

# API (American Petroleum Institute)



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## What is API – American Petroleum Institute?

American Petroleum Institute (API) was established in 1919 as a standard-setting association. API develops, maintain, and provide organizations with unanimous standards for the oil and gas industry. API has developed more than 700 standards to improve operational safety, environmental assurance and sustainability over the industry, particularly through these standards being adopted comprehensively.

The American Petroleum Institute (API) is the largest U.S. trade association in the field of oil and natural gas industry. It claims to represent corporations involved in production, refinement, distribution and many other aspects of the petroleum industry. The safety requirements particularly in oil and gas industry are very stringent as a minor deviation in the product / component can lead to a major catastrophe. The product quality and operational consistency are the prime parameters to avoid any safety related issue at the site. API Standards helps to improve the safety of industry tasks, guarantee the quality, help minimize expenses, diminish waste, and limit the confusion in an oil and gas industry.

The API Standards includes

- API Spec Q1: Quality Management System for Manufacturing Organizations
- API Spec Q2: Quality Management System for Service Supply organizations
- API Monogram Program: Product Specific Technical Standards such as API 6A, API 6D, API 600, API 602, API 682, API 5CT, API 16C etc.

Note: In monogram license program, API Q1 and product specific requirements are applicable to the organization.

The focus of API Q1 is to streamline the business processes for consistency in product quality, safety & better controls over organizational processes.

## **What are the focus points of API Spec. Q1 Certification?**

Establishing a stringent quality management system to design and manufacture products for oil and gas industry.

- Streamlining and Standardizing the business processes
- Risk management for the business
- Formulating Quality Policy and Objectives
- Setting up system for documentation and records.
- Management information system
- Business performance and sustainability.

## **What are the focus points of API Spec. Q2 Certification?**

- Product quality and consistency in service provision
- Standardization of processes
- Training & Skill development of human resource
- Setting up system for documentation and records
- Management information system
- Risk management for the processes
- Business performance and sustainability.

## **What are the focus points of API Monogram Licensing Certification?**

- Product design and development process
- Compliance to technical specifications pertinent to the applicable product standard
- Consistency in Product quality and safety
- Reduction in rework and rejection percentage in manufacturing processes
- Enhanced process controls and better controls in shop floor operations
- Setting up system for documentation and records.

## What are the document requirements for API Certification?

The organization shall demonstrate continual improvement in the field of quality management system by maintaining, establishing, implementing and providing documented information.

The documented information required for API registration

- The organizations scope
- The organizations Quality policy and Quality Objectives
- A Quality Manual
- Standard operating Procedures
- Records at individual process / department. E.g. Sales, Purchase, Production, Quality Assurance, Maintenance, Customer Service.

## Which Organizations are eligible for API Certification?

- The organization manufacturing components and assemblies and supplying to oil and gas industry can apply for API Q1 certification. Similarly, the organizations offering services specially in oil and gas sector can apply for API Q2 certification. The monogram licensing is applicable for the specific product range manufacturing in accordance with the relevant API product specification. E.g. API 6A, API 6D etc.

## How will API Certification Benefit your Organization?

- Entry passport for supply to oil and gas sector
- Better business opportunities and revenue
- Status of organization with premium certification
- Elimination of non-value-added activities from the system
- Satisfaction and Retention of Valuable Customers
- Better sustainability prospects.

## API Certification Reference Standards

- API Spec. Q1 –Quality Management System Requirements for Manufacturing Organizations for the Petroleum and Natural Gas Industry.
- API Spec Q2 – Quality management system (QMS) certification for service supply organizations in the oil and natural gas industry
- API 6A – Specification for Wellhead and Tree Equipment
- API 6D – Specification for Pipeline and Piping Valves
- API 602 – Gate, Globe, and Check Valves for Sizes DN 100 (NPS 4) and Smaller for the Petroleum and Natural Gas Industries
- API 16AR – Standard for Repair and Remanufacture of Drill-through Equipment
- API 2B – Fabrication of Structural Steel Pipe
- API 2C – Offshore Pedestal-Mounted Cranes
- API 2F – Mooring Chain
- API 2H – Carbon Manganese Steel Plate for Offshore Structures
- API 2MT1 – Carbon Manganese Steel Plate with Improved Toughness for Offshore Structures
- API 2W – Steel Plates for Offshore Structures, Produced by Thermo-Mechanical Control Processing (TMCP)
- API 2Y – Steel Plates, Quenched-and-Tempered, for Offshore Structures
- API 4F – Drilling and Well Servicing Structures
- API 5B – Threading, Gauging, and Thread Inspection of Casing, Tubing and Line Pipe Threads

## What is the difference between ISO 9001 and API Q1?

- The API Q1 specification establishes the minimum quality management system requirements for organizations that manufacture products or provide manufacturing-related processes under a product specification for use in the petroleum and natural gas industry.

## How long does API certification last?

- API Spec Q1 , API Spec Q2 ,and APII Monogram License has 3 years of validity.

## Can API Q2 and ISO 9001 be merged together into one system?

- Yes. Both share common elements. Since API Q2 is the more prescriptive of the two sets of quality requirements, complying with API Q2 should be the initial focus, then adding any additional requirements of ISO 9001.

## How PQSmitra help you with a Hassle – free Implementation Process for API Certification?

API certification is a very stringent and demanding across the globe. The number of certified organizations in India and in the world are very less as compared to the number of organizations certified to other standards such as ISO 9001 etc. The total number of monogram license holders are not even crossed mark of 500 companies at present in India. API certification requires 100% compliance to the standard and procedures laid down by the organization. Hence system implementation as per API standard requires a very systematic approach and errorless documentation approach.

PQSmitra has helped many organizations achieving this mark of excellence. The simple and practical method of system implementation help organizations to set up a robust and effective system.

PQSmitra offers 100% support for documentation compliance in addition to onsite guidance for effective implementation. The implementation process is described below:

- Initial visits and review of the existing system
- Gap analysis and planning for the documentation (Records and Procedures)
- Training and Hand holding/ support for implementation
- Identification of product technical requirements
- Internal audit for verification of implemented system
- Management review
- API Certification audit – Stage 1 & Stage 2
- Closure of non-conformities
- Later rewards the API certification to the organization.



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