



# Demystifying – The purpose of Accreditation



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The purpose of today's webinar is to educate you on what accreditation is, and help you get started on the first step in your accreditation journey

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# About UKAS

- + UKAS is the sole National Accreditation Body for the United Kingdom.
- + Recognised and appointed by government, to assess against agreed standards for organisations that provide services for:
  - + Certification
  - + Testing
  - + Inspection
  - + Calibration
- + Founded in 1966, consolidated as UKAS in 1995
- + Not for profit organisation
- + ~ 2,600 accredited customers
- + ~ 33,000 assessment days per annum
- + ~265 full time staff



# UKAS: Governance and representation

## Government and regulators



## Customer associations



## Business and industry Professional bodies and other interests



## United Kingdom Quality Infrastructure - partners



## CONSULTATION AND GUIDANCE VIA:

### Technical and Market Input

- + Technical Advisory Committee
- + External Industry Groups
- + Appointed Technical Focal Points
- + Development Pilots

### Strategic/Policy

- + Policy Advisory Forum (60 members)
- + Policy Advisory Council – Linked to Board
- + Healthcare Steering Group
- + IR4.0 Steering Group



# + What is Accreditation

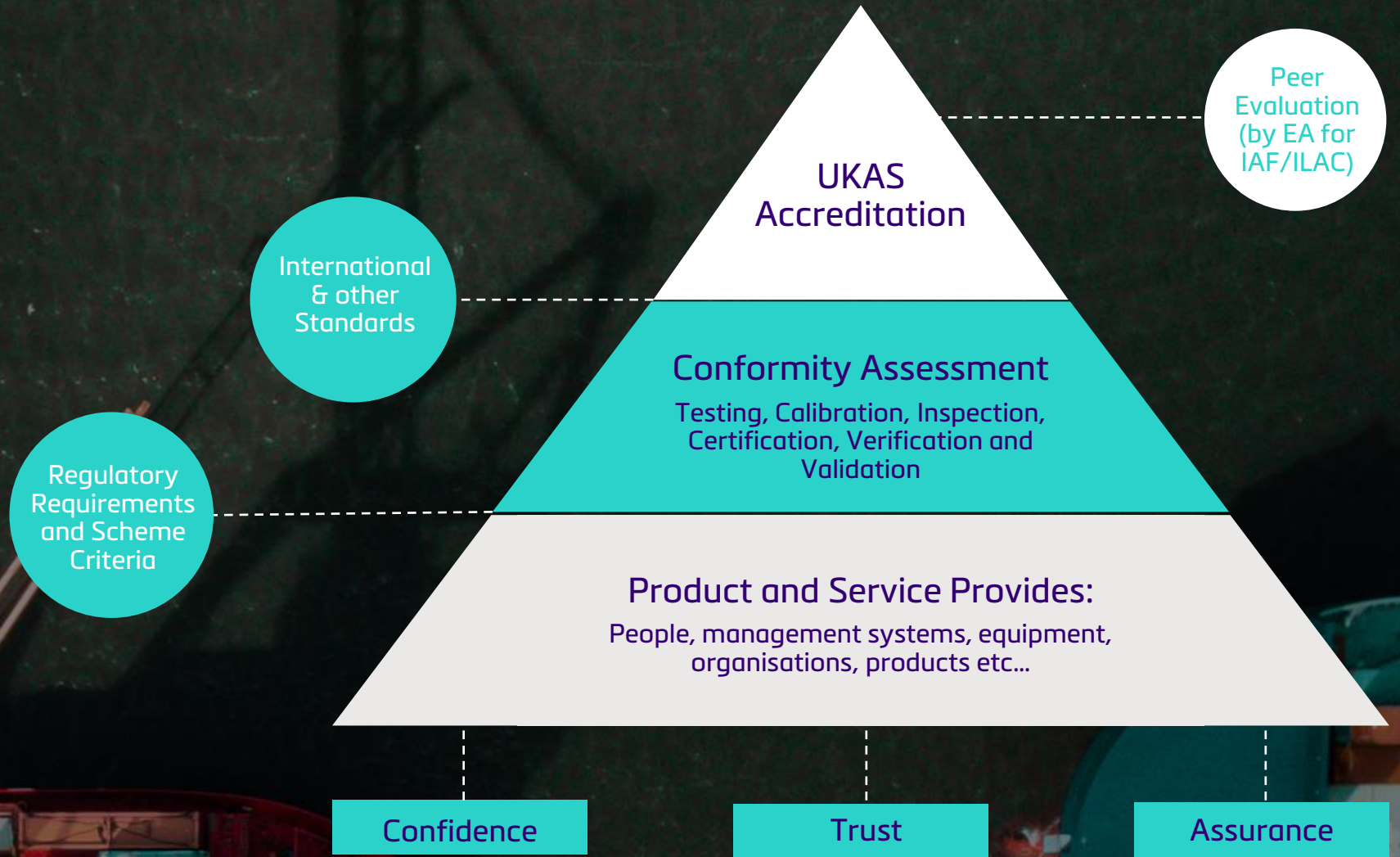




UKAS Globally trusted

# The "chain" of accreditation

Global network,  
delivering confidence  
in uncertain times



# Defining Accreditation

Accreditation is the ongoing formal recognition of the competence, impartiality and integrity of a conformity assessment body to perform specific task or activity to the relevant standard.

