



# OPTIMAL QUALITY & INTEGRITY SOLUTIONS

- ✓ Expert Quality Management Solutions for ASME Code Shops
- ✓ Reduce Costs | Improve Compliance | Enhance Efficiency

## WHY CHOOSE THIRD-PARTY QUALITY MANAGEMENT?

Many ASME-certified fabrication shops struggle with **high costs, compliance challenges, and quality control issues**. Hiring a full-time Quality Manager is expensive and time-consuming.

With **OQIS**, you get:

- ✓ **ASME Code Expertise** (Section VIII, IX, NBIC)
- ✓ **Scalable Services** – Use only what you need
- ✓ **Cost Savings** – No full-time salary, benefits, or overhead
- ✓ **Stronger Compliance** – Avoid non-conformances & audit failures
- ✓ **Better Efficiency** – Focus on fabrication, not paperwork

### Why Use a Third Party?

#### 1. Cost Savings

- ✓ **Lower Overhead Costs** – No need to pay for a full-time salary, benefits, insurance, or training.
- ✓ **Flexible Pricing** – Pay only for the level of service needed, whether part-time, project-based, or ongoing.
- ✓ **Eliminates Hiring & Turnover Costs** – Avoid recruiting, onboarding, and potential turnover disruptions.

#### 2. Expertise & Compliance

- ✓ **Access to High-Level ASME Experts** – Most third-party providers have extensive experience in ASME Section VIII, IX, NBIC, and AIA requirements.
- ✓ **Stay Up to Date with ASME Changes** – Continuous updates on ASME code revisions, welding procedure changes, and compliance standards.
- ✓ **Stronger Joint Review & Audit Preparation** – Professional preparation for ASME/NBIC audits, reducing risks of non-compliance.

### 3. Scalability & Flexibility

- ✓ **Adjust Services as Needed** – Scale up or down based on workload, fabrication volume, or audit schedules.
- ✓ **Temporary or Long-Term Support** – Use services only during ASME audits, new project launches, or when internal staff is overwhelmed.
- ✓ **No Need for Full-Time On-Site Presence** – Many tasks can be handled remotely with periodic on-site visits.

### 4. Reduced Risk & Liability

- ✓ **Minimizes Risk of Quality Issues** – Reduces welding defects, non-conformance reports (NCRs), and rejected ASME Data Reports.
- ✓ **Ensures Proper Documentation Control** – Prevents missing or incorrect paperwork that could delay fabrication projects.
- ✓ **Stronger Oversight of Welding Procedures & Material Compliance** – Helps ensure WPS, PQR, and WPQ records are properly maintained.

### 5. Productivity & Operational Efficiency

- ✓ **Allows Shop to Focus on Production** – Frees up internal resources so management can focus on operations, not compliance.
- ✓ **Improved Workflow & Quality Control** – Third-party experts streamline QC processes, making inspections and audits smoother.
- ✓ **Faster Problem Resolution** – Non-conformance issues are identified and resolved quickly with expert guidance.

### 6. Authorized Inspector (AI) & AIA Coordination

- ✓ **Stronger AI/AIA Relationships** – Third-party providers often have established relationships with Authorized Inspection Agencies (AIAs), ensuring smoother inspections.
- ✓ **Improved Joint Review Success Rate** – With expert preparation, ASME joint reviews are less stressful and more successful.

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### When Is This the Best Option?

- ✓ Small to mid-sized ASME shops that don't need a full-time Quality Manager.
- ✓ Shops struggling with ASME compliance or needing expert guidance.
- ✓ Companies preparing for an ASME/NBIC audit or joint review.
- ✓ Fabricators wanting to streamline quality processes without adding overhead.

## OUR SERVICES

### 1. Quality Program Development & Maintenance

- ✓ ASME Quality Control (QC) Program setup & updates
- ✓ Internal audits to ensure **ASME Code compliance**
- ✓ Welding procedures (WPS/PQR/WPQ) oversight

### 2. ASME Joint Review & AIA Inspection Support

- ✓ **Pre-audit preparation** to ensure a smooth ASME Joint Review
- ✓ Coordination with **Authorized Inspectors (AI) & AIA**
- ✓ Non-conformance resolution & corrective actions

### 3. Welding & Fabrication Quality Control

- ✓ Supervision of **Welding Procedure Qualifications (WPQ)**
- ✓ Material traceability & documentation compliance
- ✓ Heat treatment & NDE compliance verification

### 4. Document Control & Compliance Assistance

- ✓ Management of ASME Data Reports & traveler documentation
- ✓ Review of **NBIC and ASME Section VIII** requirements
- ✓ Remote & on-site compliance support

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## PRICING PLANS *(With a simple pricing table)*

Service Level	Monthly Cost	Best For
Basic Compliance Support	\$2,500/month	Small shops needing occasional quality oversight
Mid-Level Management	\$5,500/month	Shops preparing for audits & improving compliance
Full Outsourced Quality Management	\$10,000/month	High-volume fabricators needing dedicated QC support

✦ **Need one-time support?**

- **ASME Joint Review Preparation** – \$10,000 (one-time)
- **Additional On-Site Visits** – \$1,500/day

## **Tiered Pricing Structure**

### **Basic Compliance Support – \$2,500–\$5,000 per month**

- ✓ Review & maintain ASME QC program
- ✓ Internal audits & compliance tracking
- ✓ Welding procedure oversight (WPS/PQR/WPQ)
- ✓ Limited remote support (email/phone)
- ✓ Document control assistance

### **Mid-Level Management – \$5,000–\$10,000 per month**

- ✓ Everything in Basic Tier
- ✓ On-site support (e.g., **1–2 days per week**)
- ✓ Hands-on AIA and joint review preparation
- ✓ Non-conformance & corrective action management
- ✓ More direct involvement in inspections & quality decisions

