



#sharing challenges  
and solutions in practice

# Integrated Qualification and Validation

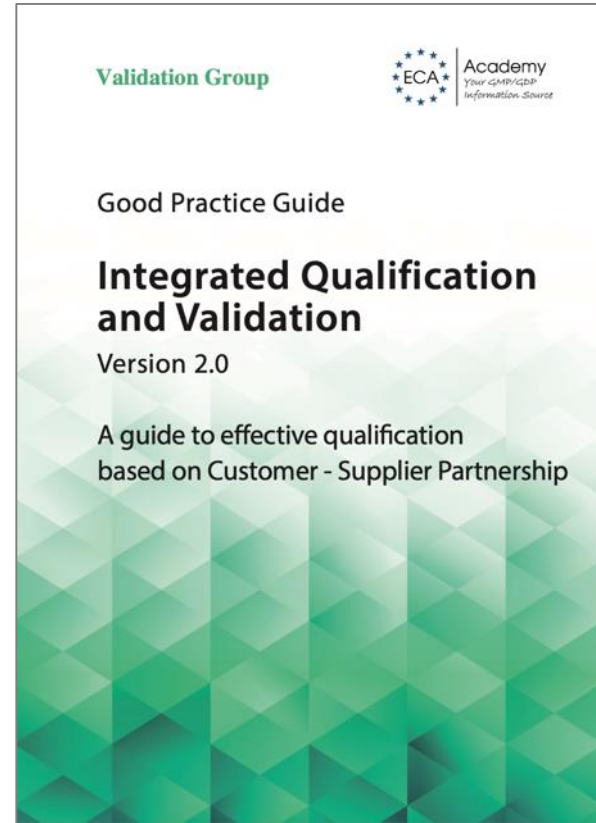
in customer-supplier partnership

*Gert Moelgaard, Moelgaard Consulting  
Past chairman, ECA Validation Group*

GMP/FDA Compliance Conference  
Part of PharmaCongress – Düsseldorf/Neuss, 31 May–1 June 2022

# Overview

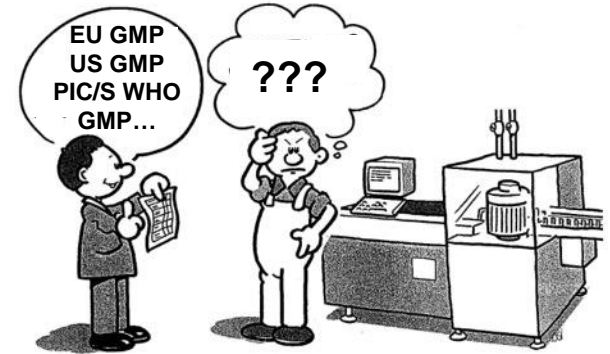
- Introduction
- Supplier partnership
- Equipment categories
- Remote testing
- Case stories
- Questions



# EU GMP Annex 15: Qualification and Validation



"It is a GMP requirement that manufacturers control the **critical aspects** of their particular operations through **qualification and validation** over the life cycle of the product and process"



# EU GMP Annex 15: Pharma Customer Requirements



”Decisions on the scope and extent of qualification and validation should be based on a justified and **documented risk assessment of the facilities, equipment, utilities and processes**”



# EU GMP Annex 15: Pharma Customer Standard Guideline



“Data supporting qualification and/or validation studies which were obtained from **sources outside** of the manufacturers own programmes may be used provided that this approach has been justified and that there is adequate assurance that controls were in place throughout the acquisition of such data”



