




**COVER STORY**

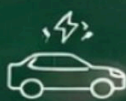
THE COMPLIANCE & ASSURANCE JOURNAL

# Quality is India's New Competitive Edge

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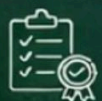
 APRIL 2026 | ISSUE 01



AUTOMOTIVE



RENEWABLE ENERGY



COMPLIANCE

*Assuring Confidence...*

Initiative of



# LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVE



Leaders from the global certification industry gathered together. At the center is Mr. David Riggs; to his left stands Mr. Mukesh Singhal (Group Deputy Managing Director), and to his right is Mr. Petr Malicovsky. They are joined by distinguished leaders from the U.K., Korea, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Canada, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Bulgaria, Japan, Egypt, Israel, Romania, the Czech Republic, Poland, and other countries.

## Leadership is about building trust in every result we deliver

Leaders must foster a culture where quality is non-negotiable—where attention to detail, adherence to standards, and continuous improvement define our credibility. Our strength lies in our technical expertise, and by investing in training, mentoring, and empowering teams, we ensure alignment with evolving industry standards.

In the TIC industry, impartiality is paramount. Transparency, independence, and fairness must guide every decision, and we are proud that URS upholds this culture in all our deliverables. In a dynamic environment, adaptability remains critical. As regulations evolve and expectations grow, we must stay agile while maintaining the rigor that defines our work. Ultimately, leadership is about setting the right example—driving integrity, accountability, and excellence across the organization.

*At URS, everything we test, inspect, and certify stands as a mark of trust and reliability.*

### Editorial Note

TIC Cover Story is an initiative by URS to bring focused insights from the evolving Testing, Inspection, and Certification landscape. As industries transition towards electric mobility, renewable energy, and sustainability-driven compliance, the demand for reliable assurance and validation is rapidly increasing. This publication aims to capture these shifts through key topics that reflect current industry priorities and future direction.

*Quality, today, is not just compliance—it is a strategic business imperative.*

# INDUSTRY VOICE

## From Compliance to Competitiveness: The New Role of Assurance

In today's evolving industrial landscape, compliance is no longer the end objective—it is the starting point of competitiveness.

Across sectors such as electric mobility, renewable energy, and sustainability, the expectations from businesses are changing rapidly. Regulators are tightening frameworks, global supply chains are demanding greater transparency, and investors are increasingly linking performance with accountability.

In this environment, assurance is no longer a periodic activity—it is becoming a continuous business function. What distinguishes this phase from the past is the depth and continuity of validation required.

Whether it is battery systems in electric vehicles, long-term performance of solar assets, or carbon reporting under ESG frameworks, organizations are now expected to demonstrate reliability not just at a point in time, but across the lifecycle of their operations.

This shift is redefining the role of Testing, Inspection, and Certification. TIC is no longer a support service operating at the periphery—it is moving closer to the core of product development, risk management, and market access.

Forward-looking organizations are already adapting to this reality. They are integrating compliance into design, investing in validation infrastructure, and partnering with institutions that can support them across multiple domains. In doing so, they are not only reducing risk but also accelerating time to market and strengthening stakeholder confidence.

The question for industry is no longer whether compliance is required—but how effectively it can be leveraged to build trust, enable innovation, and create a competitive advantage. In the emerging landscape, assurance is not about meeting standards—it is about shaping market confidence.



**Dr. (CA) Mukesh Singhal**

Group Deputy Managing Director, URS  
CEO & Managing Director, URS India

**Mr. Ankur Sangal**

Director, URS Certifications Ltd.

**Mr. Kshitiz K Singhal**

Director, URS Products and Testing Pvt. Ltd.

# STANDARDS & PROTOCOLS

## New International Standards released by the IEC

Pre-release of

IEC 60623:2026 PRV, Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes - Vented nickel-cadmium prismatic rechargeable cells and batteries for use in industrial applications

Commented version of

IEC 60205:2026 CMV, Calculation of the effective parameters of magnetic piece parts

Redline version

IEC 60034-1:2026 RLV, Rotating electrical machines - Part 1: Rating and performance

Consolidated version

IEC 62061:2026 CSV, Safety of machinery - Functional safety of safety-related control systems

Extended version

IEC 61439-8:2026 EXV, Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies - Part 8: Assemblies for use in photovoltaic installations

Technical Specification

IEC TS 61000-1-6:2026, Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 1-6: General - Guidelines for the evaluation of measurement uncertainty in EMC testing

ISO/IEC 17020:2026, Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies performing inspection



## Global Standards in a Rapidly Changing World

*Standards continue to evolve with modern industry demands.*



International standards are constantly adapting to technological advances and shifting consumer expectations.

