

Our History

The Intertek story starts at the inception of the modern testing industry. The history of Intertek goes back over 130 years, and evolves from the combined growth of a number of innovative companies.

1880–1900

- Mr. Caleb Brett founds a marine surveying business in the United Kingdom to offer independent testing and certification of ships' cargoes (1885).
- Mr. Milton Hersey establishes a chemical testing laboratory in Montreal, Quebec, pioneering the idea of independent testing laboratories (1888).
- Mr. Thomas Edison establishes the Lamp Testing Bureau of his Edison Electric Illuminating Company in America, the origin of the world's electric light industry (1896).
 - The Lamp Testing Bureau is later renamed 'Electrical Testing Laboratories', and later shortened to 'ETL.'
 - It grows to provide testing to General Electric and other industries being created by new invention at the time, such as air-conditioning, over the next 40 years.

1900–1940

- SEMKO is founded in Sweden to provide Swedish electrical and electronic product safety testing (1925).
 - SEMKO registers the 'S-Mark'. It becomes a product testing organisation accredited by the Swedish government for its mandatory certification.
 - It further expands to provide certifications for products in wider Nordic markets, and the international electrical and electronic industries over the next 40 years.
- Mr. Chas Warnock forms the Chas Warnock Company in Montreal, Canada to inspect steel products (1927).

1940–1980

- Milton Hersey and Chas Warnock merge their companies to create 'Warnock Hersey', one of the largest testing and inspection entities in Canada (1954). The company expands into minerals, lumber testing and the US market.
- Inchcape, a diverse international group at the time enters the testing industry by establishing 'Labtest' Hong Kong to serve the internal needs of the Dodwell companies, a multinational corporation acquired by Inchcape (1973).
 - Labtest began with just three people – Raymond Kong, Alfred Yung and Thomas Chan.
 - Labtest originally focuses on textile testing, and later broadens across other consumer goods. It is the first commercial consumer goods testing facility in Hong Kong.
 - Labtest expands internationally, extending its business in the United States (1975) and establishing labs in the Philippines (1979), Taiwan (1982), New York city (1983), Singapore (1984), Thailand (1985) and the UK (1987) and China (1989).
- Inchcape acquires multiple testing and inspection companies, ranging from petroleum, petrochemical, textiles, to electronics and minerals testing (1975-1980).

1980–2000

- Inchcape reorganises. It forms a specific testing business stream, 'Inchcape Testing Services' (1987), including Labtest and its other acquisitions in the testing, inspection and certification area.
- Inchcape acquires the Caleb Brett group of companies, and the government trade and inspection services businesses in the UK ('Foreign Trade Standards') and the US (Intertek Testing Services and Intertek Services International) (1984-87).
- Labtest acquires the product safety consulting business RAM (Risk Analysis & Management™). RAM supports clients such as McDonalds and their toy safety programme (1988).
- Inchcape acquires ETL Testing Laboratories (1988).
- Inchcape continues its acquisitive path, buying Warnock Hersey in North America (1992) and SEMKO in Sweden (1994), and other testing companies. It amasses a range of accreditations and registrations needed to provide certification, inspection and testing services across various industries including automotive, aerospace, electronic and consumer goods.
- Inchcape's Testing Services division is bought as part of a management buy-out by Charterhouse Development Capital, a global investment company (1996).
- The company is renamed 'Intertek Testing Services', forming the present-day Intertek. Richard Nelson, the existing CEO of Inchcape Testing Services, becomes CEO of Intertek.

2000–2010

- Intertek lists on the London Stock Exchange on 29 May 2002, becoming Intertek Group plc.
 - It lists with a share price of £4, market capitalisation of £614m, and joining the FTSE 250 in the Support Services sector.
 - Intertek's stock symbol is ITRK.
 - Upon listing, Intertek had around 10,500 employees and around 750 laboratories and offices worldwide and generated around £450m revenue per annum.
- Intertek continues to expand by acquiring complementary companies in the testing, inspection and certification arena, with the wider focus on providing quality and safety services across a wide range of industries (2000 to present).
 - Intertek expands its own services and operations in growing areas such as supply-chain management and ethical sourcing services, industrial asset inspection, food, pharmaceutical renewable energies and bio-fuels, solar and wind-powered product services.
 - It commences major laboratory outsourcing contracts with companies, including BP, Kodak, DSM, Unilever, ICI, Sabic, Volkswagen and Lilly.

