Machinery & Equipment Appraiser Scoring Tool

Rate whether the appraiser is qualified and whether the report is likely to be useful, defensible, and accepted by the intended user.

Appraiser:		Assignment:		Intended user:		Date:	

Scoring: 0 = missing/concerning, 1 = weak, 2 = acceptable, 3 = strong. Award up to the maximum points shown. Maximum score = 100.

#	Category	What to look for	Max	Score
1	**Intended user and purpose**	Engagement names who will rely on the report and why. The payer may not be the client; lender, lawyer, insurer, trustee, court, buyer, or seller needs are clear.	**10**	____
2	**Correct value definition**	The report uses the right definition for the assignment: FMV, FMV-in-continued-use, installed/removed value, OLV, FLV, or another defined value. No vague use of "value."	**12**	____
3	**Lender/report-user requirements**	Before starting, the appraiser confirms required value definition, inspection method, report format, named intended user, and any lender or legal requirements.	**10**	____
4	**Qualifications and experience**	Training, designation, independence, and experience fit machinery and equipment appraisal. Equipment familiarity alone is not treated as qualification.	**9**	____
5	**Recognized standards and ethics**	Report follows USPAP or another recognized standard, including appraiser certification, assumptions, limiting conditions, and has no fee tied to value or loan approval.	**10**	____
6	**Sample report quality**	An anonymized sample report shows methodology, assumptions, scope, data sources, photos/asset schedule, qualifications, and plain-English explanations.	**12**	____
7	**Asset data and inspection method**	Process captures make, model, serial number, year, capacity, condition, ownership, installed/portable status, photos, and whether site visit, desktop, or remote video was carried out.	**10**	____
8	**Research and comparables**	Appraiser explains how market evidence will be found, especially for rare, custom, obsolete, specialized, or limited-market equipment.	**9**	____
9	**Condition limits disclosed**	The report does not pretend to be a mechanical inspection. It discloses reliance on owner statements, maintenance records, photos, inspection limits, or technician input.	**8**	____
10	**Complete defensible report**	Final report identifies client, intended user, intended use, purpose, effective date, scope, value definition, data sources, methodology, asset schedule, conclusion, certification, and qualifications.	**10**	____

TOTAL:	____ / 100	Decision:	Hire / More diligence / Do not hire	Next step:	Confirm scope, timing, fee, and sample report.

Score interpretation:
85-100 strong;
70-84 usable but clarify weak areas;
50-69 significant risk;
below 50 do not rely on this appraiser for an important decision.

Immediate red flags:
[ ] Promises a number before understanding the assignment
[ ] Fee depends on value or loan approval
[ ] Cannot provide a sample report
[ ] Cannot explain assumptions, methodology, or inspection limits.

Tip: A professional appraisal defines the assignment, researches the market, documents assumptions, and defends the conclusion. It is not a mechanical inspection or a number chosen to make a deal work.