Customer



Supplier

Equipment



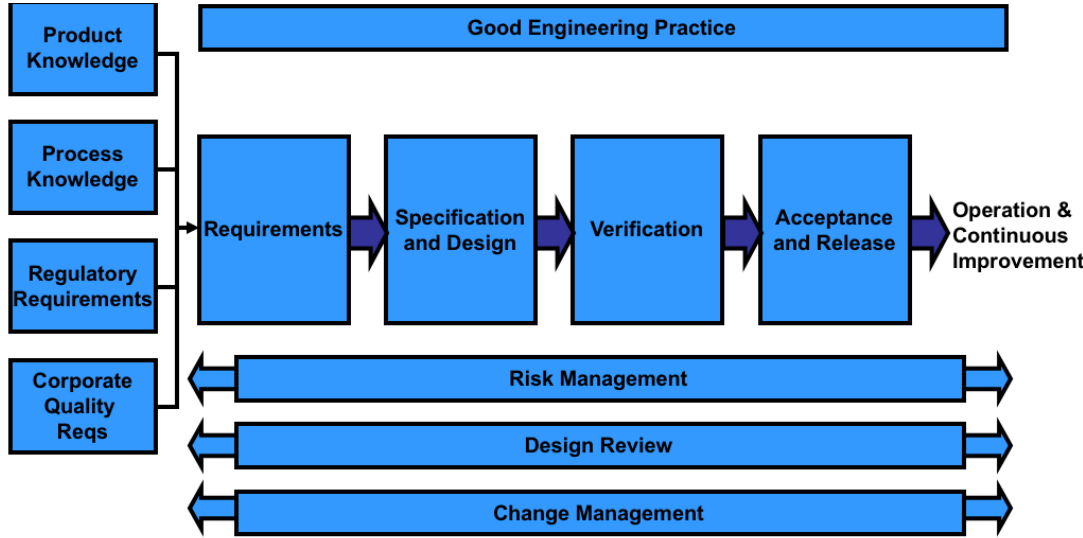
# ECA Good Practice Guide on Integrated Q&V

- Subteam of ECA Validation Group
- Pharma companies, suppliers and other industry members
- Practical guideline for pharmaceutical customers and suppliers
- Based on EU GMP Annex 15 Qualification and Validation
- FDA and ISPE compliant
- Improved and enhanced version launched 2021
- Key questions:
  - How to use documents developed by equipment suppliers
  - How to integrate Qualification in Validation activities
  - How to perform a risk-based qualification from URS to PQ



