



# 5 Things to consider when engaging a commissioning company

“ OFTEN COMMISSIONING DOESN'T GET THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES EVEN THOUGH IT IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF ANY MAJOR PROJECT. ”

Frequently companies utilise the installation company to complete a commissioning project and run into issues later. Of course there are installation companies who can take it all in stride, it is always recommended to hire a company that specialises in commissioning.

# Specialist

/ˈspes(e)list/

noun

1. a person who concentrates primarily on a particular subject or activity; a person highly skilled in a specific and restricted field.

*'he is a specialist in psychometric testing'*

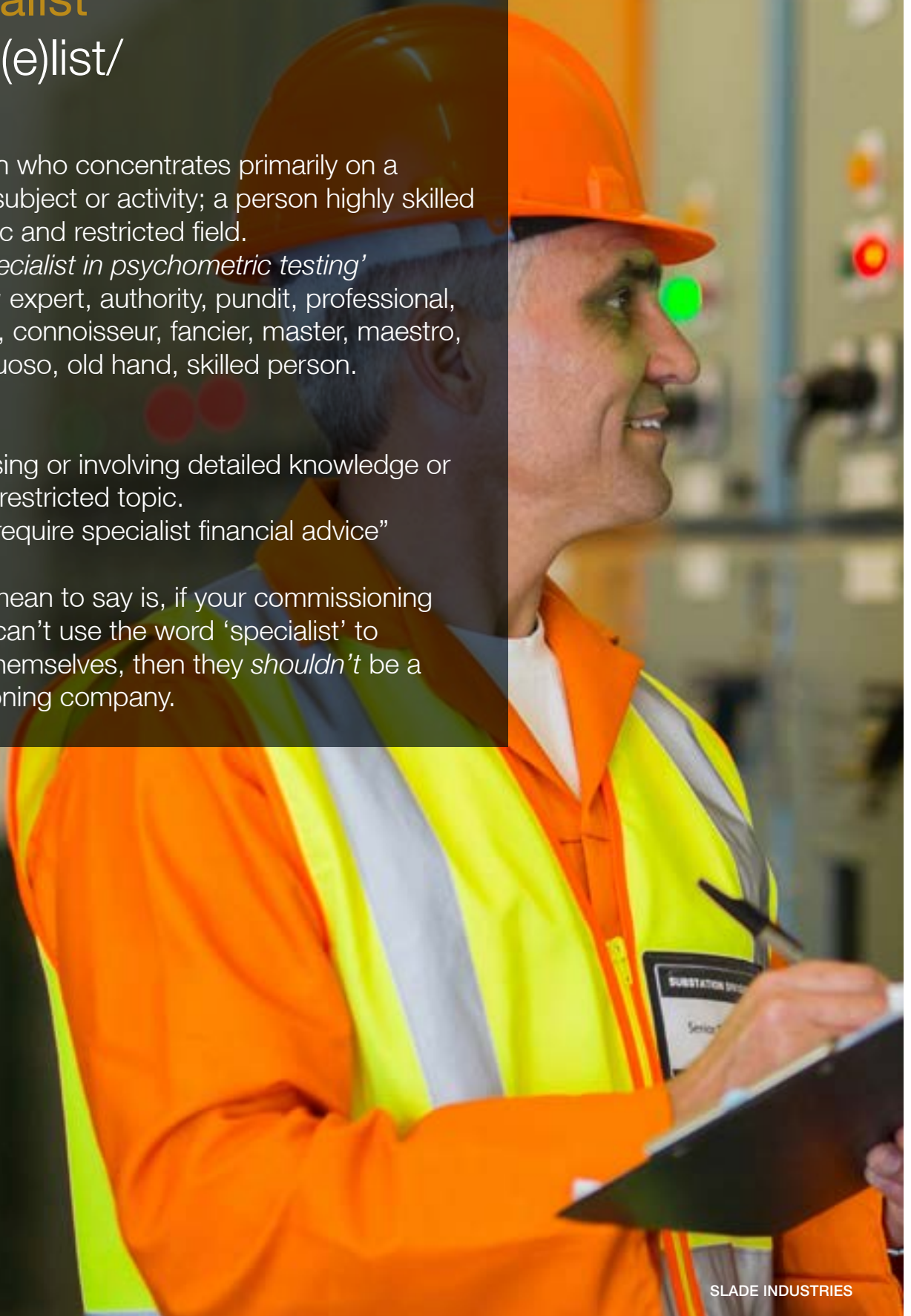
*synonyms:* expert, authority, pundit, professional, consultant, connoisseur, fancier, master, maestro, adept, virtuoso, old hand, skilled person.

