

Supporting international trade

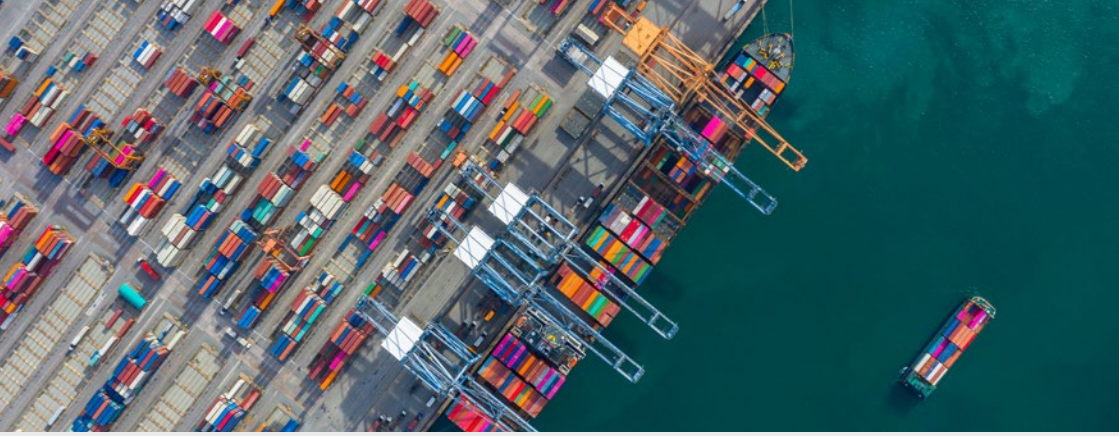
Confidence in the quality of goods and services bought and sold facilitates international trade. The mutual acceptance of test results and certificates plays an important part in building and maintaining this confidence.

The United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) has a key role in ensuring that testing, inspection and certification services can be relied upon.



- + UKAS is the UK government appointed National Accreditation Body tasked with assessing and accrediting the competence of organisations that carry out all types of measurement and evaluation activities.
- + UKAS is a key part of the UK Quality Infrastructure. UK's national infrastructure that enables the quality, safety and compliance of products and services. It does so on a not-for-profit basis in the public interest. The purpose of accreditation is to provide confidence for consumers, purchasers and regulators in the goods and services they use.
- + Organisations accredited by UKAS range from very small test laboratories to multinational certification bodies.
- + UKAS accredits over 3000 organisations.
- + UKAS is recognised as one of the leading accreditation bodies worldwide.





Enabling trade

- + Certificates issued by UKAS accredited organisations and UKAS's partner national accreditation bodies around the world are recognised internationally through membership of:
 - International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC)
 - International Accreditation Forum (IAF)
 - and, within the European region, the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA).
- + The international recognition of accredited conformity assessment means that goods and services do not need to be retested, inspected or certified for each new export market. This simplifies global supply chains and reduces costs.
- + National regulations can create trade barriers through requirements for national testing or certification. Where global mutual recognition, through accreditation, is also built into countries' trade arrangements and national regulations, this can reduce those barriers, for example by removing the need for duplicative testing.
- + Accreditation is referenced in the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement and the mutual recognition of accreditation is an important part of agreements between trading partners.

For more information about supporting international trade please contact sales@ukas.com or call **+44 (0) 1784 429000**



UKAS | A world of confidence

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