# Based on ASTM E2500 Verification Standard

## E2500 Verification Life Cycle Approach



Process



Product



Patient



**Critical Quality Attributes**  
**Critical Process Parameters**  
**Critical Aspects**

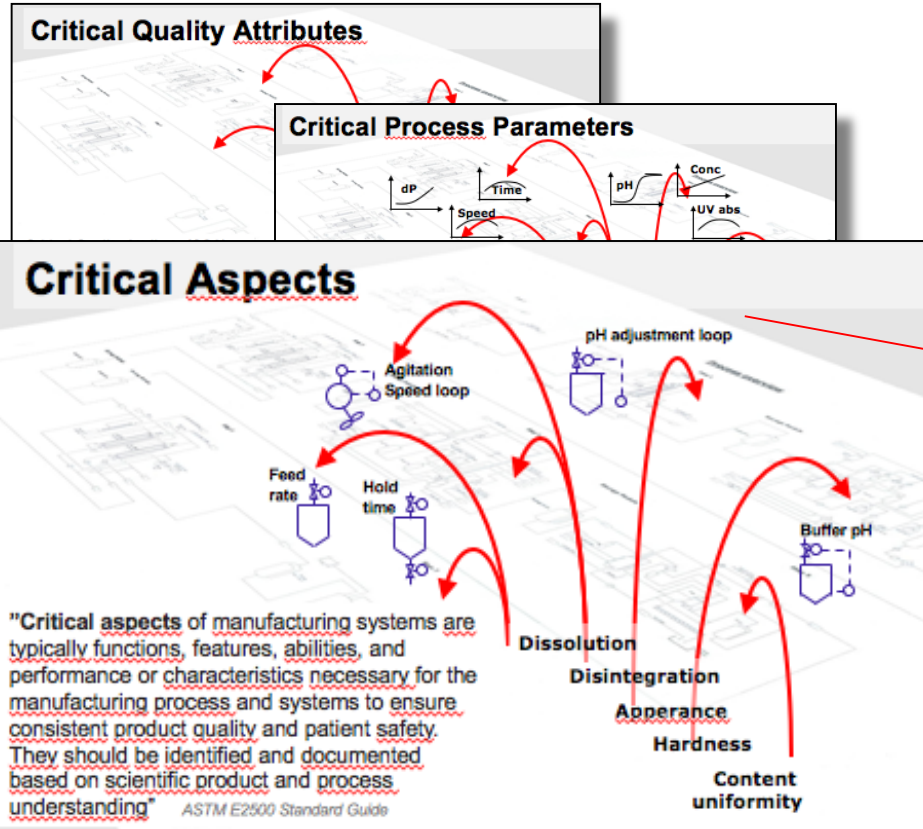
**Subject Matter Experts**

**Use of Vendor Documentation**

**Continuous Process Improvement**



# Critical Aspects and ASTM E2500



**"Critical aspects of manufacturing systems are typically functions, features, abilities, and performance or characteristics necessary for the manufacturing process and systems to ensure consistent product quality and patient safety.**

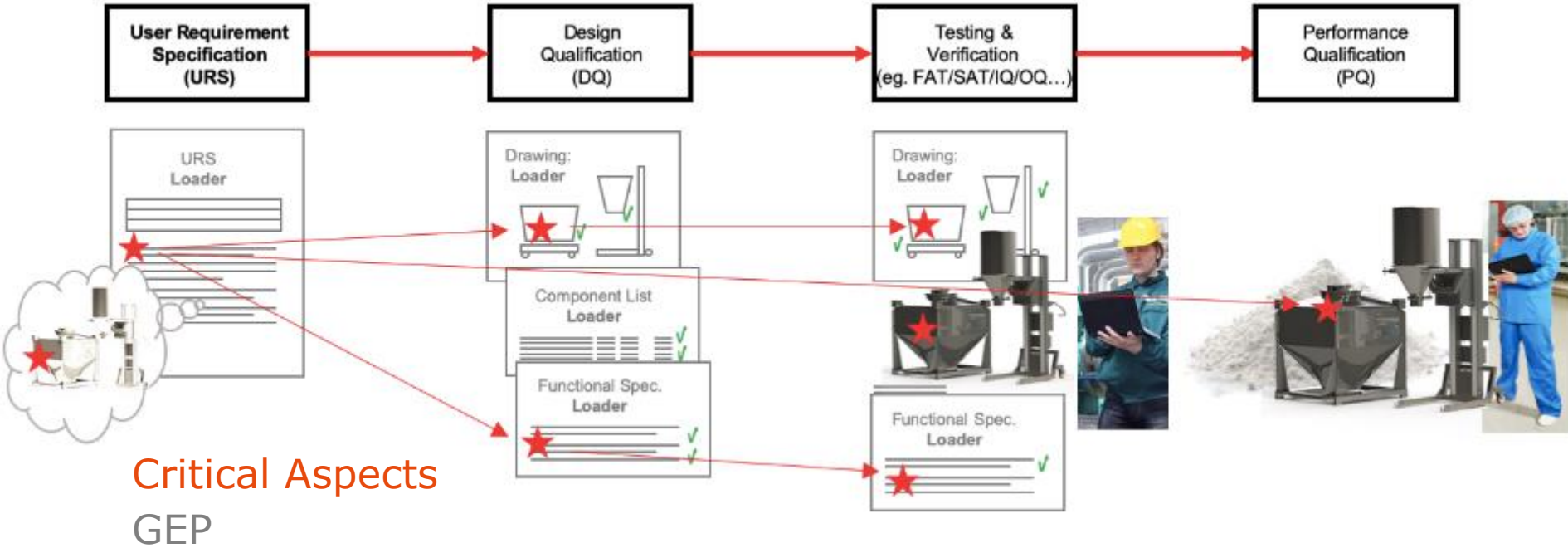
They should be **identified and documented based on scientific product and process understanding (...)**

Verification activities should focus on these aspects of manufacturing systems and should be documented (...)"

