Y-12), Mixed Oxide [MOX] Project (Savannah River Site), Waste Treatment Plant (Hanford), Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement [CMRR] Project (LANL), Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure input and associated local NNSA Site Offices.

**How the success of the Best Practice was measured:**

A common example procedure provides the ability to share commercial grade survey reports by taking advantage of existing knowledge/approaches and increasing effectiveness/efficiency in producing commercial grade survey plans. This shared vision allows for consistency in the development of commercial grade survey plans across the DOE complex.

**Description of process experience using the Best Practice:**

The commercial grade survey process described in the example procedure has been successfully executed at the Waste Treatment Plant (Hanford) and is currently being used at Y-12. It supports ISMS Core Function 5, Provide Feedback and Continuous Improvement.

**Link to Example Procedure:**

The example procedure for performance of Commercial Grade Surveys is found on the EFCOG Engineering Practices Working Group web site:

[Engineering Practices Subgroup – EFCOG.org](http://EngineeringPracticesSubgroup-EFCOG.org)