

Progress Peak

Monthly Updates from
Progress - Experts in
Life Sciences

August 2026



To the top, together

Dear reader,

At Progress - Experts in Life Sciences, we support our partners across the (bio)pharmaceutical sector with the right expertise at the right moment. Whether it's through operational leadership, qualified person support, or flexible consulting, our focus is always on driving quality and performance.

In this issue:

- **FIELD INSIGHT:** New Chapter 1 EU-GMP; Pharmaceutical Quality Systems
- **LIFE AS A CONSULTANT:** Insights from Mailkel Dijkstal
- **MYTH VS FACT:** Is software system qualification really a black box?



New Chapter 1 EU-GMP; Pharmaceutical Quality Systems

The upcoming revision of EU-GMP Chapter 1 puts greater emphasis on supply chain risks, product availability, and the prevention of medicine shortages. This article explains what the expected changes could mean for your Pharmaceutical Quality System, the responsibilities of manufacturers and MAHs, and why an end-to-end supply chain risk assessment is becoming increasingly important.

Is your supply chain ready for the new expectations?

[Read the full article](#)



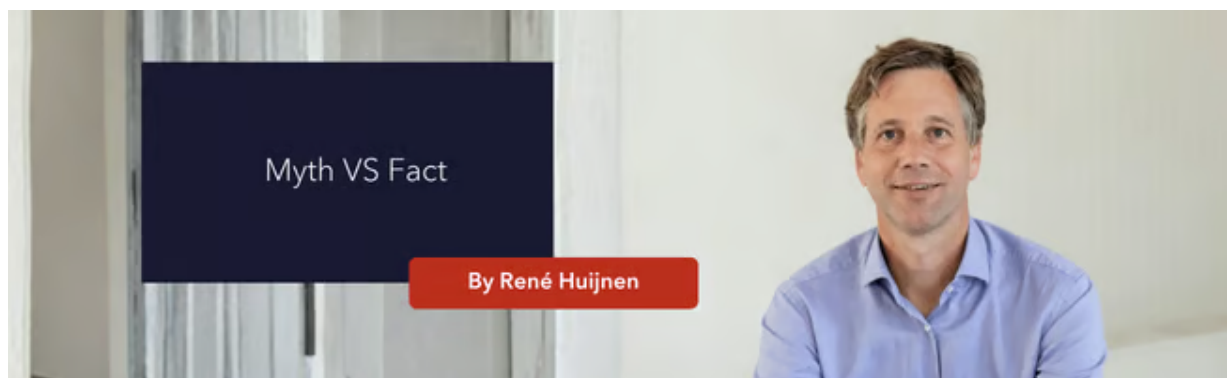
Life as a Progress consultant: Maikel Dijkstal

Consultancy is not new to me. Across almost 25 years in the biopharmaceutical and food industries, I have worked in the Netherlands, Singapore and Scotland, held senior consulting roles, helped a start-up launch a US product and carried a CMC program towards Phase III. I am happiest in small biotech companies or consultancy. At Progress, I collaborate with experienced consultants, work across organizations and deliver high-quality results objectively, without internal politics. I especially enjoy transitions: starting a new problem, completing a technology transfer or helping a stuck team move forward.

More than a year after joining, what sets Progress apart is not its model, but its values: putting people first, continuing to develop and delivering quality work. This is most visible in the people. On one assignment, I worked with three Progress colleagues to establish and qualify a GMP import hub for cell therapy products. Even when working alone at a client, expert support is available, while meetings and events keep everyone connected.

Progress also supports technical, personal and spiritual growth. After years in different settings, the work still feels fresh. For experienced professionals who value the freedom to use their expertise well, Progress is a place to do so.

[Read the full article](#)



Myth vs Fact: from our senior consultant René Huijnen

Software system qualification can feel like a black box: time-consuming, document-heavy and unclear.

But when approached correctly, qualification is much more than a box-ticking exercise. It helps you understand the system, identify critical risks and focus your efforts on what truly matters for product quality, patient safety and compliance.

A risk-based approach, combined with the right use of supplier knowledge, can make qualification more effective and valuable long after release.

Read the full article and learn more about our qualification and validation services:

[Read the full article](#)

Your feedback

We welcome suggestions to improve our newsletter. Share your thoughts with us via reply or by mailing to marketing@progress-lifesciences.nl.

Kind regards,
Progress – Experts in Life Sciences



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