



## PCI Certification vs. Other Certifications, Approvals and Verifications

### PCI Certification

- Third-party audit conducted by a powder coating expert.
- Audit is focused specifically on powder coating processes and procedures.
- Audit does not include part testing and does not certify final part quality.
- Certified coaters demonstrate they have the capability of producing a high-quality coated part.
- Evaluated competencies: incoming quality control, pretreatment, application area, ovens & curing, training, maintenance, process control, final quality control, and loading, unloading & packaging.
- Certification is not specific to a particular OEM, standard (i.e. AAMA), or paint manufacturer. It addresses powder coating operations as a whole.

### ISO 9000

- Generic quality audit that encompasses the entire organization.
- Addresses consistency in business practices and production.
- Demonstrates ability to consistently provide products & services that meet customer and regulatory requirements.
- Requires continuous improvement process.

### AAMA Voluntary Verification

- Does not assess a powder coater's operation or process.
- Only verifies the quality & durability of the final finish according to specific standards (2603, 2604, 2605).
- Verification is specific to AAMA-related parts only. No relevance to other coating jobs.
- Initial verification is achieved through final part testing at an AAMA approved lab.
- Facility visit only occurs at 3-year renewal when random parts are selected for testing.

### Powder Manufacturer Certified Applicator

- In nearly all cases applies to AAMA compliant powders and therefore, has no relevance to other coating jobs.
- Coater must pass part performance testing to receive a warranty from the powder manufacturer.
- Focus is on consistent final part specifications/compliance.

### OEM Specific Certifications

- Each OEM has their own specific requirements. No relevance to other coating jobs.
- Most require part performance testing.
- Some require facility visit/audit focused on their particular requirements.