

CA Connect

ASME Quality Process Suppliers (QPS) Customer User Guide

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Version 1.0

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About CA Connect & Quality Process Suppliers (QPS)

The CA Connect System is used for managing the ASME Conformity Assessment certification and accreditation process. Certificates issued under the Quality Process for Suppliers standard are required to be audited by ASME on an annual basis. After the initial issuance of the QPS Certificate, CA Connect will automatically generate an application for the annual audit 7 months from the anniversary date of the certificate. Dates shown under fields labelled as an expiration date are provided as target dates identifying when an annual audit is to be completed.

This User Guide is for the Primary Company Contact seeking to obtain or maintain the ASME QPS certificate. It contains images to illustrate the system and walk you through the process of creating a contact, completing and submitting an application, receiving notifications, acceptance of scheduled events, uploading of documents, and the initiation of change requests.

Who uses CA Connect?

The CA Connect System is used by the following individuals:

- Company Certificate Holders
- Primary Company Contacts
- Trusted Company Contacts
- ASME Consultants
- ASME Conformity Assessment Administrative and Technical Staff

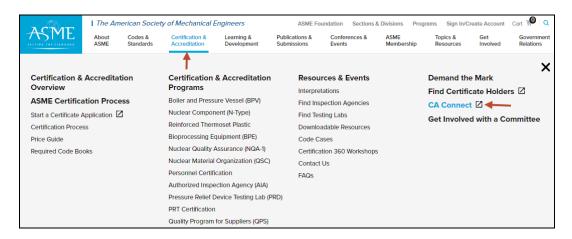
CA Connect Access

Before you start using CA Connect, you must to be register an account. Doing so will let you begin the application submittal process. In general, there are two ways to access the system and register your account.

1. To gain direct access to CA Connect, open your web browser and type https://caconnect.asme.org.



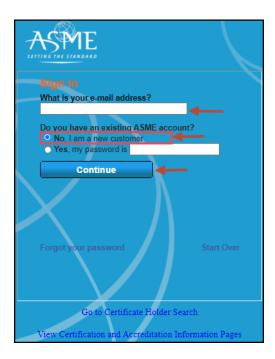
- 2. You can also access the system via the ASME.ORG website.
 - a. Open your web browser and type ASME.ORG
 - b. Click Certification & Accreditation
 - c. Click Start a Certificate Application



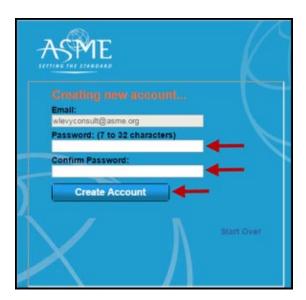
Create New Primary Contact Account

If you are **not a registered user** of CA Connect and are creating a new account for a Primary Contact, follow the steps listed below.

- 1. Open your browser and enter https://caconnect.asme.org in the address bar.
- 2. Enter the email address you would like to use to register for CA Connect.
- 3. Select No, I am a new customer.
- 4. Click Continue

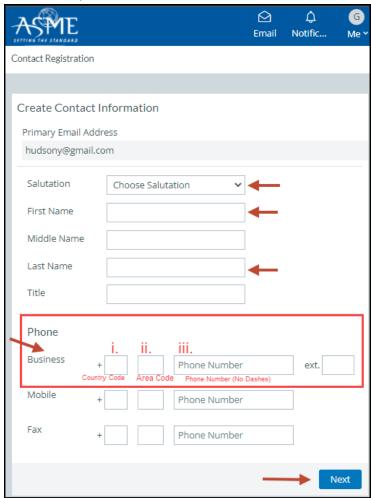


5. You will then be prompted to choose a password. Enter and confirm your **password** then click **Create Account.**



- 6. You will be directed to the Create Contact Information page.
- 7. Enter the Primary Contact information in the designated fields. The mandatory fields listed below must be completed to move to the next page.
 - a. Salutation

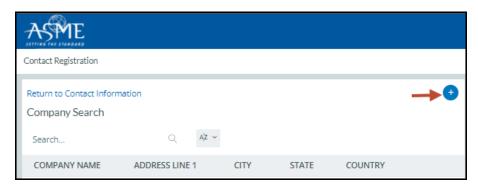
- b. First Name
- c. Last Name
- d. Business Phone number
 - i. Country Code
 - ii. Area Code
 - iii. Phone number (no dashes)
- 8. When done, click Next to continue.



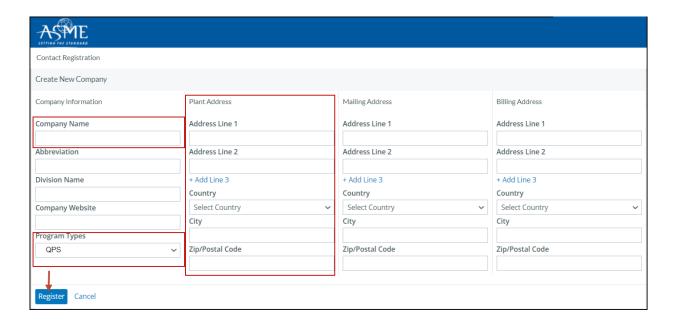
- 9. You will be directed to the **Company Search** where you can either:
 - a. Associate your new account with an existing company
 - b. Create a new company account

Create New Company Account

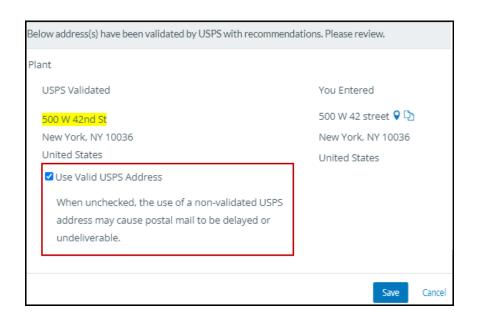
1. On the **Company Search** page, click the blue circle (+) **Add** icon used to add a new company.