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2000–2010 continued

- 2005: Richard Nelson, CEO of 20 years, retires. Dr. Wolfhart Hauser is appointed CEO.
- 2006: Intertek internal business units were aligned around customers' industries into four core divisions.
- 2007: Intertek's share price on the London Stock Exchange exceeds the £10-mark for the first time; and 2011 marked the first time that the share price exceeded the £20-mark.
- 2008: Intertek's annual revenue exceeds £GBP 1 billion, reporting total revenue of £1,003.5k for the full year.
- 2009: Intertek enters the FTSE 100 for the first time.

2010–2020

- January 2011: Intertek reorganised its operational structure to further improve the alignment of our business lines with those of our customers, and renamed certain divisions to better describe their core activities.
 - Oil, Chemical & Agri is renamed Commodities, and incorporates Minerals; Analytical Services is renamed Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals, and incorporates Health & Environmental; Industrial Services is renamed Industry & Assurance, and incorporates Food, Agri, and Upstream Services.
- February 2011: Intertek expanded its brand identity to *Intertek: Valued Quality, Delivered*, underlining the company's global mission of partnering with its customers to provide quality services that add value to their organisations.
- May 2011: Intertek completed its acquisition of Moody International for £450 million. As a result, the number of Intertek employees reaches 30,000.
- July 2013: Intertek acquires Melbourn Scientific Ltd, a leading provider of analysis and development services for the pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical, biotechnology and healthcare industries.
- May 2015: Wolfhart Hauser, CEO retires from Intertek after 10 years of service and is succeeded by André Lacroix.
- 2015: Intertek completes four acquisitions including PSI for \$330m in the US – a provider of testing and assurance services to commercial and civil construction markets – with 2,400 people across 87 locations. At the end of 2015, the number of Intertek employees totals 41,400.
- 2016: Intertek acquired the Italian food quality assurance business FIT-Italia, the Canadian cyber security assurance business EWA-Canada, and entered a joint venture with the environmental quality assurance business ABC Analytic in Mexico.
- 2016: Intertek established the world's first Qi Extended/Basic Power Wireless Charging Test Centre in Hong Kong.
- 2017: Intertek unveils its brand reinvention, with the Customer Promise: "Intertek Total Quality Assurance expertise, delivered consistently with precision, pace and passion, enabling our customers to power ahead safely."

- 2017: Intertek acquires leading provider of automotive engineering and testing services, KJ Tech in Germany and Acumen Security, a leading provider of Security Certification Solutions for products in the US.
- 2017: Intertek recognised by investors worldwide as one of the best performing FTSE 100 stocks of 2017.
- 2018: 'Intertek Caleb Brett', the new name for our Cargo and Analytical Assessment business is launched.
- 2018: Intertek acquires cargo inspection specialist, Aldo Abela Surveys (AAS) Ltd. and announces its intention to acquire Proasem, a leading provider of fuel testing, inspection, metrology and training services to the Oil & Gas sector, based in Colombia.
- 2018: In July Intertek built its presence in the UK Cyber Security and Network Assurance market with the acquisition of NTA Monitor and in August expanded its global Assurance business with the acquisition of Alchemy, a leading provider of SaaS-based People Assurance solutions.
- March 2018: Intertek enters exclusive agreement with global leader in Auto Parts Certification. The agreement grants Intertek exclusive rights to operate the CAPA certification program around the world.
- March 2018: Intertek strengthens services in the Mediterranean area with acquisition of Cargo Inspection Specialist Aldo Abela Surveys (AAS).
- April 2018: Intertek strengthens leadership in Latin America with acquisition of Colombian Testing and Inspection business Proasem.
- June 2018: Intertek acquires NTA Monitor, building presence in growing UK cyber security and network assurance market.
- August 2018: Intertek acquires Alchemy an industry leader in SaaS-based People Assurance solutions.
- September 2019: Intertek announces the launch of Total Sustainability Assurance (TSA), a new industry-leading, independent assurance solution enabling businesses to demonstrate their end-to-end commitment to sustainability.
Building on Intertek's existing quality assurance offering and 130+ operational sustainability solutions, it will offer a company's stakeholders comprehensive independent assurance on sustainability.
TSA includes assessment, benchmarking, and verification for the entire value chain.
- October 2019: Launch of Intertek Maison – where science meets luxury. Maison is a propose-built experience centre, in Italy, for luxury and premium brands.
- December 2019: Intertek acquires Check Safety First (CSF), entering the high-growth travel and tourism industry with this leading hospitality assurance business.

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2020–2022

- May 2020: Intertek launches Protek – the world's first health, safety and wellbeing assurance programme for people, workplaces and public spaces.
- August 2020: Intertek launches SourceClear™, a new service that enables brands to show visibility and traceability of their product sustainability claims across the supply chain.
- July 2021: Intertek acquires JLA Brazil, expanding into attractive agri-food and beverage markets in Brazil with this leading food testing company.
- September 2021: Intertek acquires SAI Global Assurance, building on its global Assurance offering.
- July 2022: Intertek acquires Clean Energy Associates, expanding its End-to-End Sustainability offering with this leading provider of Assurance Services to solar energy markets.