Organizations that fail to track these changes can face delays and market barriers. A stronger understanding of standards allows businesses to operate confidently across borders. Staying current is now a strategic necessity.

# INDUSTRY PULSE



## Testing Becomes Central to India's Mobility and Energy Transition

India's industrial ecosystem is witnessing a decisive shift testing and validation are moving from a support function to a central role in product development and market readiness.

With the rapid acceleration of electric mobility, supported by government initiatives such as FAME and the broader push towards EV adoption, automotive systems are becoming increasingly electronics-driven. This transition has significantly increased the need for advanced testing particularly in areas such as EMI/EMC, battery systems, and electronic component reliability.

At the same time, the solar energy sector continues to expand at scale. India's commitment to renewable energy capacity, along with growing private investments, is driving demand for rigorous testing of solar modules to ensure long-term performance and durability under diverse environmental conditions.

Across both sectors, regulatory expectations are becoming more stringent. Standards are evolving, compliance cycles are tightening, and global benchmarks are increasingly influencing domestic requirements. As highlighted across industry reports and policy discussions, the focus is now shifting towards quality, safety, and lifecycle performance, rather than just initial certification. This evolving landscape is creating a clear market reality testing is no longer a back end validation step; it is a critical enabler of innovation, compliance, and market access.

# INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

## Driving Excellence Across Automotive & Solar Testing

Innovation today is no longer defined solely by technological breakthroughs, it is increasingly measured by an organization's ability to adapt, evolve, and lead across industries that are shaping the future. In a rapidly transforming industrial landscape, businesses that can anticipate change and respond with capability become the ones that create lasting impact.

URS was recently recognized for its outstanding contribution to automotive and solar testing at a prestigious national platform in the presence of **Hon'ble Minister Nitin Gadkari**. The recognition

was received by Mukesh Singhal, Kshitiz Singhal, and Paras Singh, underscoring the organization's growing reputation as a trusted partner in India's journey toward advanced mobility and renewable energy transformation.

This recognition represents more than an achievement, it reflects URS's commitment to supporting industries that are undergoing significant structural change. As the automotive sector moves toward stricter safety regulations, electrification, and intelligent mobility systems, testing standards are becoming more demanding than ever before. At the same time, the solar industry is witnessing accelerated expansion driven by sustainability goals, energy independence initiatives, and large-scale infrastructure development. In both sectors, the need for precise, reliable, and globally aligned testing solutions has become essential.

To meet these evolving requirements, URS has made strategic investments in advanced testing infrastructure, modern laboratory capabilities, and specialized technical expertise. Its facilities are designed to support a wide range of validation requirements — from conventional automotive components to next-generation electric vehicle systems, as well as comprehensive solar photovoltaic module performance and durability assessments.

What distinguishes URS is its ability to build strength across two critical sectors simultaneously. Rather than limiting innovation to a single vertical, the organization has embraced a broader vision that aligns with national priorities and global industrial trends. This cross-sector capability enables URS to contribute meaningfully to two of the most important transitions of our time — cleaner energy systems and safer transportation ecosystems.



# CERTIFICATION LENS



## Mumbai Metro Rail O&M Achieves IMS Certification

IMS Certification marks a significant milestone in reinforcing our commitment to excellence, safety, and operational efficiency. The IMS framework integrates key management systems, ensuring a holistic approach to quality, environmental responsibility, and occupational health & safety.

Mumbai Metro Rail Operation and Maintenance has been successfully certified for the Integrated Management System (IMS) standard by URS Certification Ltd.

Achieving this certification reflects the organization's unwavering dedication to maintaining the highest standards in metro rail operations. It demonstrates a strong culture of compliance, continuous improvement, and risk management—critical elements in delivering safe and reliable services to millions of commuters every day.

The rigorous assessment conducted by URS Certification Ltd underscores the robustness of operational processes covering Operation and Maintenance of Mumbai Metro Line-3, consisting of 27 stations from Cuffe Parade to Aarey JVLR, including the Aarey Depot, adherence to international standards, and the proactive approach taken by the team towards sustainability and safety. This extensive scope highlights the scale, complexity, and operational excellence embedded within the system.

