# INSIDE LOOK: MMT'S CUSTOM SOLUTION FOR UPDATING NDE QUALIFICATION PROGRAMS



## BACKGROUND

Proper operator qualifications are required when performing any covered task on a pipeline to ensure all individuals performing the task possess proper knowledge, skills, and abilities.

To address the MegaRule, implementing highly accurate technologies is critical. Since these technologies are specialized, unique, and often proprietary, there are limited OQ trainings and programs suited for implementation.

As a result, operators face challenges in developing qualification programs that ensure the safe, consistent, accurate, and reliable implementation of these techniques.

## THE SOLUTION

MMT referenced existing industry standards (ASME B31Q and ASNT SNT-TC-1A) to develop a full training and qualification for executing all HSD Tester and Material Verification Methodology tasks. Our engineers collaborated with several operators and PHMSA representatives to review the program and make further recommendations. A finalized program document was established along with supplemental documents for specific operator needs on a case-by-case basis.

MMT is actively participating on an AGA TIMP committee to draft a white paper on the MegaRule qualifications. MMT continually pursues larger compliance and risk management platforms to adopt programs and receive listing as a covered task.

## THE CHALLENGES

- Develop a program to ensure individuals performing the task have proper training and evaluation to receive approved qualification.
- There are limited existing OQs that apply to NDE for material verification.
- Many options for meeting the MegaRule are new, proprietary, and specialized technologies.

## **CUSTOMER BENEFIT**

MMT worked extensively with an operator who was the subject of an audit to update their default program and issue supplemental documents that addressed their specific needs. The operator was able to resume work within one week.

Running the full qualification program saved this operator many hours of developing a program and completing training on their own. This would have taken many weeks, delaying jobs and preventing work completion.

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