

Cert News

NICEIC Certification

Centre News & Information

Issue 9

Welcome to the ninth edition of the news and information from NICEIC Certification.

NICEIC Certification, venture for Award Organisation (AO) status.

The NICEIC Certification application for AO status with Ofqual has been re-submitted in mid-January and we await the outcome, this can take up to 60 days before Ofqual are obliged to respond to us.

This application has been made under the guidance of Creatio who has acted as NICEIC's consultant. In order to simplify and speed up the application process we have taken the decision to initially apply to have one qualification approved, Level 3 Award In The Requirements for Electrical Installations BS7671: 2018 (18th Edition) and then add others moving forward, specifically the first qualifications to be added to our scope are;

- Level 3 Award in the Initial Verification and Certification of Electrical Installations
- Level 3 Award In the Periodic Inspection, Testing and Certification of Electrical Installations
- Level 3 Award for In-Service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment

Gas Engineer Training Standards Inquiry (GETSI)

The inquiry into training standards in the industry is ongoing and Policy Connect are currently gathering evidence. In the last few weeks the focus of the research has shifted to the crucial question of what a regulatory framework fit for purpose might look like and how to best promote the findings of the inquiry as they become increasingly clear.

Major steps along this path were the parliamentary evidence session on the 22nd of January which was hosted by Luke Pollard MP and Barry Sheerman MP and the steering group meeting which made several executive decisions regarding the final structure of the report, its scope and key policy decisions regarding its content. A subsequent meeting in the next couple of weeks will then decide on the best way to communicate key findings in terms of recommendations within the report. Keep abreast of all things GETSI on the Policy Connect website.

The following web sites may be of interest:

<http://www.policyconnect.org.uk/appcog/> - This is where the Inquiry sits at a high level under the All-Party Parliamentary Carbon Monoxide Group and the link below is a news item from that page.

<http://www.policyconnect.org.uk/appcog/news/gets-gets-going> - This is the news item related to the first meeting.

The Certification of Persons Management System Council (CPMSC).

The CPMSC are independent of NICEIC Certification and its role is to overview the activities of NICEIC Certification to ensure the proper functioning and impartiality of the Certification of Persons and Management System activities. If you or your customers have any issues or queries that you would like to bring to the attention of the CPMSC then these can be sent directly to the Chairman of the CPMSC (currently Mr Richard Searle). The direct e-mail address is; CPMSC@Certsure.com

The next meeting of the CPMSC will be held on the 15th May 2018 at Warwick House.

NICEIC Gas On-Site Guide update.

The recent amendments to both the domestic and non-domestic Gas Safety On-Site Guides (OSGs) means there is no change proposed, therefore there will be no April 2018 update. However, there are two identified issues with the latest publication of the Domestic On-Site Guide (December 2017):

- Section 20 Index is incorrectly configured with numbering not relating to the section headers and sub-headers contained within; and
- An error in sub-section 20.4.1 'Working on existing gas meter installations'.

[Section 20 Index](#)

A breakdown in the publication process has led to the indexing error*. Currently, the printer has been instructed to reprint this index and to replace those indexes in guides that have yet to be sent out to customers.

For those customers who have purchased the updated guide a solution is being finalised internally and will be communicated to those customers shortly.

** An internal review has highlighted an area of the process that can be strengthened and as such will be implemented without delay.*

Sub-section 20.4.1

The information relating to working on existing gas meter installations is drawn from joint IGEM / Gas Safe Technical Bulletin 127, which stipulates that for domestic tightness testing the candidate / engineer needs to hold CCN1 accreditation.

However, this is incorrect for those candidates holding / obtaining CMA1 accreditation as domestic tightness testing is included within the accreditation.

A query has been raised with Gas Safe Register technical team, who in turn have advised that this issue has been identified and communicated to IGEM, the originator of the Technical Bulletin, for corrective action.

The Domestic OSG will be updated to reflect the updated guidance as soon as feasibly possible.

Industry Documentation Updates

During the short interval between the domestic and non-domestic OSGs been finalised and the start of the New Year, two industry documents have been published:

- UKLPG Code of Practice (CoP) 24. Part 3 – 2017 *'Use of LPG for Commercial Catering, Events, Street Food and Mobile Catering'*; and
- HSEs *'Safety in the installation and use of gas systems and appliances'* (L56) DRAFT

CoP 24

UKLPG's CoP 24 Part 3 2017 amends and combines two previous CoPs into one –

- CoP 24 Part 3: 2000 *'Use of LPG in Mobile Catering Vehicles and Similar Commercial Units'*, and
- CoP 24 Part 4: 1999 *'Use of LPG for Catering at Outdoor Functions'*.

The possible impact of this revised CoP 24 Part 3 2017 has been reviewed against existing OSGs, with no substantial revision to the OSG being identified. However, a gap in content has been identified within the non-domestic OSG in relation to catering outdoors, which will be revisited in coming updates to the OSG.