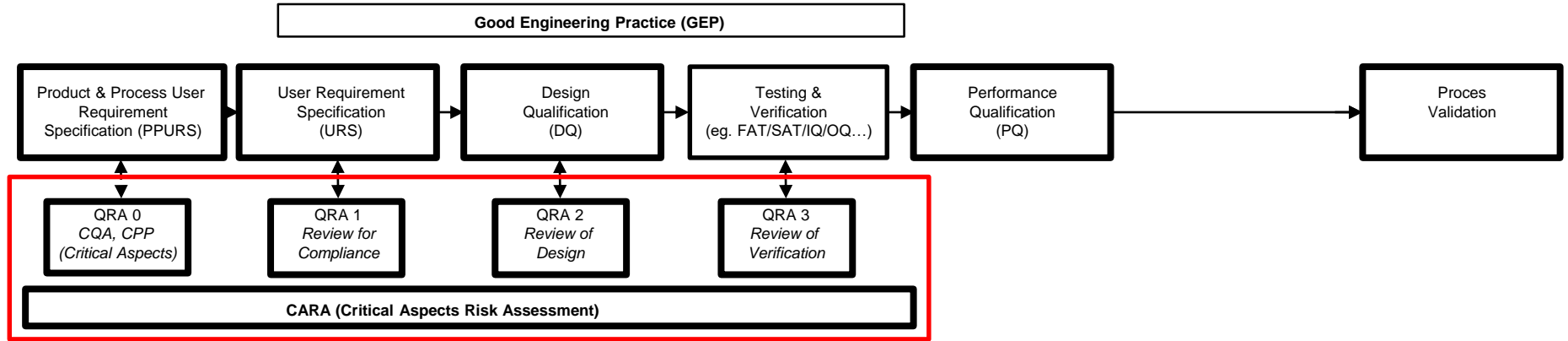
*ASTM E2500 Standard Guide for Specification, Design, and Verification of Pharmaceutical and Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing Systems and Equipment (2013)*



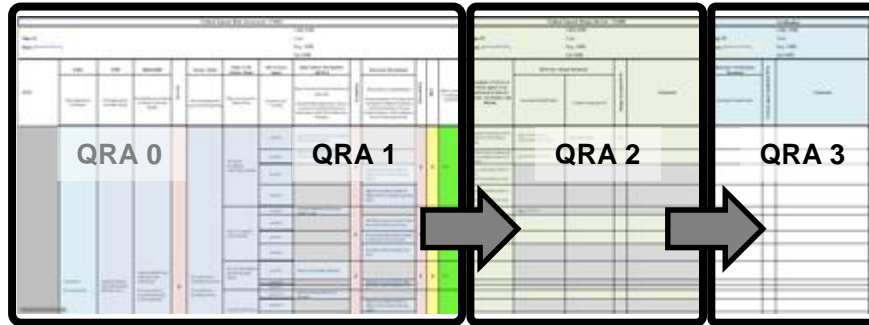
# Critical Aspects and Good Engineering Practice