## Conformity assessment covers:

- + Testing – Covid-19 antigen tests
- + Inspection – Passenger lifts
- + Certification – ISO 9001 Quality Management
- + Verification and validation – Emissions trading scheme (greenhouse gas reports verification)

## Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) activities

+ Medical Laboratories and examinations (ISO 15189)

+ Laboratories – Calibration & Testing (ISO/IEC 17025)

+ Certification Bodies – MS certification (ISO/IEC 17021)

+ Certification Bodies - Certification of persons (ISO/IEC 17024)

+ Certification Bodies - Product certification (ISO/IEC 17065)

+ Point of Care Testing Providers (ISO 22870)

+ Inspection (ISO/IEC 17020)

+ Validation and Verification (ISO 14065)

+ Reference Material Producers (ISO 17034)

+ Proficiency Testing Providers (ISO/IEC 17043)



## Certification Vs. Accreditation

- + **Certification** is the assessment of whether a management system, product, or person meets the criteria laid out in a recognised standard or scheme.
- + **Accreditation** is the determination of the competence of the certification body to perform specific activities under a recognised international or national standard or scheme.





# + The Value of Accreditation



UKAS accreditation is recognised and accepted globally, therefore opens up opportunities overseas

## Improved organisational efficiency

Accreditation can highlight gaps in capability, thereby providing the opportunity for improved organisational efficiency and outputs

# Benefits of UKAS assessment and accreditation

UKAS underpins the UK and global quality infrastructure with our independence and expertise, creating trust and confidence in the products and services we all rely upon.

## Competitive advantage

Accreditation provides independent assurance of your competence. It can set you apart from the competition, and enable you to compete with larger organisations



## Survey results

of those that responded:

+

93%

agreed that accreditation provides confidence to their customers and stakeholders

+

76%

agreed that accreditation differentiates them from their competitors

+

85%

agreed that accreditation improves the quality and validity of their work

+

71%

agreed that accreditation helps them to win new or maintain existing business

## Lower insurance premiums

Accreditations can be taken as an important factor in assessing risk, and can therefore offer lower premiums



## Market access

Accreditation is specified by an increasing number of public and private sector organisations.

+ Efficiency and validity

+ Accuracy

+ Innovation

+ Competence

+ Impartiality

+ Advantages

+ International acceptance

+ ...everything that should be underpinned by accreditation, is!





# + The Assessment Process



# The Assessment Process

- + Preparation
- + Pre-assessment
- + Initial Assessment
- + Grant of Accreditation
- + Ongoing Assessment



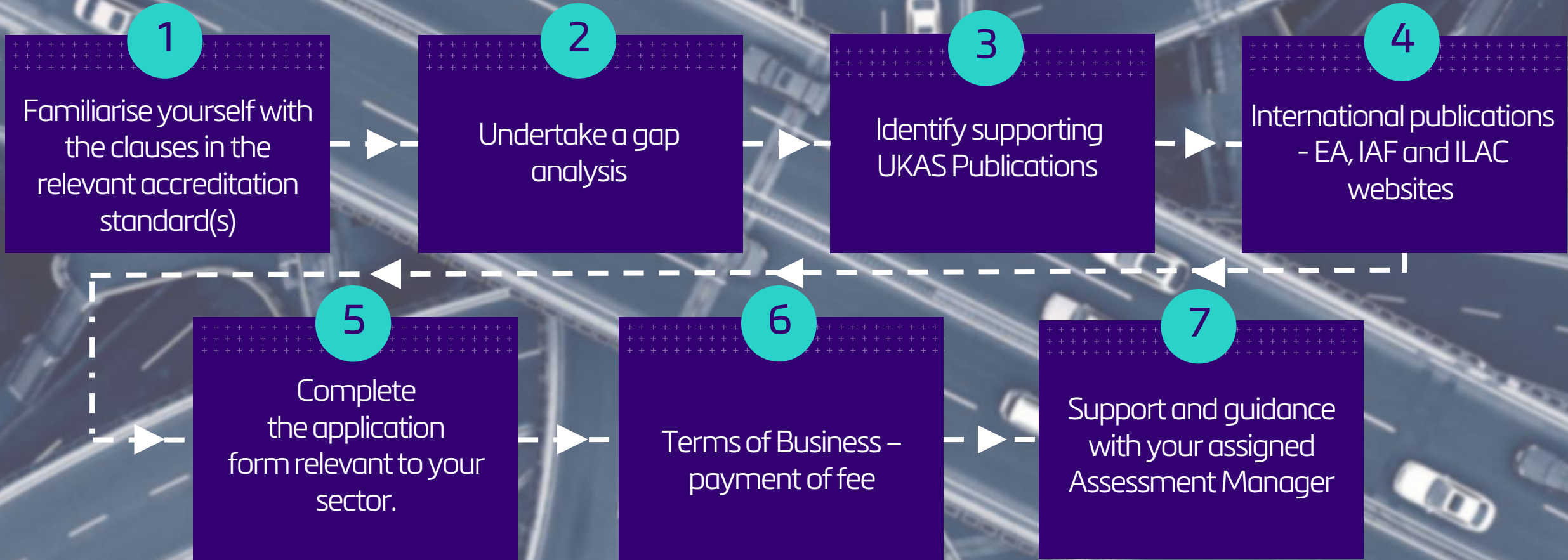


# + Applying for Accreditation



# Route to application

How to apply for UKAS accreditation:





Thank you

[www.ukas.com](http://www.ukas.com)

01784 429000

[Communications@ukas.com](mailto:Communications@ukas.com)