- 2. On the Create New Company page, enter the required fields:
 - a. Company Information
 - i. Company Name
 - ii. Program Types Select QPS
 - b. Plant Address
 - Address Line 1
 - ii. Address Line 2 & 3 (if applicable)
 - iii. Country
 - iv. City
 - v. State (if applicable)
 - vi. Zip/Postal Code
- 3. When done, click Register.

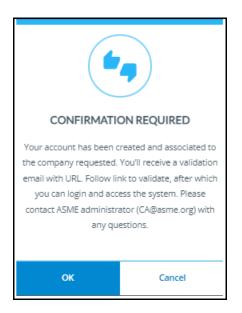


- a. In the United States Postal Service (USPS) address validation is systematically performed for domestic and Canada address only.
- b. Verify the accuracy of the address to ensure the correct address is displayed.
 - i. You may be presented with an alternate address from the USPS. You can choose to use the USPS address, or the one you entered, by checking or unchecking the Use Valid USPS Address checkbox. Click Save to continue.



4. Once the system finishes adding the company information, you will see a confirmation message instead indicating that your account has been created and a validation email has

been sent.

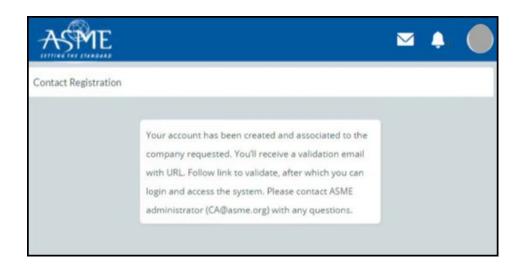


5. Next, you will proceed with the **New Contact Email Verification** process.

New Contact Email Verification

When you register as a New Contact for an organization, a validation email message is automatically sent to your registered email address. It contains a link used to validate the new account and email address. This also applies for Trusted Contacts accounts that are created by the Primary Contact of the organization.

1. CA Connect will display the Contact Registration page which contains a validation email message. This message is sent to your registered email address.



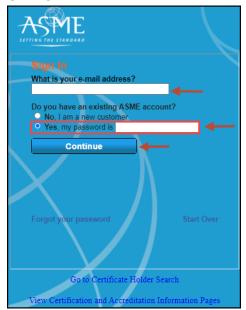
- 2. Locate and open the email that was sent to you be sure to check your spam and junk folders.
- 3. Click the validation link contained in the email to authenticate your account.
- 4. It will contain text like this:



 Once you validate your email address, return to CA Connect and <u>log in as a registered</u> <u>contact</u>.

Log in As Registered Contact

- 1. Open your browser and enter caconnect.asme.org/ in the address bar.
- 2. Enter your email address.
- 3. Select Yes, my password is and enter your password.
- 4. Click Continue.



Create New Contact – Associate to Existing Company

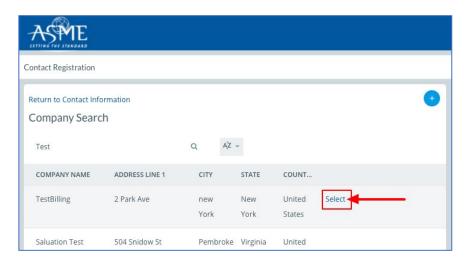
If you are **not a registered user** of CA Connect and are creating a new Primary Contact account to associate with an already established company account, follow the steps listed below.

- 1. Create a new contact account (see Create New Primary Contact Account).
- 2. When done, return to the next step.
- 3. On the Company Search page,
 - a. enter a full or partial company name in the Search (1) to search for the company by name (for example "QPS"),
 - b. use the sort functionality (2) to help find the company or magnifying glass.



4. Companies matching your search term will appear in the **Search Results**.

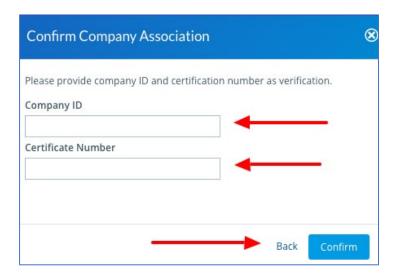
5. Hover over the name of the company you would like to select and click the **Select** link that appears.



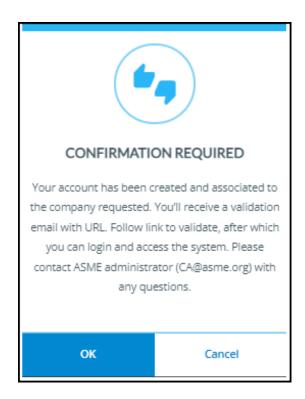
6. The Confirm Company Association page is displayed which allows you to choose your relationship with the company. Select the applicable contact relationship option and click **Confirm.**



- a. If **Primary Contact** is selected, a second page is displayed where you must provide company ID and certification number as verification.
- 7. Enter the Company ID.
- 8. Enter the Certificate Number.
- 9. Click Confirm to continue.



10. Once the system finishes adding the company information to your account, you will see a confirmation message indicating that your account has been created and a validation email has been sent.

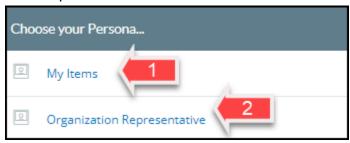


11. Next, you will proceed with the **New Contact Email Verification** process.

Choose your Persona

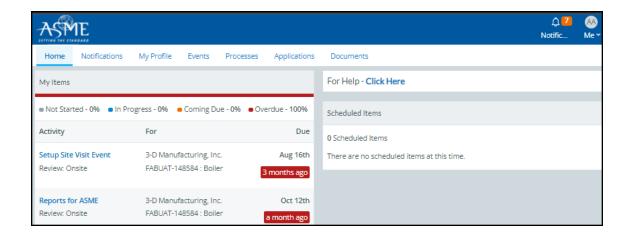
After you log into CA Connect, the **Choose your Persona** window where contacts can select the type of activities they will be performing. The company will be directed to their Company's Dashboard.

