



CQI & IRCA Membership



Vince Desmond | Photo: Chris Renton

“We offer all our members development and support to be the best they can”

*Vince Desmond,
Acting Chief
Executive Officer CQI*

Hello

CQI and IRCA members are part of a unique global network of 20,000 professionals advancing the practice of quality management. They are internationally recognised as business partners assuring organisational reputation and positively impacting the financial bottom line by eliminating unnecessary costs and waste. They are part of a profession that makes a difference to organisations and all their stakeholders.

The CQI Competency Framework has been developed with experts and employers to ensure that our membership structure supports you throughout your working life, to help you grow and improve your employment prospects as you advance your career. Our membership structure recognises that Quality Management is a broad discipline and caters both for individuals who have wide-ranging roles,

and those that may specialise in aspects ranging from business improvement to audit and customer insight.

We offer all our members development and support to be the best they can. We offer the opportunity to meet and learn with like-minded professionals and the chance to join a professional community that makes profound and positive contributions to the quality of life.

Vince Desmond

Acting Chief Executive Officer CQI



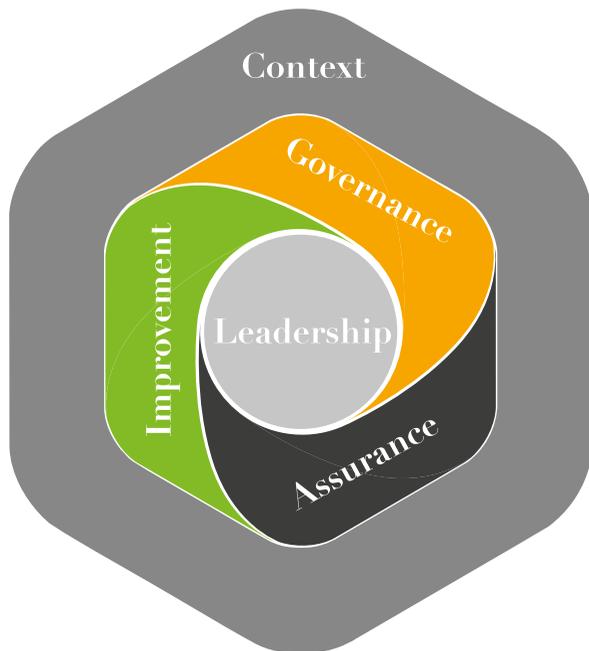
An introduction to the CQI and IRCA

The Chartered Quality Institute exists to make society better by supporting excellence in, and the widespread adoption of, quality management. We are the only professional body dedicated to Governance, Assurance and Improvement – helping quality professionals enhance the reputation of organisations around the world.

While CQI members deliver excellence in business, IRCA members are recognised as the gold standard in management systems auditing. We are the world's largest professional body for management system auditors – providing organisations with essential assurance that their

systems are working effectively and showcasing our members as key contributors for business improvement.

Our Competency Framework sets out how you, as an individual, can add value to business and to society. Together, the CQI and IRCA form one organisation, the CQI. By operating as one organisation, we can combine operational and strategic functions to offer improved services and products to our members and stakeholders. Bringing these two unique brands together positions us as the global leaders in quality and management systems auditing.



Competency Framework

Governance: Ensures that all organisation requirements are reflected in operational frameworks, policies, processes and plans, and that these meet all stakeholder requirements

Assurance: Embeds a culture of assurance to ensure that policies, processes and plans are effectively implemented, and that all outputs (both internal and deliverable) are consistent with requirements

Improvement: Facilitates a culture of evaluation (both qualitative and quantitative), learning and improvement which drives more effective, efficient and agile ways of working to support business strategy, enhance reputation and increase profitability

Leadership: Uses leadership behaviours to maximise influence and develop a culture of evaluation and improvement

Context: Uses domain and/or industry-specific knowledge to ensure effective implementation of governance, assurance and improvement





Case Study

Antonis Louloudis *Swiss Approval International*

“In my job, I enjoy having in-depth discussions with the management of small, family-run businesses about their annual audit, as it provides a quantitative measurement of performance. I also relish the difficult task of easing conflicting attitudes about quality between successive managing generations (eg when the company passes from father to son).

“The biggest benefit of membership is the way CQI and IRCA enhance the reputation and visibility of quality within the auditing profession. Nobody wants to be audited, but if you have a good professional attitude you can improve an organisation by changing their mindset.

“Membership of the CQI and IRCA works like a passport. I benefit from lots of professional opportunities – such as working with other approved Certification/Accreditation/Training bodies to promote common professional interests in our multinational competitive world.”

Antonis Louloudis
Lead Auditor, CQP MCQI

Why become a member?



