



MASE – VCA Cooperation

According to the comparative study performed in 2018 on the MASE-UIC 2014 and VCA version 2017/6.0 referential guides, the MASE-UIC (Fr), SSVV (NL) and CSM (Be) agree that, although the MASE-UIC and VCA-P (Petrochemical) schemes are not exactly identical, they ensure similar levels of requirements for certified companies.

MASE-UIC certified companies and Dutch/Belgian VCA-P¹ (**vca^v**) certified companies will be able to use their respective certificates and work in the countries mentioned above without the necessity of being audited again.

This declaration of similarity is intended to be used by companies who obtained the certification in their home country and companies from outside France, Netherlands and Belgium to work in one of these countries. This declaration is not intended to replace or substitute MASE-UIC (Fr) or VCA (NL, Be) certifications in their own home country.

After a detailed analysis of the referential guides MASE (Manuel d'Amélioration Sécurité des Entreprises) and VCA-P (VGM Checklist Aannemers)* on June 14th 2018 in Paris the participating organizations decided to work together in the field of contractor safety and to formalize this collaboration in a declaration of cooperation.

The signatory parties:

- Have compared the requirements, procedures and technical specifications of existing contractor safety, health and environment management systems, in particular MASE and VCA-P
- Are committed to :
 - compare the requirements and procedures for training and instruction of existing contractor safety, health and environment managing systems, in particular MASE and VCA
 - improve the systems by exchanging experiences and sharing critical success factors
 - encourage the deployment of both systems

The signatory parties will inform their members of the content of this declaration and shall evaluate and review the declaration after one year following the date of signature then every three years or if requested by one of the parties.

This agreement does not prejudice the right of the signatory partners to adapt and/or complement the contractor safety, health and environment management system under their competency. In such case they shall however inform the other signatory partners of any changes.

*Sécurité, l'hygiène industrielle et l'environnement / Safety, health and environment.



**FRANCE
CHIMIE**

SSW



MASE – VCA Cooperation

Signatory parties:

France

Mr. Didier Méné

Chairman MASE

France

Mr. Philippe Prudhon

Technical Director of France Chimie (UIC)

The Netherlands/SSVV

Jeroen Terlingen

Chairman CCVD-VCA

(Central Committee of Experts)

Belgium/CSM

Mr. Marc de Locht

Chairman UCVD-VCA

(Executive Committee of Experts)

¹ Notes

SSVV : Stichting Samenwerken Voor Veiligheid (Foundation for Security Collaboration)

Three certification levels

A distinction is made between three levels of VCA certification.

VCA*

Focused on the direct control of SHE at the workplace, without calling in subcontractors.

VCA**

Focused on the control of SHE at the workplace, as well as on the SHE structure (including SHE policy, SHE organization, and improvement management).

VCA Petrochemical

Focused on the direct control of SHE at the workplace, the SHE structure (including SHE policy, SHE organization, and improvement management), and on specific supplementary requirements for the petrochemical industry.

Certification criteria

Certification level, VCA*: All 23 SCC* compulsory questions

Certification level, VCA**: All 27 SCC * compulsory questions and at least four of the eight supplementary questions

Certification level, VCA Petrochemical: All 33 SCC Petrochemical compulsory questions and at least one of the two supplementary questions

18-182-MASE-VCA Annex to agreement

Key questions that could be asked for MASE-UIC certified companies
Questions not explicitly covered by Mase-UIC audit

VCA-Chapter		Question	
1	SHE policy, organization and Management involvement	1.2	Has the company a Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) Officer? Is the SHE Officer able to demonstrate relevant expertise or consulting internal or external experts? Is the SHE Officer member of the management and well known within the organization?
2	SHE risk management	2.3	Are Last Minute Risk Analyses (LMRAs) carried out before the commencement of the work?
3	Training, information and instructions	3.2	Do all operational employees have a dedicated safety training (example : BVCA, Chemical level 1 N1 ...).
		3.3	Do all operational supervisors have a dedicated safety training (example : VCA VOL, Chemical level 2 N2...)
9	Purchase and inspection of materials, work equipment and personal protective equipment	9.2	Are the work equipment and personal protective equipment not covered by regulatory inspection inspected at periodic intervals?

Key questions that could be asked for VCA Petrochemical certified companies
Questions not explicitly covered by VCA Petrochemical audit

Mase-UIC Chapter	Commitments of company management	Question section	
1		1.5	Has the company defined indicators allowing them to measure results in the following areas: safety, health, environment? Are HSE results relevant and appropriate to the company? Are HSE targets correlated with indicators ?
2	Skills	section 2.2	Has the employer put a mechanism in place so that employees are supported in learning how to fulfil their professional duties? Has the employer put "HSE induction" training in place on arrival on the company and after a long period of sickness?
3	Organisation of work	section 3.2	Is the planning for all activity phases defined and monitored?
		section 3.4	Is there a mechanism for capitalising on lessons learned on completion of tasks, works or services?
4	Effectiveness of the management system	section 4.2	Does the system audit of the company cover the appraisal of the continual improvement?
5	Continual improvement	section 5.1	Does the HSE policy implemented allow continual improvement?