This certification marks a significant milestone in reinforcing our commitment to excellence, safety, and operational efficiency. The IMS framework integrates key management systems, ensuring a holistic approach to quality, environmental responsibility, and occupational health & safety.

# BUSINESS INSIGHTS

## URS strengthening trust through certification excellence – ISO certification presented to SBI leadership.

In today's dynamic business environment, trust is not assumed it is systematically built through transparency, compliance, and consistent performance. URS continues to strengthen this foundation by partnering with leading institutions across sectors. The recent presentation of ISO certification to the leadership of one of India's most respected financial institutions reflects not just a milestone, but a shared commitment towards operational excellence and global best practices.



In the banking and financial services sector, where governance, risk management, and customer confidence are paramount, internationally recognized standards play a critical role. Certification is no longer a compliance exercise — it is a strategic enabler that enhances credibility, improves process efficiency, and reinforces stakeholder confidence.

As businesses evolve, the role of assurance becomes even more significant. And through every partnership, URS remains committed to one core objective — Assuring Confidence.

## Market Growth is Strong but Becoming Competitive

The TIC Services continues to grow steadily due to structural global trends:

- Regulatory compliance requirements across industries
- Increasing supplier qualification mandates from large corporates
- Expansion of export-oriented businesses, especially in emerging markets like India
- Procurement-driven decisions replacing quality-driven selection

Sustaining profitability in the TIC and ISO certification business requires a clear shift from volume-driven growth to value-based differentiation. While demand continues to rise, increasing commoditization has intensified price competition, putting pressure on margins.

To address this, TIC bodies must reposition strategically by focusing on high-value clients, offering integrated certification solutions, and expanding into areas such as ESG and digital assurance. Enhancing auditor competence, leveraging technology for efficient service delivery, and building a strong brand based on credibility and expertise will be critical. Ultimately, success will depend on increasing revenue per client and delivering measurable business value, rather than competing solely on price.

# MARKET TRENDS



India's Testing, Inspection, and Certification (TIC) ecosystem is undergoing a structural transformation, driven by three powerful and interlinked growth engines—electric mobility, renewable energy expansion, and sustainability-driven compliance.

## **EV & Battery Ecosystem – The Defining Opportunity**

- The transition towards electric mobility represents the most significant shift in the automotive sector.
- With strong policy support, increasing OEM investments, and rapid adoption of EVs, the focus has moved decisively towards battery performance, safety, and lifecycle reliability. Unlike traditional systems, batteries and power electronics require continuous validation across multiple stages—from design and development to in-use performance.
- This is fundamentally changing the nature of testing—from a one-time certification activity to an ongoing validation process, creating sustained demand for advanced testing capabilities such as EMI/EMC, thermal performance, and reliability testing.

## **Renewable Energy & Green Certification – Scaling at Speed**

- India's ambitious renewable energy targets and large-scale solar deployments are driving unprecedented demand for testing and certification services.
- Key areas witnessing strong growth include:
  - Solar PV module testing for performance and durability
  - Inverter and energy storage system validation
  - Emerging areas such as green hydrogen and hybrid energy systems
- As installations scale, the focus is shifting from deployment to long-term reliability and efficiency, making testing a critical factor in ensuring asset performance and investor confidence.

## **ESG & Sustainability Standards – From Compliance to Compulsion**

Standards such as ISO 14064 (Greenhouse Gas Accounting) & ISO 50001 (Energy Management Systems) are gaining traction, driven by:

- Increasing carbon reporting requirements
- Pressure from global supply chains and export markets
- Investor focus on ESG performance

Organizations are now expected to demonstrate measurable sustainability outcomes, making certification and verification services essential for credibility and market access.

# SOCIAL COMPLIANCE



## From Obligation to Business Advantage

Social compliance is no longer just a matter of meeting ethical expectations — it has become a critical driver of business performance and sustainability.

In today's global supply chains, organizations are increasingly evaluated not only on product quality and cost efficiency, but also on how responsibly they operate. Non-compliance can lead to supply disruptions, reputational risks, and loss of business opportunities, particularly with global buyers who demand transparency and accountability.

Forward-looking organizations are therefore integrating social compliance into their core business strategy. Strong compliance frameworks help reduce operational risks, improve workforce stability, and enhance credibility with international customers and stakeholders.