You will gain enhanced credibility

The ability to manage your own professional growth is highly regarded by employers at every stage of your career. Across the world, CQI and IRCA members are recognised as achieving high professional and ethical standards.

Our membership structure is designed to support you throughout your career. It will identify the best direction to take, to develop your knowledge and progress your skills, and to prove your professional competence to the wider world.

As you increase your experience, you will be able to ascend through our membership grade structure and use exclusive post-nominal letters to highlight your success. We are the only organisation in the world that offers individual Chartered Quality Professional (CQP) status to our experienced members.



Career progression we have a variety of tools and services to help you keep your career on track:

- Exclusive technical reports – such as recommendations for working with ISO 9001:2015
- Members-only access to independent articles and research through our magazines, journals, professional news, blog and knowledge centre
- Quality World magazine, the UK's leading independent quality publication, with in-depth coverage of contemporary quality and business issues
- A structured, reflective Continuing Professional Development (CPD) scheme to help you plan and monitor your knowledge and skills progression
- Regular e-newsletters with in-depth content to keep you up-to-date.



You can help shape the future of the profession

IRCA and CQI representatives contribute to a number of international panels, including ISO Technical Committees and Working Groups. In 2015 our members significantly influenced the development of ISO 9001:2015, submitting more comments in total than some countries.

As an independent body, we are widely acknowledged for being thought-leaders in our field. With IRCA and CQI working together, we influence the whole spectrum of quality: from implementation and execution, to evaluation and improvement.



You will have unique access to valuable networking

- Join our expanding network of UK and internationally-based branches for a range of exciting events
- Stay up-to-date and share best practice in your industry through membership of our special interest groups
- Get exclusive discounts for the CQI Conference, seminars and training that will help sharpen your competitive edge
- Be a part of our online communities to discuss the latest professional trends.

Apply today ▶ +44 (0) 207 245 8600

Who can become a member?

We believe anyone in the quality profession will benefit from membership – both generalists and specialists.

We welcome applications from those who work in a variety of organisational functions, such as:

- Quality management systems, quality assurance/quality control
- Validation and compliance
- Auditing
- SHEQ/QHSE/HSQE
- Product/service management (including project management)
- Business analysis and/or improvement
- Operations
- Process owners (including Six Sigma practitioners)
- Risk management
- Business strategy
- Supply chain/business partnerships

The above is not a definitive list. Contact our team to discuss the various membership options and find out how we can support you in your role – whatever it may be.



Case Study

Natalie Shoemark-Dyer *Aspire Defence Services*

“As chair of the CQI’s Next Generation Network (NGN), I want to improve quality’s image. It’s important that people know what the profession is and how it’s a fantastic way to learn about business.

“Young quality professionals need a membership organisation that is flexible, dynamic and moves with the times. Access to information needs to be easy and there has to be more flexibility around continual personal development online.

“Quality is everything, not a standalone activity. We have to get it right because if we don’t, the cost will be time, money and an enormous amount of waste.”

Natalie Shoemark-Dyer, CQP MCQI
Business quality manager for Aspire Defence Services

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Member grades

Quality and auditing are careers with many different starting points and many different career pathways. This is not a one-size-fits-all profession.

We offer different grades of membership to suit a variety of levels of experience and training.



CQI grades are designed to recognise your career progression, from interested Affiliate to experienced Chartered Quality Professional:

1

Affiliate

For any individual considering a career in the field, or with an active interest in quality. This includes senior managers who are supporting their quality team.

2

Practitioner

CQI Practitioners actively practice quality as part of their job role, including individuals who specialise in specific aspects of quality (such as inspection, quality assurance and auditing).



Chartered Quality Professional – Fellow

CQI Fellow is a prestigious grade which recognises individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to quality.

3

Chartered Quality Professional – Member

As a CQI Member, the main focus of your work is quality. Chartered Quality Professionals can adapt and apply their skills in most situations.

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IRCA grades and schemes also reflect the industry-specific knowledge required by a successful auditor:

Internal



Provisional Internal Auditor

Suitable if you have attended an internal auditor training course, but have not conducted any audits. We offer you formal recognition of your training and abilities.

Internal Auditor

Suitable if you conduct internal 'partial system' audits of your own organisation's management system, or a supplier's management system. You are probably not a full time auditor.

External



Provisional Auditor

Suitable if you have attended an auditor training course, but have not yet conducted any audits. You can gain formal recognition of your training and abilities.

Auditor

This grade is suitable if you conduct 'full system' audits as a member of a team or as a sole auditor. They may be internal full system audits, second-party or third-party audits.