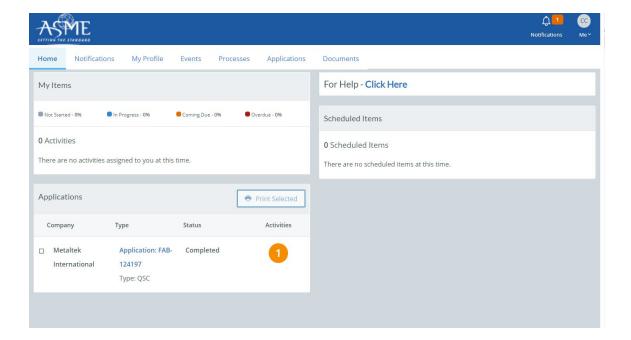
Two Persona Options available are:



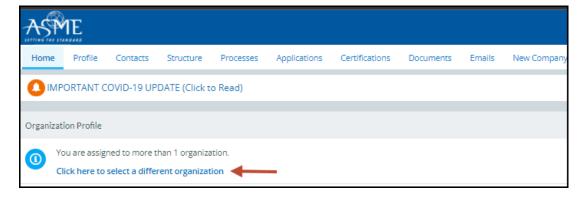
1. My Items selection:

- a. a list of the Contact's activities and scheduled items.
- b. access to your notifications, Profile, Processes, Applications, and documents that had been uploaded





- Organization Representative will take you to the <u>Company Dashboard</u> which provides you with all related Company related events and activities pertaining to application for certification.
 - a. **Note:** If you are a contact for more than one company, you will be prompted to select which company you are representing prior to landing on the Company Dashboard. You can change companies at any time from the **Home** tab.



Select a Different Persona

- 1. Click the blue icon with your initials on the upper-right hand side of the page.
- 2. Select the Change My Persona link.



Forgot/Change your Password

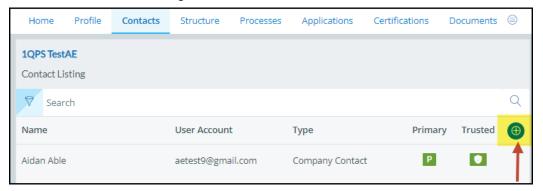
- 1. Access caconnect.asme.org
- 2. Enter the email address registered in CA Connect on the **Sign In** page.
- 3. Click Forgot your password.
- 4. Follow the instructions for resetting your password.



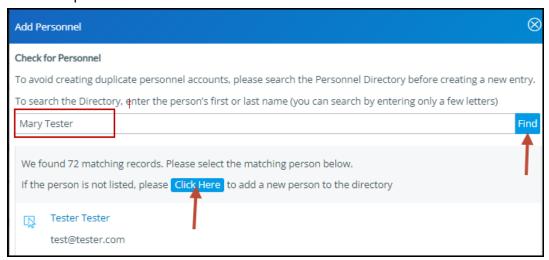
Create New Trusted Contact Account

Primary Contact can create an account for a user associated with the organization to have access to CA Connect and the Company Account as **trusted contact**.

- 1. Select the Contacts tab.
- 2. Select the blue + on the right side.



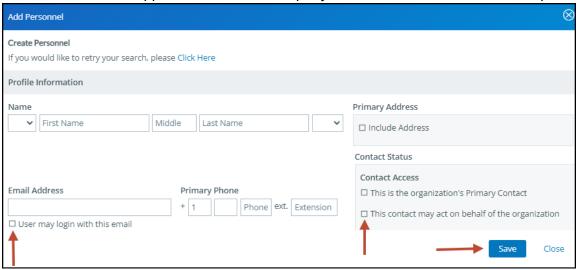
3. Find the person's name to ensure there are no duplications. If a match is found, the name and email must be the same, select it. But if no match is found, **Click Here** to add a new person.



- 4. Enter the information in the designated fields for the new trusted contact form. Required fields include:
- 5. First name, Last name, Email address and Primary phone.
- 6. The checkbox for User may login with this email and This contact may act on behalf of the organization should be checked.
- 7. The check box for This contact may act on behalf of the organization will be assigned as Trusted to allow what is states. This action will not trigger a systematic email notification, the primary contact should contact the new User.

8. Click Save.

9. The new contact will appear on the list of company contacts and will access via the portal.



Company Dashboard

The CA Connect Dashboard serves as the hub to create and manage information about your company, contacts, and application(s). The Dashboard allows you to move through the system using the links in the top navigation bar.

Home

Serves as the main page of the CA Connect. It provides a starting point with many elements and directions for the user to interact with the system, obtain information, conduct Conformity Assessment accreditation/certification application and certification issuance and processes.

Mv Profile

Displays various elements of the Company and Primary Contact Profile data such as Company Name, Location, Program related details, contact information. It allows the Primary Contact to add trusted contact also associated with the company.

Processes

Shows a list of work-in-progress and completed processes pertaining to a pending and/or active application for certification.

Applications

Presents a list of pending and active applications and their status.

Certifications

Directs you to the Certifications page where all related certificate details can be obtained.

Documents

Houses documents that have been uploaded.

Emails

Retains email notifications sent from CA Connect that are related to specific tasks.

New Company

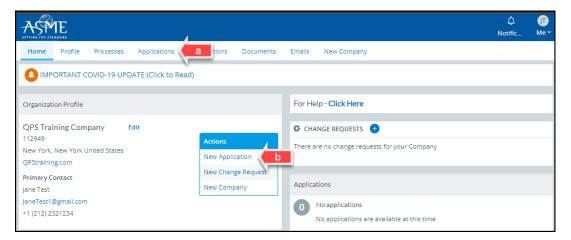
Allows the ability to create a new company record directly from the Company Dashboard.

Create Application

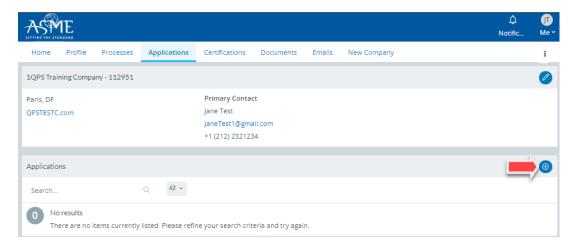
The information required to apply for certification / accreditation is grouped and divided into multiple tabs and steps. The application tabs are **Profile**, **Certifications**, **Stamps**, **Travel**, **Billing**, and **Review**. Each tab consists of specific application details and download/uploading of files that are required and driven by the **QPS Program Type**. To apply, you must complete all required information for your program as outlined in each tab.