At URS, social compliance assessments are designed to deliver this business value. By identifying gaps in workplace practices, strengthening systems, and aligning organizations with globally recognized standards such as SMETA and SLCP, we enable businesses to move beyond reactive compliance towards proactive risk management.

In an environment where responsible sourcing is becoming a prerequisite for market access, social compliance is no longer a cost — it is an investment in continuity, reputation, and long-term growth.

URS remains committed to supporting organizations in building responsible operations that are not only compliant, but also competitive.

# AUTOMOTIVE ARENA



## Automotive Industry - Insight

***Automotive Industry covers the various area of sub industries-who works in chain and gives economic growth to country.***

1. OEM - Vehicle manufacturers (e.g. Suzuki/Ford/Nissan/Honda/Toyota/ Hyundai/Kia....all global brands)
2. Automotive Components Manufactures (Tier1) - useful and reliable partners of OEM who give contributions of thousands of components development and manufacturing) . Tier 1 also get help from Tier 2/Tier3 and so on for their child parts and raw materials.
3. TIC Companies - plays a vital role for sustainability and support automotive industry by component and vehicle testing / homologation / type approval / regulation and certifications to ensure the overall vehicle quality consistency. By this way OEM ensures vehicle quality up to the mark and safe for users. Global certification also helps OEM to access the global market for sale the vehicles.
4. Innovation of New Technologies - from past 5-year new technology features are incorporated in vehicle which is safe to users and safe driving (e.g. ADAS system, Autonomous driving , Connected Car, Save gasoline - EV technology and so many important and useful features).
5. Sale / Distribution and After Market – this area takes ownership of sales and service support to Automotive Industry for Vehicle sale through dealer network , service , maintenance, spare parts and after market accessories.

# THE SPOTLIGHT



## An Inspiring Visit by Dr. Somendra Tomar

*We were honored to welcome Dr. Somendra Tomar, Minister of State for Energy and Additional Energy Sources (New & Renewable Energy), Government of Uttar Pradesh, at URS Product & Testing.*

His visit highlights the growing importance of quality assurance, compliance, and advanced testing solutions in strengthening India's renewable energy ecosystem.

At URS, we remain committed to supporting the industry with cutting-edge testing, inspection, and certification services, ensuring safety, performance, and global standards.

This visit motivates us to continue contributing towards a sustainable and energy-efficient future.