Principal Auditor

Suitable if you are a senior audit professional with an extensive history of conducting full-system audits, but you may no longer lead teams or audit regularly. Principal auditors have often moved into training, consultancy or management roles.



Lead Auditor

This grade is suitable if you are competent in conducting 'full system' audits and are experienced in leading teams that carry out external audits.

Why I joined the CQI

Case Study

William Lord *Rolls-Royce Nuclear*

“I joined The CQI because I wanted to be affiliated with an institute that would give me the representation and the credentials to be able to say: ‘Yes, I am a quality professional’. Exploring the CQI special interest groups and events has allowed me to reach out to subject matter experts in other areas. Having that support mechanism is vital in your career.

“Since completing my CQI course in quality management, I’ve concentrated on the CQI’s events and networking. I’ve found some of the guest speakers to be as useful as the actual training courses themselves in building up my knowledge and experience. I’ve been to a couple of the Nuclear SIG events and I also attend the local Nottingham Derby CQI branch.

“I think that having CQI’s membership letters after your name is important. Some companies don’t see quality as being as important as other areas, but it’s the foundation and the main driver for any business – it supports cost, quality and delivery.”

*William Lord, CQP MCQI
Pre-production delivery manager at Rolls-Royce Nuclear*





Case Study

David Probyn *BAE Systems*

“The CQI is the only organisation I’ve joined in 30 years in the quality industry. The CQI’s communications are in layman’s terms, so we can actually show people a copy of the CQI magazine, *Quality World*. One of my colleagues mentioned that he was impressed with the CQI overview of ISO 9001:2015 – things like that are useful for academic knowledge, but also for the working environment as well.

“Recently, a CQI staff member talked to us about the value of being a trusted right-hand advisor who can give an independent view of what’s going on in the business – rather than a functional lead. That struck a chord with me because that’s how I’ve worked before. It’s a great challenge in an organisation like this – a culture with 3,500 people – and it’s a work in progress. Academics will tell you it could take 25 years or so but we’re trying to do it in five or seven years.

“CQI membership certainly helps with credibility. The most valuable aspect of being a CQI member is the validation – there is a common logic between what we do and what the CQI stands for. From a personal point of view, it’s good to know people who think in a similar fashion whom you can bounce ideas off. We can learn from them, and perhaps they can learn from us.”

David Probyn, CQP MCQI

Lean and quality management consultant, BAE Systems

More from the CQI & IRCA

Membership is just part of what we do. At the CQI, we're here to support you throughout your career. Our additional services are designed to help you develop your skills and progress to the next level.



CQI and IRCA Certified Training

We offer a range of modular courses in a range of quality and auditing topics that are delivered by Approved Training Partners worldwide.

Designed to suit the needs of professionals and employers, they provide both the quality profession and wider business with the skills they need to excel.



Training courses and events

We offer one and two-day training courses and events in quality management, leadership and ISO management system standards. Delivered by the CQI, they enable individuals to develop their skills and improve business results for their organisation.

To find out more about all of our training, visit thecqi.org/training or irca.org/training

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Annual conferences

The annual CQI Leadership Conference and IRCA International Forum provide a chance to catch up on the latest thinking in the quality profession. You can expect:

- Thought-provoking content
- Collaborative approaches to implementing quality
- Inspiration from a series of case studies and interactive workshop sessions
- Networking with hundreds of quality professionals
- Insight from industry pioneers and revolutionary quality practitioners.

We support quality professionals in running interactive events, presentations and drop-in sessions to deliver an organisation-wide message on the importance of 'building a quality world together'.



Corporate Partners

In working with employers, the CQI benefits from understanding industry requirements. In turn, employers benefit from efficiency and networking with like-minded organisations.

CQI Corporate Partners are global organisations seeking to transform the careers of their quality professionals. We work together with you to define and develop the standards of the modern quality profession, to create an environment where your supply chains, partners and industry sector flourishes, and help you attract talented individuals by offering professional recognition and training opportunities.



Products and reports

The CQI and IRCA have contributed directly to the revision of ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015. Our in-depth digital reports are essential reading for anybody seeking to understand the practical implications of these changes. Written by leading figures in quality and auditing, they help you understand exactly what the new standards mean in practice, what changes you do (and do not) need to make, and how to implement them in your organisation.

In addition, our free white papers provide expert insights into the main changes, helping both quality and audit professionals comply with the revised requirements.

Topics covered include involvement of top management, risk-based thinking and the impact of Annex SL.



Find out more about these services on our website: thecqi.org



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Join  IRCA



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“I continue my professional development by keeping abreast of industry trends”

*Pierre De Villiers,
Global HSQE
Manager at ALE*