Application Process

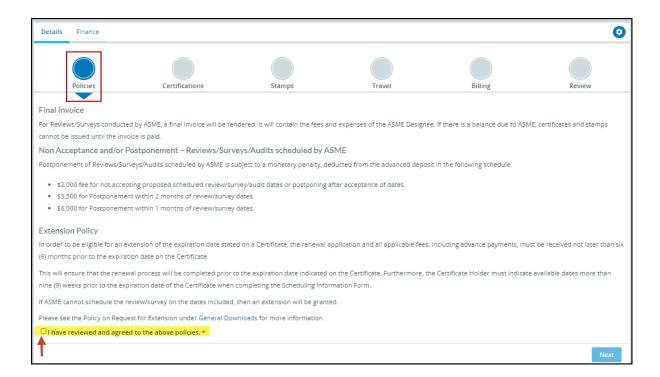
- 1. To begin the process of applying for certification, you must be logged into CA Connect as the company's Primary Contact.
- 2. Two methods to begin the application process:
- 3. Select the Applications tab found on the Company Dashboard menu bar or
- 4. Select New Application link that is in the Actions box.



5. On the right side of your Applications page, click the blue circle (+) icon to create a new application.

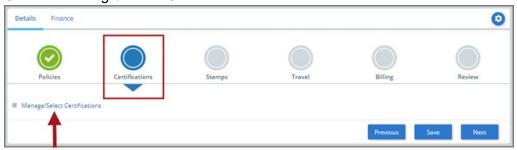


- 6. The first application tab is the Policies tab. Review all information displayed on the tab.
- 7. The Extension Policy section does not apply to the QPS Program; QPS certificates are issued without an expiration date.
- 8. Click I have reviewed and agreed to the above policies checkbox.
- 9. Click Next to continue.

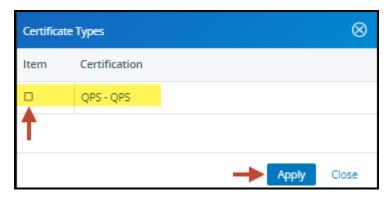


10. The Policies tab is updated to reflect a green checkmark. The application data processing will advance to the Certifications tab.

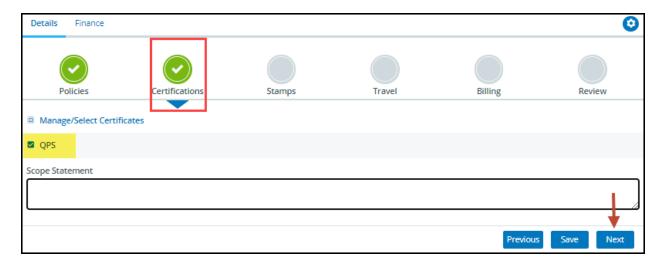
11. Click the Manage/Select Certifications link.



- 12. The Certificate Types form is displayed. Select QPS.
- 13. Click Apply to continue.



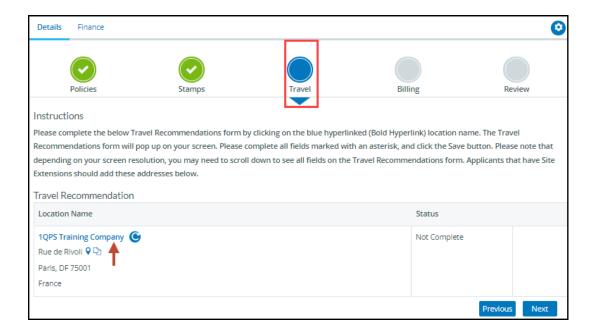
- 14. The Certificate Type(s) will be added to the Certifications tab. Click Apply to continue.
- 15. Ensure QPS is applied, check mark and click Next. (The Scope Statement will be manually applied by staff later.)
- 16. The Certifications tab is updated to reflect a green checkmark. The application data processing will advance to the Stamps tab.



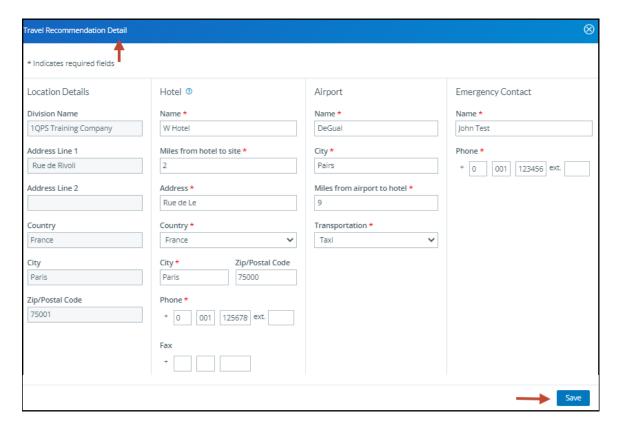
- 17. Click on the Number of Employees drop down.
- 18. There are 6 selections, select the appropriate choice based on the number of employees working at your company.
- 19. Click on the Download Supplemental Form link.
- 20. The Supplemental Application Form V is downloaded to your local drive.
- 21. Complete the supplemental form.
- 22. Save the completed form on your local drive.
- 23. Click the Upload Supplemental Form (PDF) link.
- 24. Locate the completed supplemental form on your local drive and upload the form.
- 25. When done, click Next to continue.



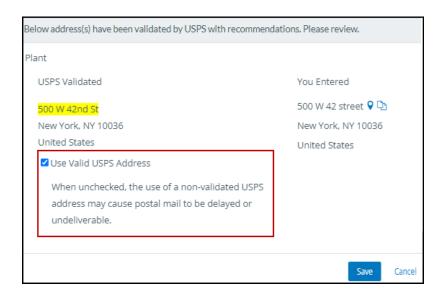
- 26. The Stamps tab is updated to reflect a green checkmark. Your application process will advance to the Travel tab.
- 27. The **Company Name** is displayed as a link under the **Location Name** label. Click on the link.