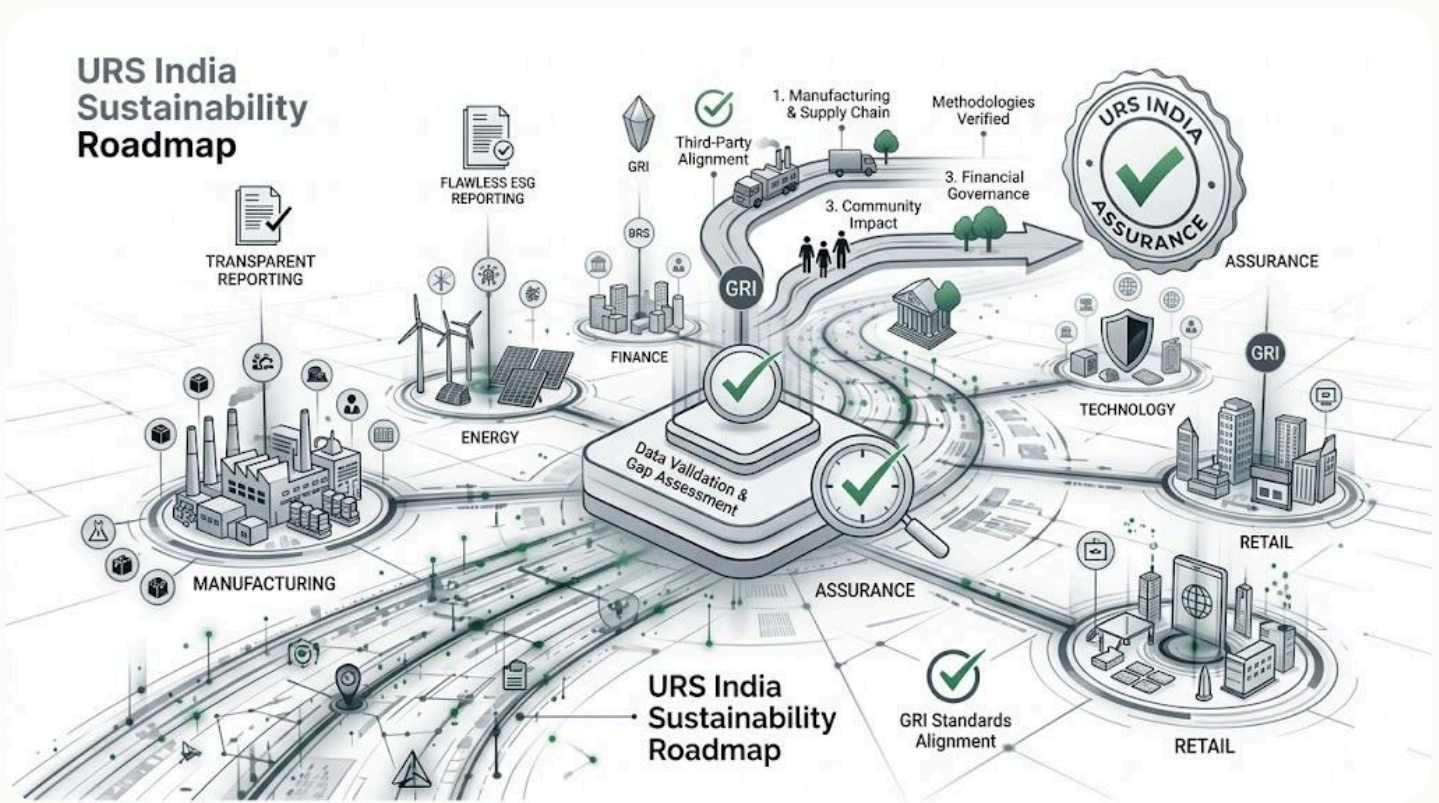


## URS participated in VIFA EXPO, VIETNAM

Engaging with industry leaders and showcasing our commitment to quality and compliance. It was a great platform to connect, exchange insights, and strengthen our presence in the TIC industry.



# SUSTAINABILITY



## URS India Unveils Comprehensive Sustainability Roadmap to Support Industry in Transparent and Flawless ESG Reporting

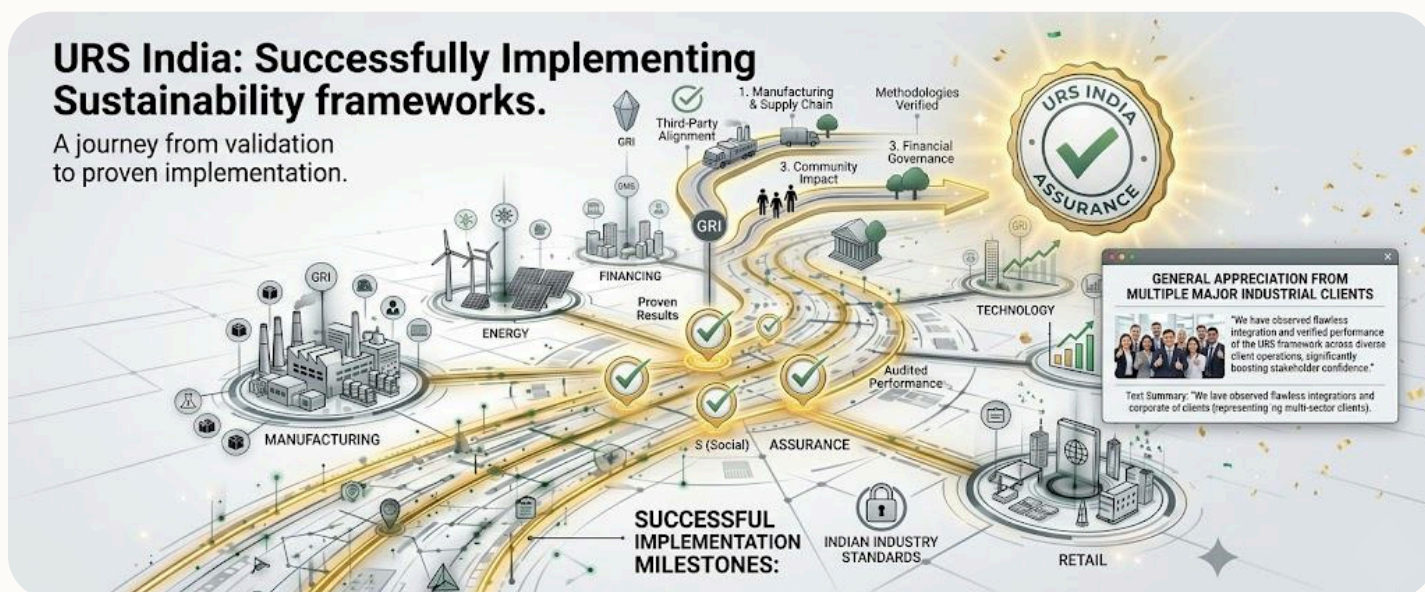
*As sustainability becomes central to business resilience and investor trust, URS India's roadmap signals a proactive step toward building a reliable and standardized ESG reporting ecosystem.*

