

TCR Engineering Services

Independent materials testing, non-destructive testing and asset integrity, since 1973. This kit is standing reference for journalists: the facts, who to call, and what we can speak to.

The company in five paragraphs

What TCR does

TCR Engineering tests materials and inspects industrial assets so that the organisations who own them, and the regulators who govern them, can rely on a number. The work divides into six practices: materials testing and failure analysis; non-destructive testing and inspection; asset integrity and remaining life assessment; sour service and corrosion testing; civil and structural testing; and third-party inspection.

Why it exists

V.K. Bafna, a gold-medallist metallurgist, returned from North America in the early 1970s with two master's degrees and the view that Indian industry could not be held to global standards while the laboratories that measured it were not. He founded TCR in 1973 and installed India's first 100-tonne tensile machine in 1975. The firm has been independent and privately held ever since.

What makes it unusual

Two things. The first is duration: fifty-three years of continuous operation has produced an archive of more than 9,000 failure investigations, 1,500 boiler tube failures and 100,000 metallographic replicas, which is a reference library a new entrant cannot buy. The second is independence: TCR manufactures nothing and performs none of the processes it verifies, so there is no conflict between the party doing the work and the party measuring it. Its Nadcap certificates record the laboratory type as Independent.

Where it operates

Laboratories at Navi Mumbai, Vadodara and Bhubaneswar, with site teams across India. Internationally the group operates in seven countries, including TCR Arabia, a joint venture with GAS Arabian Services established in 2007 with facilities at Dammam, Jubail and Yanbu, together with TCR Qatar and TCR Kuwait.

What it is building

TCR is moving from a laboratory that returns results to a firm that returns decisions: robotic inspection where entry is unsafe or shutdown is expensive, and analysis run against its own accumulated archive rather than against first principles each time. The purpose is not automation for its own sake. It is to put fifty-three years of accumulated evidence behind every individual answer.

Boilerplate

The standing description of TCR Engineering. Please use it verbatim as the closing paragraph of any article. It does not change between releases, which is the point of it.

TCR Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd. is an independent materials testing, non-destructive testing and asset integrity firm founded in Mumbai in 1973. Its Navi Mumbai laboratory is accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 by NABL under certificate NABLT0726MH18640, covering 1,483 scope items, and NABL's signature to the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement means its reports are accepted across more than ninety economies. TCR holds Nadcap AC7101 accreditation for aerospace materials testing at two laboratories. The group operates in seven countries and serves customers in energy, metals, manufacturing, infrastructure, mobility and aerospace.

87 words.

Facts at a glance

Founded	1973, by V.K. Bafna (1940-2013)
Legal entity	TCR Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd., CIN U28920MH1973PTC016780
Ownership	Independent and privately held
Headquarters	VKB House, Plot No. EL-182, MIDC-TTC Industrial Area, Electronic Zone, Mahape, Navi Mumbai 400710, Maharashtra, India
Countries of operation	Seven
Group employees	750+
Clients served	6,500+
NABL accreditation	ISO/IEC 17025:2017, certificate NABLT0726MH18640, 1,483 scope items, valid 3 March 2026 to 2 March 2030
International recognition	NABL is an ILAC MRA signatory; reports accepted across 90+ economies
Nadcap accreditation	AC7101 Materials Testing at two laboratories: TCR Engineering, Navi Mumbai (PRI 29415245997) and TCR Advanced Engineering, Vadodara (PRI 29227245998). Both valid to 31 May 2027.
Failure investigations	9,000+ completed
Boiler tube failure investigations	1,500+
Metallographic replicas	100,000+
Remaining life assessments	750+ (400+ on boilers)
Fitness-for-service engagements	350+
Reformer tubes scanned	50,000+ across 100+ campaigns
Bridges inspected	500+
Structural audits	1,200+

Pipeline radiography	2,600+ km, 14,000+ girth welds
PMI projects (TCR Arabia)	700+ across KSA, Kuwait and the UAE
Tagline	Transparency. Competence. Reliability.

Please do not write these

Each of the following appears in TCR material issued before March 2026, or in general circulation, and each is now wrong. Correcting an article after publication is harder for both of us than preventing the error.

NABL certificate TC-6905	Superseded on 3 March 2026. The current number is NABLT0726MH18640. Any document quoting TC-6905 is out of date, including TCR material issued before March 2026.
1,081 scope items	Also superseded. The current NABL scope covers 1,483 items.
Nine countries	The group operates in seven countries.
Nadcap certified	Nadcap accredits; it does not certify. The correct phrasing is “Nadcap accredited”, and it applies to a named facility for a named scope, never to a company as a whole.
Nadcap AC7102 / heat treatment	TCR holds AC7101 Materials Testing only. It has never held AC7102, performs no heat treating and manufactures no parts.
Transparency. Certainty. Reliability.	The tagline is Transparency. Competence. Reliability.
ISO 9001	TCR holds no standalone ISO 9001 certificate. The quality management system runs on ISO/IEC 17025:2017, which carries the ISO 9001 requirements for a laboratory.

Who to call about what

Interviews are arranged through Atul Yadav. Named experts are available for technical discussion; we would rather you spoke to the right person than to the most senior one.