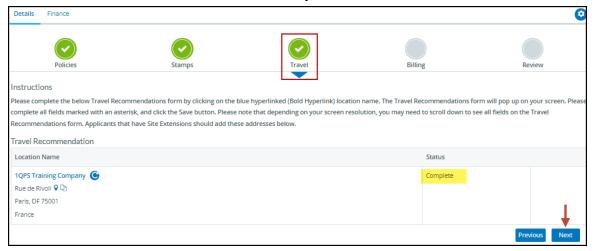
- 28. The Travel Recommendation Detail form is presented.
- 29. The **Company Plant Address** is pre-populated and displayed in each of the designated fields.
 - a. Note: The Plant Address is required to complete the application. If the Plant Address is not pre-populated on the form, you will need to exit the application and contact CA Connect Customer Support.
- You must enter the information for all required fields which are denoted with a red asterisk
 (*).
- 31. Do not include dashes when entering Phone Numbers throughout the entire application. Be sure to include the 3-digit area code.
- 32. Enter the Hotel, Airport, and Emergency Contact information in the assigned fields.
- 33. When done, click **Save** to continue.



- 34. The United States Postal Service (USPS) address validation is systematically performed for domestic and Canada addresses only. You may choose the USPS Validated address that is displayed or uncheck the Use Valid USPS Address checkbox to use the address you entered.
- 35. When done, click Save to continue.

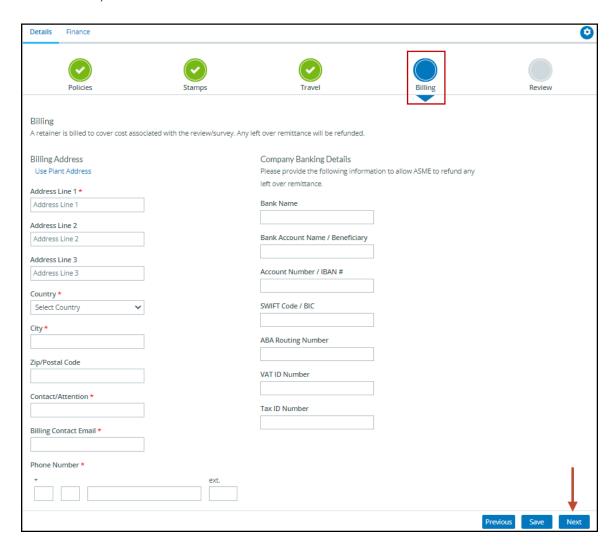


- 36. You will be redirected back to the **Travel** tab. Confirm that the **Status** shows as **Complete** and that the Travel tab is green and includes a checkmark.
 - a. If the Travel tab is gray, this indicates that required information is missing. Return to the **Travel Recommendation Details** page by clicking on the **Company Name link**. Review the information previously entered and enter the missing information.
- 37. Confirm that the status for all location is **Complete**, then click **Next** to continue.



- 38. The **Travel** tab is updated to reflect a green checkmark. The application will advance to the **Billing tab**.
- 39. A Use Plant Address link is displayed under the Billing Address. If a Mailing Address and/or Billing Address was previously entered for the company, you will also see Use Mailing Address and Use Billing Address links. You can elect to use any one of these addresses to auto-populated the address for the Billing Address or you can enter a different address. This information is required and must be entered for the application to be submitted.
- 40. In the **Company Banking Details** section. Enter the banking details in the fields provided on the tab. This will allow ASME to refund any left over remittance.

41. When done, click Next to continue.

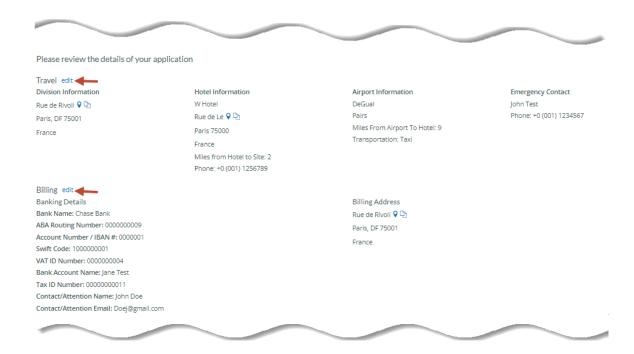


- 42. The **Billing** tab is updated to reflect a green checkmark. The application data processing will advance to the **Review tab**.
- 43. The **Review tab** displays a summary of the information that was entered in each of the tabs.
- 44. Click the **View More** link to display additional information on how to select availability dates.
- 45. Enter the **Earliest Date** that your company will be available for the review. Please note the dates you enter must be a minimum of three months in the future.
- 46. Select the **Add Dates** link to enter your unavailable **Start Date** and **End Date**. Please note the dates you enter must be a minimum of three months in the future. It may be a range or on the same date.

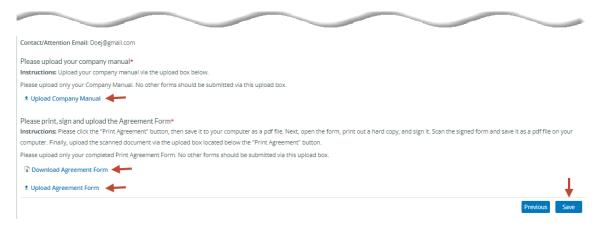
47. To remove the dates, click on the **Remove** link.



- 48. Prior to submitting the application, confirm the information appearing on the **Review** tab is accurate and all previous tabs are green with a checkmark.
- 49. If any tab is still blue, return to it using the **Previous** button or clicking on the tab itself. The submit button will not appear and the application will not progress until all the tabs are green with a checkmark.
- 50. Select the **Edit** links for any incomplete / incorrect section to modify any of the information you entered.