In a significant move aligned with the growing global emphasis on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) accountability, URS India has announced a robust sustainability roadmap aimed at empowering industries and corporates to define, implement, and report their sustainability vision with precision and credibility.

According to senior leadership at URS India, the initiative is designed to address key industry challenges such as fragmented data management, evolving disclosure frameworks, and lack of standardized assurance practices. The roadmap offers end-to-end support—from sustainability vision development to final assurance of reports—ensuring that disclosures are accurate, transparent, and globally benchmarked.

The company also emphasized its commitment to continuous innovation in sustainability services, including the use of digital tools, analytics, and AI-driven insights to enhance reporting accuracy and efficiency.

# CASE STUDY



## Transforming ESG Reporting Excellence through URS India's Sustainability Roadmap

### Background:

- URS India helped ABC Manufacturing Ltd. improve its ESG strategy, reporting, and credibility amid rising regulatory and stakeholder demands.

### Problem:

- The company lacked clear ESG goals, consistent data systems, framework alignment (BRSR/ GRI), internal validation, and third-party assurance—resulting in low credibility.

### Objectives:

- Build a clear sustainability strategy, align with global frameworks, improve data accuracy, and achieve independent assurance.

### Approach:

- URS India developed ESG goals, aligned reporting with BRSR & GRI, standardized data systems, introduced digital tools, and conducted third-party assurance.

### Results:

- Full BRSR/GRI alignment, improved data accuracy, better transparency, successful assurance, and increased stakeholder trust.

### Impact:

- Shift from compliance-based to strategy-driven ESG, stronger governance, better decisions, and improved market credibility.

### Conclusion:

- A structured roadmap, strong data systems, and assurance enabled reliable ESG reporting and long-term sustainability growth.

- Rohit Dutt Paliwal



## Global Certification Requirements for EV Chargers

*The EV industry is rapidly growing, requiring strict compliance with global safety and regulatory standards.*

### **Europe – CE Marking:**

- Mandatory for EEA markets. Covers LVD, EMC, RoHS.
- Standards: IEC 61851, IEC 60335, IEC 61000 + REACH compliance.

### **USA – UL Certification:**

- Important for market acceptance.
- Standards: UL 2202, UL 2594, FCC Part 15.

### **India – BIS Certification:**

- Based on IS standards aligned with IEC 61851.
- CRS registration may apply; increasingly mandatory.

### **South Korea – KC Certification:**

- Mandatory for safety and EMC compliance.

### **Japan – PSE Certification:**

- Required for electrical products; may include testing and factory inspection.

### **Other Markets:**

- China (CCC), Brazil (INMETRO), Middle East (e.g., SASO), Thailand (TISI).

### **Common Testing Requirements:**

- Electrical safety (shock protection, insulation)
- EMC (emissions & immunity)
- Environmental (temperature, vibration)
- Performance (efficiency, protection features)

**Documentation:** Test reports, TCF, circuit diagrams, BOM, user manual, DoC.

**Challenges:** Different standards, high costs, long timelines, frequent updates.

- Maneesh Saxena



# COVER STORY

THE COMPLIANCE & ASSURANCE JOURNAL

## ABOUT THE PUBLICATION

**TIC Cover Story** is an initiative by **URS** to share meaningful insights, emerging trends, and expert perspectives from the world of **Testing, Inspection, and Certification.**

The publication connects industry developments with practical understanding, helping organizations navigate evolving standards, build trust, and strengthen their global competitiveness.



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**Assurance that Builds Confidence.**  
**Confidence that Drives Business.**