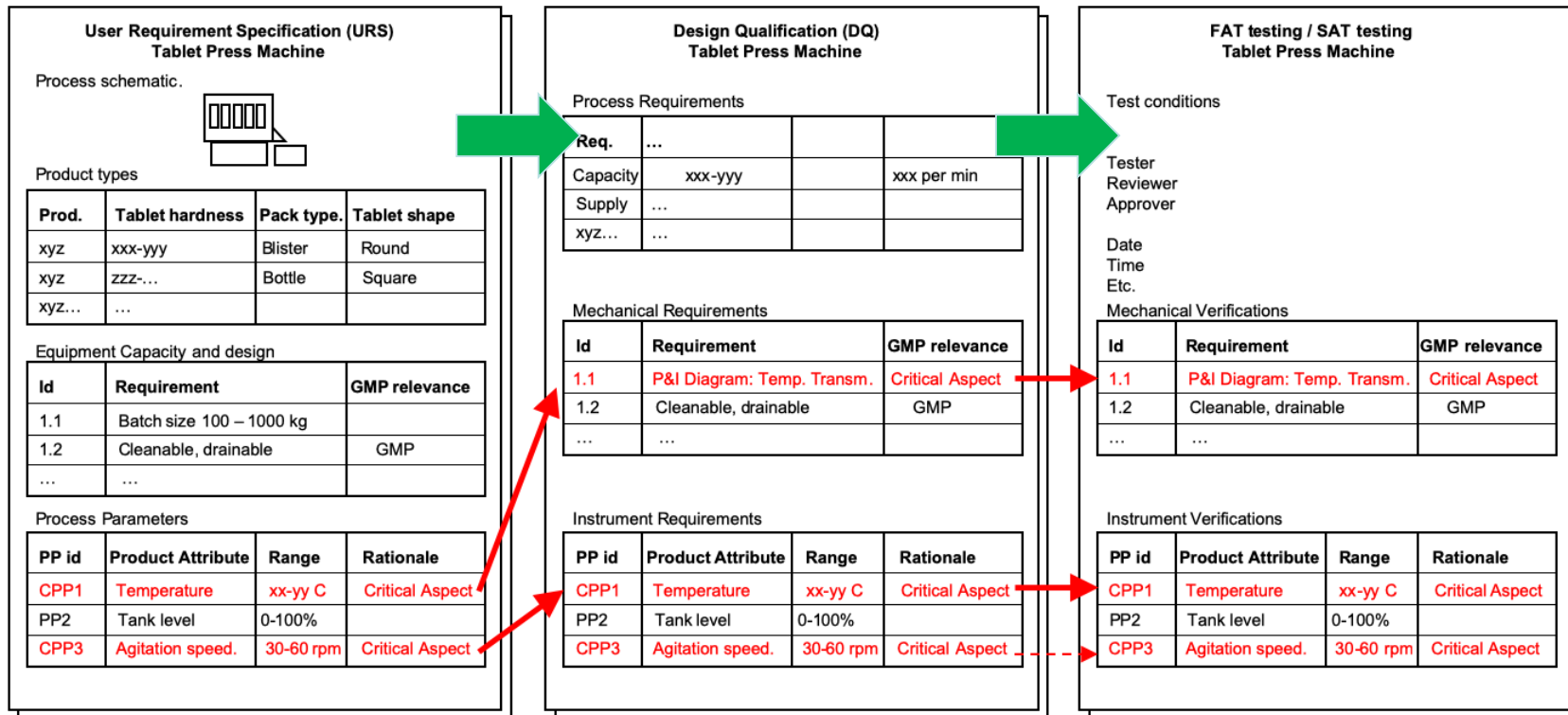
# ECA Risk-based Qualification Project Life Cycle



CARA  
Tool  
Example



# Critical Aspects and Good Engineering Practices for Integrated Qualification and Validation



# Equipment Categories

- System categorisation should be based on a risk assessment
- Equipment Categories in other guidelines:
  - US Pharmacopeia: analytical equipment (USP 1058)
  - GAMP Guide categories of software (GAMP 5).
- Equipment Categories in ECA GPG for Integrated Q&V:
  - A. **Standard** (Commercial off-the-shelf systems (COTS))
  - B. **Configured** (COTS with specific configuration of, e.g., sequence, setpoints, timers, etc.)
  - C. **Customised** (designed for the specific customer with specific requirements, that is not available commercially, due to a special application, technology innovation etc.)

# Equipment Categories Examples

## A. Standard

Mobile tanks  
Stand-alone transfer pump  
Safety working bench



## B. Configured

Blender  
Purified water generator  
Stand-alone CIP System



## C. Customised

Bioreactor  
WFI distribution systems  
Purification Column  
Integrated CIP system



# Typical Project Quality Activities for Categories

Project Activity	Typical Project Quality Activities		
	Category A COTS/Standard	Category B Configured	Category C Customised
Risk Assessment	Informal document	Informal or formal document	Formal document
URS	Technical specification / documentation of supplier	Technical specification / documentation of supplier or URS	URS
Design review		Depends on supplier assessment and experiences during project	Depends on supplier assessment and experiences during project
Design Qualification	Review functionality and GMP Compliance before ordering	Verify configured functionality, traceability and GMP Compliance	Verify configured functionality, traceability and GMP Compliance
FAT/SAT/ IQ/OQ/		Based on risk assessment (CA and considering construction, transport)	Based on risk assessment (considering construction, transport)
PQ	Standard Protocol or generic Quality Plan, Combined PQ and PV	Standard Protocol / generic Quality Plan or individual Quality Plan - based on risk assessment	Generic Quality Plan or individual Quality Plan - based on risk assessment
PV		Based on CPPs / CAs	Based on CPPs / CAs
Release	Integrated in the Standard Protocol or generic Quality Plan	Integrated in the Standard Protocol or generic Quality Plan or individual Quality Plans - based on risk assessment	Generic Quality Plan or individual Quality Plan - based on risk assessment