- 51. Scroll down the tab and select the **Upload Company Manual** link. Locate the manual on your local computer and upload the file.
- 52. Select the **Download Agreement Form** link. The form will be downloaded and saved to your local computer.
- 53. Locate the file and complete, sign, and save the completed Agreement Form on your local computer.
- 54. Select the Upload Agreement Form link.
- 55. Locate the signed agreement form on your local computer and upload the file.
- 56. If you need to replace the agreement form that you uploaded, you can remove the agreement form and upload another agreement form. The agreement form is required.
- 57. Click Save to continue.



58. Once your application is complete and all tabs display a green checkmark, the **Submit** button will be presented for application submission. Click the **Submit** option.

IMPORTANT: This is the only opportunity you will have to alter any of the information prior to submission of the application. After the application is submitted, to make any changes, you will need to submit a change request to ASME.



- 59. You will be redirected to the **Application Details** section of the Applications tab. On the top right side of the tab, there is a blue gear icon that lets you **Print** the application.
- 60. Click the blue gear icon and select the **Print Document** link.

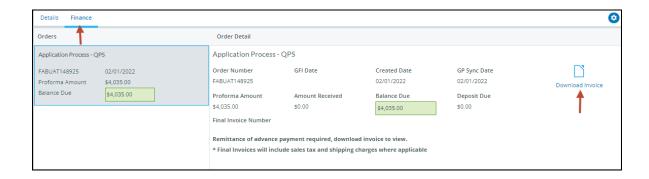
Financial Statement

QPS PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Company is required to pay 50% of the initial price upon application submittal.
- 2. Annual Program Audit is required to pay the full price upon application submittal.

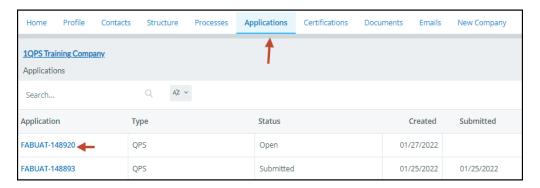
REVIEW AND PRINT INVOICE

- 1. Locate the Application (see Application Details).
- 2. The **Finance** tab will show order details.
- 3. To print the Proforma/Invoice click on the icon **Download Invoice** for a PDF file.

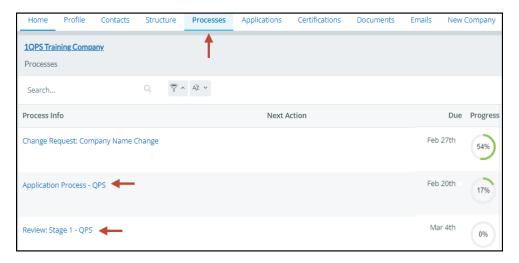


Review Application Process

- Once an application has been submitted, you may review the application/certification details and status while it is in process. The following information may be obtained via the Home page.
- 2. Click on the Applications tab, locate the appropriate Application list for additional details.



3. Click on Processes, review Progress percentages for a quick view or click on the Process info for additional details.



Expectations: Stage-1 Virtual Visit

- 1. An email notification will alert company contact to review the assigned Team Leader and date range. Please review the email for guidance.
 - a. To locate the information, follow the above to Review Application Process tab.
 - b. Select the appropriate FAB ####, at the Details Tab, scroll down the application.
 - c. At the bottom of the Details Tab, the date range and the Team Leader assigned will be available.
 - d. The Team Leader will contact the company directly.

Event

Review/Survey Type:

Onsite / Virtual QPS Stage 1 -

Start Date: 03/01/2022 End Date: 03/31/2022

Participants

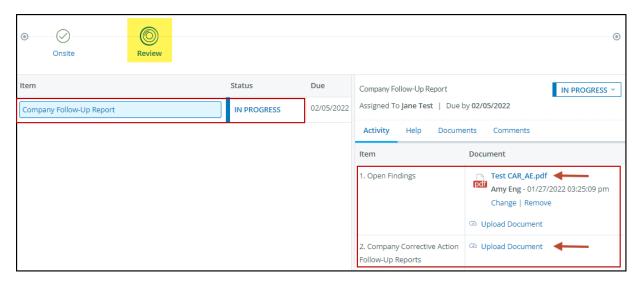
Rachel Raven - Test - Team Leader

- 2. ASME staff will create a secure folder ASME-Share file platform to allow confidential and sensitive documents to be transmitted.
- 3. After the Team Leader's report is documented and reviewed, ASME will notify the company of the decision made on the Team Leader's recommendation.

Company Follow-up Reports

- 1. An email notification will alert the company contact, if a Company Follow-up Report is required to be completed and uploaded.
- To access, follow the Review Application Process steps above, find the company's Processes tab to click on Review: Stage 1-QPS.
- 3. On Review, Company Follow-Up Report, it will contain a file(s) under the section labeled, Open Findings. Appended to the back of each file is a Corrective Action Follow-Up Report

form that will need to be completed and uploaded to the section labeled, Company Corrective Action Follow-Up Reports.

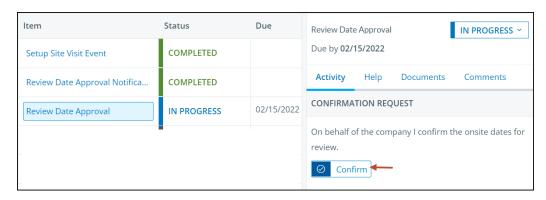


- 4. To upload a Company Follow-up Report. Locate the report on your local drive and drag and drop to the section Upload Document. Or click on 'Upload Document' and locate the report on your local drive. If you are not able to upload the document, please contact Gerardo Moino, moinog@asme.org. If you received notification that a company follow report is required and do not see the Company Follow-Up report process item.
- 5. Company may change or remove the document as required.
- 6. To complete, on the upper right, click **In Progress** and **Mark as Complete**. Afterward, you will not have access to change or remove the submitted document. For assistance after marking **Complete**, you may contact Gerardo Moino, moinog@asme.org.



