

ASK THE MOT EXPERT



Why MOT compliance starts and stops with the Authorised Examiner

By Ross Laurence, Director, MOT Compliance Group

Compliance is NOT a tick box exercise, it's a continuous responsibility that sits firmly with the Authorised Examiner (AE). While MOT testers carry out the routine inspections, it is the AE who remains accountable for standards, processes, and ensuring a vehicle testing station consistently meets DVSA requirements.

Too often, compliance procedures are only addressed when something goes wrong. By then, the damage is already done resulting in points, disciplinary action or even suspension of testing privileges. The reality is simple: compliance should not be reactive, it must be proactive.

An AE must ensure that their site is audit-ready at all times. This includes maintaining accurate records, ensuring equipment is correctly calibrated, overseeing MOT tester competence, and embedding a culture of quality and consistency. But with the pressures of running a busy workshop, managing staff, and keeping customers satisfied. This responsibility can quickly become overwhelming alongside the day-to-day demands of running a business and a workshop.

That's why having a trusted third-party MOT compliance partner can make all the difference.

Many AEs are now turning to external compliance support to help manage this responsibility effectively. MOT Compliance Group provides independent support to AEs through in-person site reviews and practical guidance. We have a team made up of former DVSA vehicle examiners, MOT Testers and technicians offering a wealth of trade experience and regionally based support across the UK, including Scotland and Wales. The focus is on tailored, on-site advice rather than standardised assessments, helping AEs address specific risks within their operation.

Routine in person site reviews from an MOT consultant will help identify any risks before they become a problem, ensuring an MOT testing station meets DVSA standards or even exceeds them. Supporting this is MOT Xpert, our garage management system, integrated with MTS and designed to help AEs oversee compliance. Features include TQI monitoring, audit preparation, MOT reconciliation, calibration reminders, MOT tester training programme, booking and quality control functions - making it easier for AEs to stay in control and demonstrate due diligence.

What truly sets us apart, is our joined-up approach to compliance and training.

Through our sister company, MOT Expert, we provide industry-leading training from our dedicated MOT training centre. Delivering training across multiple vehicle classes, CPD support and guidance for new AEs or new testing sites. Our combined approach supports compliance, continuous learning, building long-term confidence, customer satisfaction and consistency across the entire team and wider business.

For AEs, the message is clear: compliance is your responsibility, but it doesn't have to be managed alone. With the right support in place year-round, staying audit-ready becomes part of your everyday with a dedicated MOT consultant helping you to make the correct call on defects, not a last-minute scramble for advice.

As highlighted in recent DVSA enforcement updates, the risk of non-compliance remains significant. In a tightly regulated environment such as the MOT Scheme, being informed, up to date and consistent is critical.



MOT Compliance Group (MOTCG) delivers nationwide support to help Authorised Examiners identify risk early and maintain full Scheme compliance, including TQI monitoring, QC checks, audit preparation and ongoing management oversight based on real DVSA enforcement experience.

Visit Hall 6, Stand H32 at the UK Garage and Bodyshop Event (NEC Birmingham, 3rd – 4th June 2026) or contact the team: 08000 487 063
www.motcg.co.uk



MOT Compliance Group

The UK's Only MOT Total Protection Partner

Our Business Is Taking Care Of Your Business

Compliance Audits & QA Checks

Our MOT Centre Site Audit will make sure that you are following the criteria set out by the DVSA so that you can feel confident and safe in the knowledge that your VTS is up to standard.

DVSA Interview & Disciplinary Support

We are on hand to support you through DVSA appeals to ensure minimal disruption to your business – we are with you every step of the way.

Bespoke Garage Management Software

Our ultimate MOT software and test centre management tool – VTS Pro has everything you need to run your garage safely and simply stored in one place. Complex in functionality yet simple to set up and use.

“Amazing Service from Ross, Haider & Leanne, they all work so hard! Very responsive and feels like they come in and wave a magic wand.”

Auto Repair Shop, Kislingbury

Garage Initial Setup • Garage Details • Associated Garages
Invoice Contact • Users • Bays • Address • Testing Classes • Testers
MOT Equipment • MOT Calibrations • MOT Reconciliations
MOT Site Audits • QC Checks (Group A) • Bookings
Defects Reports • MOT Bay Cleaning • QC Checks (Group B)

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