



JSP demonstrates commitment to quality products with the BSI Kitemark™

“By specifying the BSI Kitemark on protective equipment, procurement managers can rest assured that they have insisted on the very best products that will perform effectively and efficiently every time.”

Matthew Judson,
Director, Respiratory and Technical Support,
JSP

At a glance

JSP is Europe's leading independent manufacturer of industrial head protection and above the neck Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Its products fall into four main categories: safety helmets, respiratory protection, hearing protection, and safety eyewear.

JSP was the first company to be awarded the BSI Kitemark across several respiratory product standards and certification has also been achieved for its head protection products and ear defenders. JSP demonstrates commitment to quality products with the BSI Kitemark.

Benefits of certification

- Shows proof of product performance in terms of safety, quality and reliability
- Shows products meet and exceed industry requirements
- Reduces risks and reassures new and existing customers and end-users
- Demonstrates a commitment to best practice in quality management
- Strengthens brand credentials and eases entry into new markets
- Provides a competitive edge



BSI Case Study: JSP Ltd

Customer background

Established in 1964, JSP estimates that 40 million people worldwide use its products daily, at home and at work. The company is typical of many 'unsung heroes' of the UK economy: a globally competitive, medium-sized, privately owned manufacturer. It is a leader in the field of PPE and has long been committed to product quality, safety and innovation.

Exporting to over 100 countries, JSP constantly adapts to the requirements of modern, multinational end-users. Backed by an in-house research and development team, and with manufacturing and testing facilities in Oxford, every JSP product conforms to appropriate specifications.

In 2011, JSP achieved the BSI Kitemark for its range of industrial head protection products. In 2014 it became the first ever company to gain similar certification for respiratory protective products across a number of different product standards. Most recently, it has also achieved certification for its new range of ear defenders.

Why certification?

The BSI Kitemark is a globally recognized product assurance symbol, and JSP's certifications demonstrate beyond doubt that the company's PPE products meet the applicable British, European, international and other recognized standards for quality, safety, performance and reliability.

As Matthew Judson, Director, Respiratory and Technical Support for JSP, explains, "Our first BSI Kitemark actually goes back to the 1970s, when we began using injection moulding to make industrial safety helmets. In those days, it was the only sign of quality assurance that customers looked for."

More recently, the CE Mark became established, says Judson, "creating a perception in the marketplace that this was the only quality mark needed". In fact, certification to an independent BSI Kitemark provides a much stronger statement of product quality than a CE Mark, making it easier for leading manufacturers like JSP to differentiate their products – and providing PPE industry specifiers and end-users with a genuine assurance of product quality.

Judson continues, "Whilst we've never compromised on quality, our certifications provide

third-party verification of our commitment to supplying our customers with rigorously tested, high quality products. In particular, they help to differentiate our products from lower-cost, lower quality competitors – including counterfeit goods – positioning JSP favourably in both new and established markets."

Implementation

Certification required meeting specific requirements consistently and undergoing testing on a regular basis. For JSP, this was straightforward, as the company has always had robust systems in place to manufacture to a high standard of quality, safety, performance and reliability. Products are manufactured under its worldwide quality management system (QMS), which ensures rigorous batch control (testing and recording of each manufactured batch) and includes full technical back-up and support. Product testing is conducted in an extensive BS EN ISO 9001-registered laboratory.

Even so, Judson says that by meeting the requirements of regular, rigorous BSI audits, "we're restating the quality of our products to the outside world all the time."

Benefits

Benefits of the BSI Kitemark include risk reduction and increased customer assurance. Certification gives JSP's products immediate status in terms of quality, safety, performance and reliability – hard earned through rigorous testing at a BSI centre.

"It gives customers reassurance that we're doing much more than just meeting minimum requirements," says Judson. "It shows our products are consistently tested, that they undertake ongoing factory assessments, and that they are manufactured under our worldwide QMS."

In the case of respiratory products, for example, the certification gives reassurance that all JSP's breathing masks are independently batch tested on a regular basis for protection against smoke, dust, gases and vapours.

JSP is the first manufacturer to get a combined range of respiratory products covered by a single Kitemark. They include the company's groundbreaking Force 8 Press to Check filter system, which has won a prestigious accolade for product innovation at the British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF) Awards. They also include

its FilterSpec and FilterSpec Pro masks, which combine both eye and respiratory protection in one integrated PPE unit, and the Powercap Active powered respirator with full-face protection.

"All our masks can always be totally relied on to perform to a consistently high standard every time, reducing risks to end-users," says Judson. "No other manufacturer of respiratory protective equipment in the world can make this claim and back it up with the BSI Kitemark."

Overall, certification demonstrates that JSP fulfils its duty of care to its industry, employees, suppliers and customers. Its products may be totally relied on to perform to a consistently high level over and above the European (EN) standard.

BSI's role

BSI was willing to create a single certificate for industrial head protection, which covered several types of helmet and encompassed various EN standards.

Turning to the future, like many manufacturers operating in niche sectors, JSP is looking to expand in overseas markets, and here the BSI Kitemark can only strengthen its hand. "There is demand for quality-assured, British-made products, so there's a real opportunity to increase awareness of this quality symbol across our industry and then leverage its global credibility to give us a competitive edge and boost sales," says Judson.

He concludes, "JSP always strives to be one step ahead of competitors and, because we've achieved the BSI Kitemark on our protective equipment, our customers can rest assured that they are getting top quality products that will perform effectively and efficiently every time."

Contact us to find out how BSI certification can help your business make excellence a habit.

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