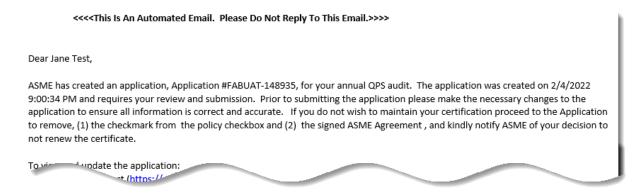
Expectations: Stage-2 In-Person Visit

- An in-person review will be scheduled, Company will get an email notification to accept or decline the dates for the Stage 2 event. Non-Acceptance and/or Postponement of survey dates will be subjected to a penalty as stated in the Policies tab. Please review the email for guidance.
- 2. To Confirm the dates, click on the blue Confirm button and be sure the **Review Date Approval Status** is Completed.

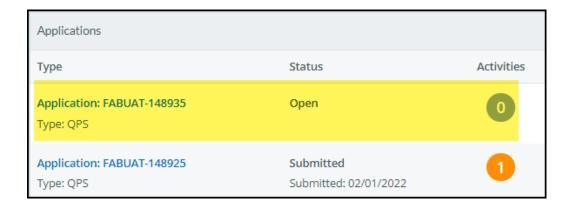


Annual QPS Audit (Application Renew)

- 1. The annual QPA audit application is system initiated. A new application number e.g. FAB-##### will trigger 7 months from the anniversary date of certificate. This will be performed on a yearly basis.
- 2. The company contact will receive an email notification to alert the contact that an action is pending prior to the annual program audit.
- IMPORTANT: Company contact should read the email for detailed instructions. Review
 and complete the new application before submittal of the application to qualify for the
 annual audit each year.



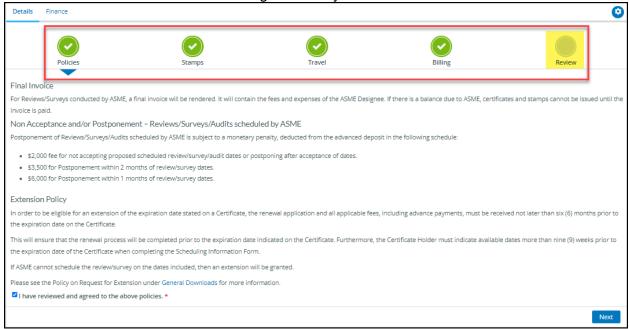
- 4. Follow the Log in Process to access CA Connect and the new application # as mentioned in the email.
- 5. Locate on the Home page under Applications.
- 6. Find Application FAB-###, Status: Open and Activities: Zero.



- 7. The application tabs are the same as previous initial application, **Policies**, **Stamps**, **Travel**, **Billing**, and **Review**. Each tab consists of specific application details.
 - a. Once logged in, locate the company and the **new** application number, FAB-### as indicated from the email.
 - b. All fields are pre-populated with the previous application information except for the **Review** tab.
 - c. The company contact is required to review all the tabs and provide any new information prior to submittal.

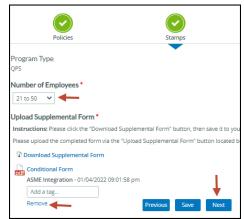
Policies

1. Check mark reviewed confirmation to agreed Policy.



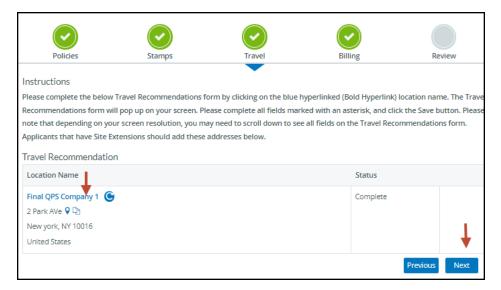
Stamps

- 1. Please update **Number of Employees** if changes occur from the last application.
- 2. Upload **Supplemental Forms V**, system will automatically copy over the previous form. If changes occur, please **Remove** and reload a new form.
- 3. When done, click **Next** to continue.



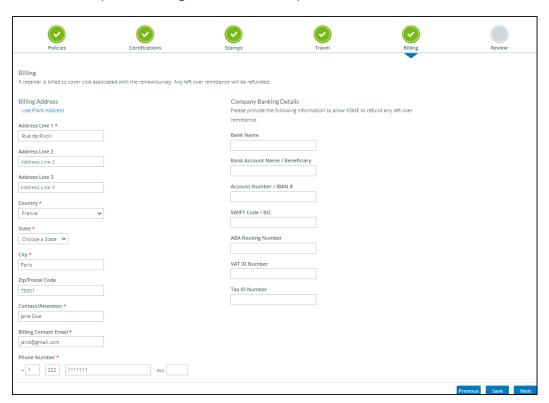
Travel

1. Review and update Travel tab if required. Hotel and Transportation information must be reviewed and when necessary corrected to provide current information.



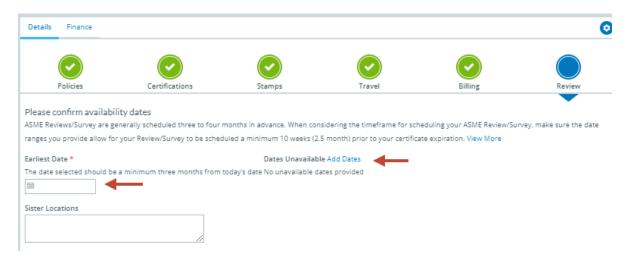
Billing

1. Review and update Billing information if required.



Review

1. Confirm Earliest Date & Dates of Unavailable



- 2. Confirm all application information is correct and if required, company may update the **Manual** or **Signed Agreement** form, remove it and upload new documents.
- 3. Once your application is complete and all tabs display a green checkmark, click the Save button.

a. The Submit button will be presented for application submission.



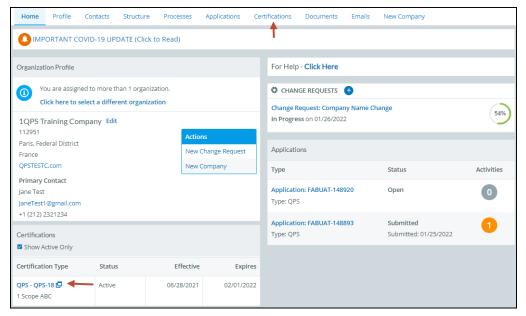
4. Click the Submit option to complete the Annual QPS Audit.



