



Quality Control and Quality Assurance (QA/QC) starts with the premise of measuring an actual process or outcome against a predetermined acceptable standard. In the communications infrastructure area that is Fancom's expertise, standards are set by various industry organizations such as BICSI – Building Industry Consulting Services International, ANSI – American National Standards Institute, IEEE – Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, among others.

Generally speaking, standards set down by these organizations, when adhered to by designers, equipment and cabling installers and systems integrators, ensures maximum performance of the given system. Communications systems are not like high voltage electrical and mechanical systems, which require P. Eng. oversight as a matter of law for the protection of human life and safety.

Communications standards set out by BICSI, ANSI, IEEE and others are varied, constantly being updated and cover a wide range of topics from cabling infrastructure design, to labeling conventions and the connectivity of all transport mediums including copper, fibre optic and wireless to end devices including switches, routers etc.

A common misconception is that QA/QC is an end of cycle operation, happening only when a project is completed. While there is a certain element of QA/QC that typically happens at a projects close out or commissioning stage, ideally QA/QC begins at the very beginning of a project when the customer is engaged to define his vision for the project.

To ensure a quality installation for communications networks requires several milestone reviews for quality. Typically these milestone events would include site visits as follows:

- ✓ Prior to pouring concrete to ensure any underground conduit is properly installed
- ✓ During block or steel erection to review any conduit penetrations are properly done
- ✓ During installation of conduit to ensure correct path and capacity
- ✓ During cable installation to ensure cabling is not damaged
- ✓ During telecom room equipment installation to review cabling and end device connectivity
- ✓ Periodically during construction to review all installations are according to design specifications
- ✓ Following construction to review labeling, testing procedures and finalize close out documentation such as warranty information, operations and maintenance procedures and operator certifications.
- ✓ Possibly on first or subsequent anniversary dates following construction to maintain warranty effect

For more information on our quality control and quality assurance programs and how Fancom can ensure a top quality network installation at your facility please call us at 905-990-4845 or send an email to info@fancomni.com indicating "QA/QC" in the subject line.