*adjective*

1. possessing or involving detailed knowledge or study of a restricted topic.

*"you may require specialist financial advice"*

What we mean to say is, if your commissioning company can't use the word 'specialist' to describe themselves, then they *shouldn't* be a commissioning company.





# 1 Ensure you hire a company that are specialists.

## WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO HAVE A SPECIALIST HANDLING YOUR COMMISSIONING?

To explain it best we'll use a metaphor; you just bought a brand new Mercedes and it is experiencing engine trouble. Do you want to take it to a specialist mechanic who works primarily with Mercedes and knows them inside out, or are you going to bring it to your cousin who does repairs on the side of his full time job? Sure it's great to get a good deal and work with someone you've likely worked with before but isn't it better to get work completed by the specialist mechanic who will get the job done correctly the first time? We think so.

**Operational Readiness** is only achievable when your commissioning company is efficient, thorough and methodical in everything they do. In other words, they are specialists.

“ WE SEE THE PROJECT ONE STEP FURTHER, AND ISN'T THAT EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR? ”



## 2 Ask your commissioning company what methodology they follow.

IT IS KEY TO FOLLOW A THOROUGH METHODOLOGY TO ENSURE THE SUCCESSFUL COMMISSIONING OF A PLANT.

For example, at Slade Industries we follow a 5-step methodology:

### At the C1 Phase:

1. Mechanical completion
2. De-energised
3. Contractor and/or suppliers and construction team

### At the C2 Phase:

1. Practical completion
2. De-energised
3. Suppliers (vendors) and commissioning team
4. Installation verification (QA)
5. Construction punch listing
6. Field Inspection Checks (FIC)

### At the C3 Phase:

1. Cold/Dry commissioning
2. Energised under permit
3. Commissioning team and System Engineers
4. Calibrations, Loops Tests and Bump Testing
5. Inspection Test Procedures (ITP)

### At the C4 Phase:

1. Hot/Wet commissioning
2. Energised under permit
3. Commissioning Team, System and Process Engineers
4. Functionality and sequence testing
5. ITP's and reports (ITR)

### At the C5 Phase:

1. Performance testing, acceptance and handover
2. Energised
3. Commissioning Team, System and Process Engineers, Owners Team
4. Production build-up and optimisation
5. Document



# 3 Do your research.

A COMPANY IS MORE THAN THEIR CAPABILITIES BROCHURE. THEY HAVE VAST HISTORIES AND EXPERIENCES AND THE LIKELIHOOD IS, THEY WILL HAVE WORKED ON A PROJECT SIMILAR TO YOURS IN THE PAST.

Look into it! Most companies have their project history available to you and it is key that you take advantage of that.

What a company has done in the past is a good indicator of what they are capable of. And, if someone else can vouch for them, all the better.

Often times in this industry, recommendations make the world go 'round. Did someone else have a great experience with them? Find out.

What we're saying is, **ask questions now, so you don't have to later.** Operational readiness is right around the corner, do your research.

“...ask questions now so you don't have to later.”



## 4 Who's who?

ASK WHO IS GOING TO BE WORKING ON THIS PROJECT. WHO IS IN CHARGE? WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS?

A dedicated commissioning company should hand pick the team working on your plant. The people behind a company are so important to your results. If your current commissioning company hasn't paired the right employees/ team members to your project then it is that much more difficult to obtain the results you're looking for.

### What should you ask?

- Who will be working on this commissioning project?
- What is your selection process for your team?

Those are two questions that can change your world, or at least your end result.

“ IF YOUR CURRENT COMMISSIONING COMPANY HASN'T PAIRED THE RIGHT EMPLOYEES/ TEAM MEMBERS TO YOUR PROJECT THEN IT IS THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN THE RESULTS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR. ”



# 5 What is the documentation process?

AN ACCURATE DOCUMENTATION PROCESS IS ESSENTIAL TO PREPARING YOUR PLANT FOR OPERATIONAL READINESS.

While of course you know that, did you know that the documentation process could be... paperless?

Paperless documentation has so many quality assurance and quality control benefits, you can look forward to experiencing the following:

- Improved speed and accuracy
- Reduced administrative tasks
- Improved data quality
- Cost control
- Comprehensive handover documentation for Operational Readiness.

Yes, there are a lot of things to consider when selecting a commissioning company but if you follow the five simple steps, you can ensure cost control and operational readiness. How is that for peace of mind?



“ YOU CAN REST EASY KNOWING EACH OF THE STEPS IN OUR METHODOLOGY WILL BE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED BECAUSE WE ARE HIGHLY QUALIFIED SPECIALISTS WITH OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRICAL, INSTRUMENTATION AND PROCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS. ”

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