Certification Details

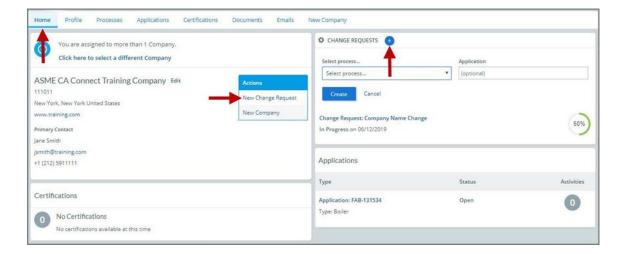
Go to Company Dashboard or click the Certificate Type.

For an Active certificate, the Certificate Type, a Pending certificate, or the Certifications tab on the menu bar.



Change Requests

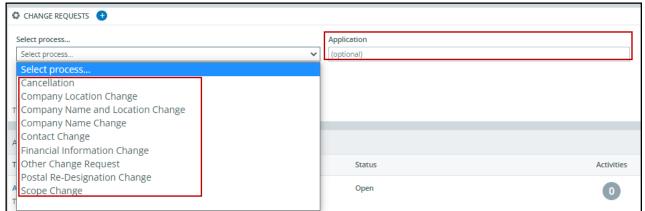
- 1. To the right of the Company Dashboard is a section for Change Requests. You may apply for a change request.
- 2. From the **Company Dashboard** Home Page, you may select either the **New Change Request** link in the Actions box or the **Blue (+)** circle icon in the Change Requests section.



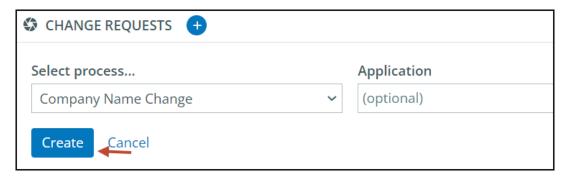
- 3. The following is a list of change requests for which the company may apply. The overall process for each change request is similar and outlined below.
- 4. If a company needs to request a change to their account, certificate or application that is not included in one of the pre-defined change request processes, select the Other Change Request process option.
 - a. Cancellation
 - b. Company Location Change
 - c. Company Name and Location Change
 - d. Company Name Change
 - e. Contact Change
 - f. Financial Information Change
 - g. Other Change Request
 - h. Postal Re-Designation Change
 - i. Scope Change

Change Request Process

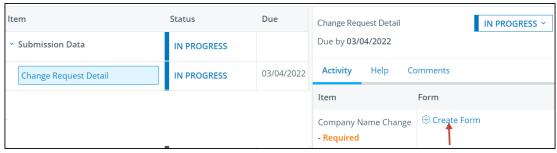
- 1. On the Home Page, click the Change Request blue (+) icon.
- 2. Under **Select Process**, click the **down arrow** icon to display a selection list for the change request.
- 3. Scroll through change request list and select the process associated with the change request you wish to make.
- 4. Add the application FAB #### to enable speedier process. (Optional)



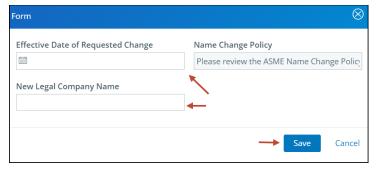
5. Click Create.



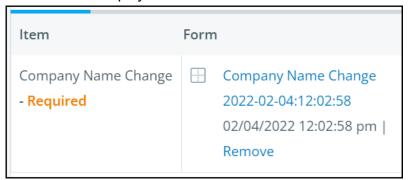
6. The system will direct the company to the **Processes** page. Under the **Submission and Initial Review** section of the page, select the **Create Form** link.



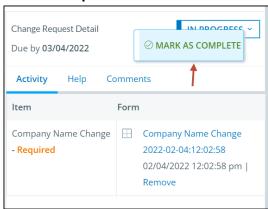
- 7. A form is displayed for the company to enter the details related to the change request you are applying for.
- 8. Enter the requested information and acknowledge any statements that are presented.
 - a. **Note:** The information required changes based on the change request you were seeking, but the process remains the same enter information in all fields shows on the form.
- 9. When done, click Save to continue.



10. Company will be directed back to the previous page where the information you entered on the form is displayed.



- 11. Initially the status of the change request will be **In Progress**. Once you complete entering all the required information for the change request,
 - a. Select Complete.



- 12. Your change request will be submitted to the ASME staff.
- 13. Once the change request has been submitted and the process is in progress, it will appear in the Change Requests section of the Dashboard Home Page.

Search Certificate Holders

You can use the Directory to find companies that have been evaluated and approved by ASME.

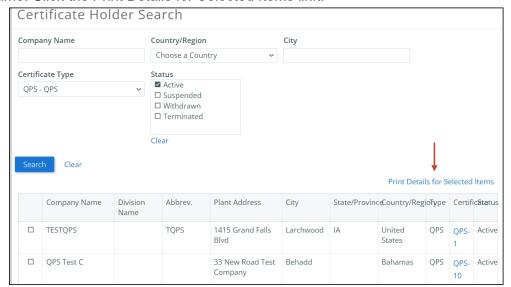
To locate information on a Certificate Holder and bypass the login, click the **Go to Certificate Holder Search** link.



You can locate a company and certificate-related information by entering the corresponding information in the search fields illustrated below. When done, click the Search option to initiate the search.



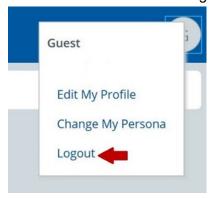
Once you have located the certificate holder, select the checkbox to the left of the Company Name. Click the Print Details for Selected Items link.



A PDF document, containing the Certificate Holder Details, will be downloaded to your local computer for you review and print.

Logout

To log out of the system, look in the upper right corner of the screen for a circle with your initials. Click on the circle and then select Logout. You will be redirected to the Sign In screen.



ASME Program Administrator Assistance

For support with login issues and concerns regarding applications and certificates, contact:

Angela Holmes

Program Administrator, CA Operations

(212) 591-8531

HolmesA@asme.org