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Integrated Q&V  
2021*

# Remote Testing

## Appendix 8: Remote Testing of GMP Manufacturing Systems

### 8.1 General

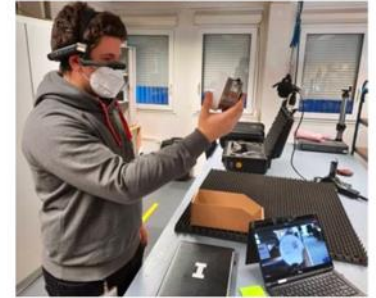
Different constraints can impact on efficient customer's follow up of tests in manufacturing systems at supplier's facility: project budget restrictions, geographical distance between facilities, customer personnel availability for traveling, amongst others.

Remote testing can reduce these constraints by a trustful relation between supplier and customer allied to supplier's flexibility and the breakthrough of telecommunication technologies.

The herewith proposed concept is due to different types of acceptance tests, beginning from large equipment FAT, documentation test, software FAT skid FAT, skid SAT as well as any individual tests for IQ or OQ.

### 8.2 Basics for remote testing execution

No process for remote testing sessions of GMP manufacturing systems has been described in GMP regulations or guidelines so far. The following points have been included to help customers and suppliers finding the most suitable way to perform successful remote testing.

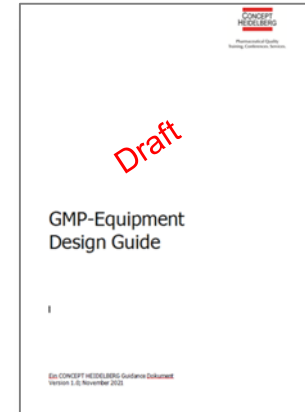
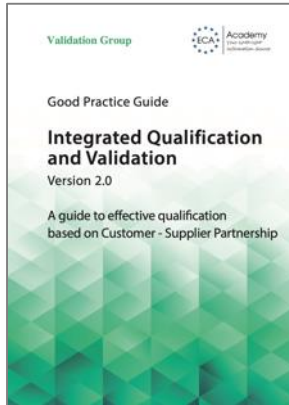


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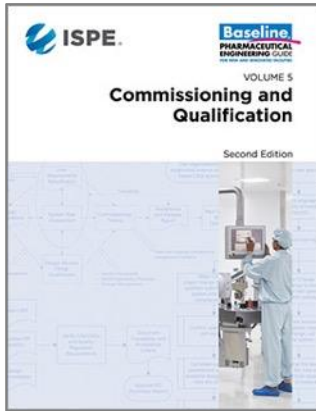
# ECA Q&V and GMP Equipment Design Guides

- ECA Integrated Qualification and Validation Guide
- 2nd version available from ECA
- ECA GMP Equipment Design Guide
- 1st version available later in 2022



# ISPE C&Q and GEP Guides

- ISPE Commissioning and Qualification Baseline Guide
- Second Edition, 2019
- ISPE Good Engineering Practice Guide
- Second Edition, 2021



# A final word on Qualification, Validation and GEP

- GMP regulations are **legally binding** and must be followed by pharmaceutical companies
- GEP Standards and Guidelines are normally non-binding but are state-of-the art
  
- *gtm@moelgaardconsulting.com*

## Good Engineering Practice

Good Engineering Practice (GEP) is defined as those established engineering methods and standards that are applied throughout the lifecycle to deliver appropriate and cost effective solutions.

Generally the term is used to describe an engineering management system that is being applied in the engineering profession for delivering, operating and maintaining capital assets. While GEP is expected in a pharmaceutical enterprise, it is not mandated by GMP regulations.

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Manufacture of sterile medicines – Advanced workshop for SFDA GMP inspectors,  
Nanjing, November 2009



Thank you for your attention

**QUESTIONS ?**