2023

- April 2023: Intertek acquires Brazil-based Controle Analítico and enhances presence in Environmental Testing market.
- May 2023: Intertek unveils its AAA growth strategy to unlock the significant value growth opportunity ahead. Intertek Group plc holds a Capital Markets Event for institutional investors and sell-side analysts. André Lacroix, Chief Executive Officer and other members of the Group's senior management team present the Intertek 30 AAA growth strategy.
- June 2023: Intertek re-ignites prestigious Moody brand as growth opportunities in the World of Energy accelerates. Intertek is proud to bring back the Intertek Moody brand, harnessing its global, industry-leading recognition and honouring Intertek's founding pioneers by remembering the powerful engineering-based legacy that Moody represents.
- July 2023: Intertek Caleb Brett opens new petroleum testing laboratory in Athens, Greece, offering an expanded suite of services to the oil and gas and shipping industries, while further supporting the region's key role in international trade.
- August 2023: Intertek Acquires PlayerLync, strengthening its People Assurance offering with the acquisition of this leading mobile workforce enablement platform. The acquisition of PlayerLync is a compelling strategic fit. It strengthens Intertek's position as a leader in SaaS-based, technology-enabled People Assurance services as it meets the demands of a fast-evolving workforce.
- September 2023: Intertek unveils Electrification Centre of Excellence in Plymouth (near Detroit), Michigan. Strategically located in the epicentre of the automotive industry, the facility will play a crucial role in supporting manufacturers in the transition to greener modes of transport.
- November 2023: Intertek launches iCare in Türkiye, an innovative one-stop digital portal addressing the long-standing challenges of transparency and traceability in the processing and testing of lab samples, removing communication barriers and improving the speed to market.

2024

- January 2024: Intertek launches Intertek Inform, providing standards and regulatory solutions to facilitate faster market access. Formerly known as Intertek SAI Global Standards, Intertek Inform builds on Intertek's rich history as a trusted Total Quality Assurance provider to over 200,000 users in Asia Pacific, Europe, and the Americas.
- March 2024: Intertek announces the acquisition of Base Met Labs, a North American provider of metallurgical testing services for the Minerals sector, further strengthening its commitment to supporting the mining industry across the whole supply chain.
- March 2024: Intertek Caleb Brett opens a state-of-the-art laboratory in O'ahu, Hawaii, dedicated to ensuring the highest standards of quality assurance and consumer confidence in jet fuel.
- March 2024: Intertek launches a SaaS platform in collaboration with Trace For Good, designed to improve traceability and sustainability in complex supply chains, particularly in the textile industry, by providing reliable supply chain and product data.
- April and May 2024: Intertek launches pioneering digital platform iCare in India and Bangladesh respectively, where the company plays a pivotal role in supporting the national textile industries. This follows the platform's initial launch in Türkiye in November 2023.
- August 2024: Intertek unveils its upgraded ToxClear platform, available to soft goods and hard goods stakeholders to help them detox supply chains through end-to-end Total Chemical Assurance.
- October 2024: Intertek announces the launch of Intertek Access, a global market access service that delivers electrical and electronic product manufacturers the most comprehensive expertise on global regulatory requirements.
- October 2024: Intertek Caleb Brett opens new laboratory in Algeciras, Spain, strengthening its position as a leading innovator in testing and inspection services for the maritime and energy sectors.
- November 2024: Intertek launches HoneyTrace, a cutting-edge traceability solution for the global honey industry, designed to address the growing issue of honey fraud by using blockchain technology to ensure transparency and authenticity across the honey supply chain, from hive to jar.
- December 2024: Intertek launches Intertek Methane Clear, a leading Science-based Customer Excellence suite of services that allows energy companies to better monitor their methane emissions and activities.

2025

- January 2025: Intertek Caleb Brett opens new state-of-the-art laboratory in Bordeaux, France, as a strategic hub for the country's energy and hydrocarbons sector. Specialising in the testing of petroleum and energy products, the facility offers a comprehensive range of analytical services designed to meet industry standards and address key client requirements.



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2025 continued

- February 2025: Intertek opens regional headquarters in Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The new hub will play a key role in supporting Intertek's expanding portfolio of services and solidifying its commitment to customers in the region.
- April 2025: Intertek launches a comprehensive suite of solutions to help companies comply with the new EU Deforestation Regulation. This regulation affects the import and export of seven key commodities – wood, rubber, cocoa, coffee, cattle, soy, and palm oil – within the European market.