### **Full Outsourced Quality Management – \$10,000–\$20,000+ per month**

- ✓ Everything in Mid-Level Tier
- ✓ On-site presence **multiple times per week or full-time**
- ✓ Direct interaction with AIA, auditors, and clients
- ✓ Training & qualification management for welders
- ✓ In-depth quality reporting & documentation oversight

## **. Factors That Affect Pricing**

- **Shop size & workload** – Larger fabrication shops require more time and oversight.
- **Code scope** – Working under **ASME Section VIII, Section I, or NBIC** requires more expertise.
- **On-site vs. remote work** – On-site support significantly increases costs.
- **Level of risk & responsibility** – If the third party is assuming more decision-making authority, the price increases.
- **Geographic location** – Costs vary based on the cost of living and industry demand.

## **. Alternative Pricing Models**


- **Hourly Rate:** \$100–\$250 per hour for specialized ASME consulting.

- **Project-Based Fee:** \$5,000–\$30,000 per project (e.g., ASME joint review preparation).

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## COST SAVINGS VS. HIRING A QUALITY MANAGER

Expense Category	Full-Time Quality Manager	Third-Party Service
Salary & Benefits	\$130,000 – \$190,000/year	\$40,000 – \$90,000/year
Recruitment & Training	\$10,000 – \$20,000	\$0
Office & Software Costs	\$5,000 – \$10,000	\$0
ASME Audit Prep	Time-consuming & costly	Included
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$150,000+</b>	<b>\$40,000 – \$90,000</b>

 **Save 40–60%** with our outsourced quality management services!

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## Customer Questions

### Can an ASME code shop use a 3rd party for Quality management?

*Yes*, an ASME Code Shop can use a **third party for quality management**, but there are important considerations:

1. **Responsibility Still Lies with the Code Shop** – Even if a third party assists with quality management, the ASME-certified shop remains **fully responsible** for compliance with ASME Code requirements. The shop must ensure that all activities related to quality management meet ASME’s standards.
2. **ASME-Approved Quality Program** – The ASME Code requires that each Code shop have a documented **Quality Control (QC) Program** that is reviewed and approved as part of the ASME Certificate of Authorization process. If a third party is involved, their role must be clearly defined within this program.
3. **Authorized Inspection Agency (AIA)** – ASME requires that Code work be inspected by an **Authorized Inspector (AI)** from an **Authorized Inspection Agency (AIA)**. The third party **cannot replace** the AIA but may assist in internal audits, document control, and compliance tracking.
4. **Accredited Third-Party Services** – Many ASME shops use **third-party quality management services** for:
  - Developing and maintaining quality programs
  - Performing internal audits before ASME joint reviews
  - Training personnel on ASME/NBIC requirements
  - Managing non-conformance reporting and corrective actions

5. **Code Compliance Audits** – If a shop uses a third party, ASME auditors may review their involvement during the **joint review process** to verify that the shop is still maintaining direct control over quality assurance.

**Can the 3rd party completely replace the role of a quality manager?**

**No, a third party cannot completely replace the role of Quality Manager in an ASME Code Shop. While a third party can provide support, consulting, and oversight, the shop itself must retain direct responsibility for quality control and compliance with ASME requirements.**

**Key Considerations**

1. **ASME Code Requirements**
  - The ASME requires a documented Quality Control (QC) Program that outlines specific responsibilities for maintaining code compliance.
  - The Quality Manager (or equivalent role) is typically responsible for ensuring adherence to this QC program.
2. **On-Site Control & Decision-Making**
  - A third party can assist with program development, audits, training, and document control, but a shop must have someone in-house who can make real-time decisions regarding non-conformances, inspections, and corrective actions.
  - An ASME joint review team will likely question whether a fully outsourced quality function meets the intent of ASME requirements.
3. **Authorized Inspector (AI) & AIA Oversight**
  - The Authorized Inspection Agency (AIA) works directly with the Code Shop. The shop must have a point of contact (usually a Quality Manager) to interface with the AIA and ensure that inspections, welding qualifications, and documentation meet ASME standards.
4. **Liability & Certification Risks**
  - If quality management is fully outsourced and the third party fails to comply with ASME Code requirements, the shop itself, not the third party—remains liable for any compliance issues.
  - During audits or joint reviews, ASME auditors will want to see that the shop has internal oversight of its quality system.

**What a Third Party Can Do**

**A third party can:**

- ✓ Assist in developing and maintaining the QC program
- ✓ Perform internal audits and mock ASME joint reviews
- ✓ Train personnel on ASME Section IX, VIII, NBIC, etc.
- ✓ Provide oversight for welding procedures, material traceability, and documentation
- ✓ Help manage non-conformance reports and corrective actions

### **What a Third Party Cannot Do**

**A third party cannot:**

- ✗ Take full responsibility for quality decisions and compliance**
- ✗ Serve as the sole interface with the AIA and ASME joint review team**
- ✗ Sign off on Code-related quality documentation as the official Quality Manager (unless explicitly structured as an internal employee)**

### **Alternative Approach**

**If the shop wants to outsource quality management, one solution could be hiring a third-party consultant as an "Acting Quality Manager" on a contractual basis, but they should be listed in the shop's QC manual as the responsible party. ASME auditors may still review whether this setup meets compliance expectations.**

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## **GET STARTED TODAY!**

- ◆ FREE Initial Consultation – Call 918-863-7404**
- ◆ Visit Our Website: [oqis.us](http://oqis.us)**
- ◆ Email Us: [trade.s@oqis.us](mailto:trade.s@oqis.us)**

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