NAME	ROLE	SPEAKS TO
Rohit Bafna	President	Group strategy, exports and global supply chains, international expansion, digital transformation, the industry outlook. <i>Default spokesperson for international and business media.</i>
Avinash Tambewagh	Technical Head, TCR Engineering	Non-destructive testing, test methods, laboratory operations, boiler tube and pressure equipment failure, robotic inspection. <i>Default spokesperson for technical and trade media.</i>
Dr. Ajay Essampally	Senior Metallurgist and Head of Quality Assurance; Nadcap AC7101 Materials Testing Lead	Accreditation and audit, NABL and Nadcap, quality management systems, metallurgy, measurement uncertainty. <i>Default source for anything on quality systems or accreditation.</i>
Lalit Surve	General Manager, Operations and Finance	Financial strategy, capital allocation in a testing business, growth, regulatory compliance, the commercial view of India's industrial cycle. <i>Default source for business and financial media.</i>
Paresh Haribhakti	Managing Director, TCR Advanced	Asset integrity, fitness-for-service, remaining life assessment, contract research. ASM International co-author. <i>Deep technical interviews on integrity engineering.</i>
Manoj Prabhakar Singh	Department Head, Corrosion Testing	Sour service, NACE MR0175 and ISO 15156, HIC and SSC testing, corrosion in oil and gas. <i>The specialist for anything on sour gas or corrosion.</i>
Parul Hariya	Head of Civil and Building Materials Testing	Structural audits under Bye-Law Clause 77, rebar and coupler testing, concrete, bridge inspection. <i>The specialist for construction and urban infrastructure.</i>
Shailendra Singh	Head, NDT and Third-Party Inspection	Third-party inspection, vendor surveillance, turnaround inspection, pipeline radiography. <i>The specialist for inspection and project quality.</i>

Story angles

ANGLE	WHY IT IS A STORY	WHO
Quality as the export gate	An Indian exporter's constraint is often not the product but the evidence that the product conforms. Where a buyer will accept a report and where it will not is a commercial question before it is a technical one.	Rohit Bafna
Why accredited testing capacity sits inside the aerospace bottleneck	Rate ramps are limited by how fast a supplier can be qualified, and qualification runs through accredited materials verification.	Rohit Bafna, Dr. Ajay Essampally
What actually causes boiler tube failures	1,500+ investigations on record. The recurring root causes are neither exotic nor unpredictable, which is the point.	Avinash Tambewagh
		Paresh Haribhakti

ANGLE	WHY IT IS A STORY	WHO
Ageing plant and the arithmetic of life extension	India's refineries, fertiliser plants and power stations from the 1970s and 1980s have passed their design life. Remaining life assessment is the third option between running blind and replacing at enormous cost.	
Sour service and the hydrogen question	The metallurgy that governs H ₂ S service is the same metallurgy that will govern hydrogen blending in existing pipelines.	Manoj Prabhakar Singh
Structural audits and Mumbai's ageing building stock	Clause 77 makes the audit mandatory. What a real audit finds, and what a cursory one misses, is the story.	Parul Hariya
What an accreditation audit actually examines	Calibration currency, operator qualification method by method, specimen geometry, and measured performance against other laboratories internationally. Not a document review.	Dr. Ajay Essampally
The economics of an independent testing laboratory	Capital expenditure buys credibility rather than capacity, and the payback period is measured in accreditations rather than units.	Lalit Surve

Timeline

1973	V.K. Bafna founds TCR Engineering Services in Bombay.
1975	Installs India's first 100-tonne tensile testing machine.
1980s	Adds the first spectrometer in an Indian private laboratory, extending the practice from mechanical into chemical analysis.
1990s	Builds the failure analysis practice that becomes the group's reference archive.
2007	TCR Arabia established at Dammam, a joint venture with GAS Arabian Services, opening the GCC market.
2013	V.K. Bafna dies. Neelam Bafna becomes Chairperson and Managing Director; the firm remains independent and privately held.
2017	Evolve by TCR, the training academy, is established at Vadodara.
2023	TCR marks fifty years of continuous operation.
March 2026	NABL accreditation renewed as certificate NABLT0726MH18640, 1,483 scope items, valid to 2030.
2026	Nadcap AC7101 Materials Testing accreditation achieved at two laboratories, Navi Mumbai and Vadodara, making TCR the first Indian group with two independently accredited materials testing facilities.

Leadership

High-resolution and web copies of every portrait below are in the assets/portraits/ folder of this kit, with these captions in CAPTIONS .txt. Please publish the caption as written.



Rohit Bafna

President, TCR Engineering Services

Leads group strategy, exports and international expansion. Second-generation leadership of the firm his father founded in 1973.



Neelam Bafna

Chairperson and Managing Director, TCR Engineering Services

Took the chair in 2013 and kept the firm independent and privately held through its transition to second-generation leadership.



Paresh Haribhakti

Managing Director, TCR Advanced Engineering

Asset integrity and fitness-for-service specialist. Co-author with ASM International. Leads the Vadodara engineering and contract research practice.



Viren Khandwala

Director, TCR Engineering Services

Director of the parent company, with responsibility spanning commercial operations and the group's Indian laboratory network.



Avinash Tambewagh

Technical Head, TCR Engineering Services

Leads test methods and laboratory operations. The firm's technical authority on non-destructive testing and pressure equipment failure.



Lalit Surve

General Manager, Operations and Finance, TCR Engineering Services

Runs financial strategy, capital allocation and regulatory compliance across the group's Indian operations.



V.K. Bafna (1940-2013)

Founder, TCR Engineering Services

Gold-medallist metallurgist, M.Eng Toronto.
Founded TCR in 1973 and installed India's
first 100-tonne tensile testing machine in
1975.

Dr. Ajay Essampally, Senior Metallurgist and Head of Quality Assurance; Nadcap AC7101 Lead. No headshot on file. Request from atul@tcreng.com if needed for a piece on accreditation or quality systems.

Media contacts

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First point of contact for all media enquiries: interview requests, asset requests, fact checks and corrections.

Rohit Bafna

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For strategy, exports, international and business media, and anything requiring a view rather than a fact.

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Corporate Press Kit v1.0, issued August 2026. Corrections and verification queries to atul@tceng.com or pr@tceng.com.