L56

HSE has prepared a DRAFT update to L56, which will become the Fifth Edition once published during 2018.

The DRAFT L56 incorporates amendments made to the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) (Amendment) Regulation 2018 (GS(I&U)R), which is currently awaiting ministerial approval.

There is no technical change to the ACoP but clarification is provided addressing three points (a, b & C):

- a) Regulation 2(4) sees the disapplication of CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) filling stations fed by dedicated supply from the GS(I&U)R.
- b) Regulation 26(9) see the inclusion of an existing exemption (Certificate of Exemption No.1 2008) allowing alternative checks - i.e. use of a combustion gas analyser where it is not possible to examine the operating pressure or heat input.
- c) Regulation 36(3) and 36A provides some flexibility for landlords in having their appliances tested for safety annually, i.e. a MOT style is adopted whereby a landlord can have an appliance inspected within 2 months of expiry of an active 12 month cycle which will be dated for the full 12 months.
- d) Regulation 40A requires the Secretary of State to carry out a review of the aforementioned regulations and to publish a report on any conclusions of the review (first report must be published before 1st April 2023).

ACS Criteria Updates - 1st April 2018

All approved ACS assessment centres have been issued new 1st April 2018 disks for implementation.

The Group Competence Scheme (GCS) has been recognised and added to the pre-requisites for specific and relevant assessments. There is a statement in the "Assessors Guidance" referring to this.

The CKR1 assessment has undergone change as BS6172 (2010) has been amended in 2017. "Matters of Gas Safety Criteria" (MOGS) which is supplied by Energy & Utility Skills for April and October changes is now starting to remove appliance re-assessment criteria from the options in CCN1 Section 16.

Re-Assessment criteria for appliance categories, is slowly being included in the individual appliance criteria. This was evident for MET1 in October 2017 and it is now the requirement for CKR1 for April 2018. It is envisaged that all appliance categories will standardise to this methodology going forward. To accommodate this trend we have re-titled the "Appliance Initial" folder as "Initial & Re-Assessment". To minimise impact we have kept and edited the "Re-Assessment of Appliances" folder so as centres have a choice of ACL depending on whether a candidate is being re-assessed on a number of appliances or just CKR1. An extract document from BS6172 relating to Built-in Hobs / Ovens and competence considerations before working in Educational Establishments has been

produced in aiding candidates answer oral questions added to the ACL. The detail of the changes on the domestic disk can be navigated from the “Read Me First” document.

The LPG disk has undergone changes for CCLP1 and changeover, specifically criteria relevant to LAV and RPH. Legacy ventilation for RPH has been removed and new criteria added. This has impacted the rationales and question papers related to LAV and RPH. Again the detail of the changes on the LPG disk can be navigated from the “Read Me First” document.

For ESP the changes are related to MET4 and CMET2 assessment criteria. There are minor word edits to the CESP1 / CMA1 regards RIDDOR. The ACLS for Meters has been adjusted for MET4. The MET4 CJS now requires the recording of meter location in relation to security of the meter housing. There are two (2) location diagrams to be offered to candidates during the practical performance (Per the ACL). The candidates will at random be given either Diagram “A” or “B”. The assessor will indicate on the CJS which one has been issued. This can be used within route plans. Diagram “A” is correct whilst “B” is non-conforming. There is an extract document in the MI folder relating to IGEM/GM/6 Section 14 which can be used in relation to the location scenarios.

MET4 ACL criteria for both Initial and Re-Assessment, has been edited. MET4 OB1 has had a questions removed related to meters supplying mobile dwellings and boats, secondary meters and verifying newly installed pipework between ECV and outlet of regulator for MOP > 75 mbar. The MA’s for MET4 have been adjusted to reflect the changes on the ACL and CJS.

CMET2 OB1 has had a question removed relating to protecting buried pipework and an additional question relating to design pressures at the outlet of an ECV. Again the detail of the changes on the LPG disk can be navigated from the “Read Me First” document.

The non-domestic disk has changes to the criteria for COCN1. This relates to working in educational establishments and OB6 has been adjusted to accommodate the criteria. There are a number of edits and reviews to areas of the disk based on customer feedback. Again the detail of the changes on the LPG disk can be navigated from the “Read Me First” document.

Approved centres **must** confirm with the Chesterfield Office receipt and implementation of the new criteria by the 1st April 2018. It is strongly encouraged that centre managers carry out CPD with all practitioners to ensure their understanding of the new paperwork.

IGEM/IG/1 Standards of Training

NICEIC Certification has issued their revised Domestic and Domestic Meter Installers Managed Learning Programmes (MLP’s), audited and approved by a Third Party Auditor acting on behalf of the Strategic Management Board (SMB). These packages are being to be operated from the 1st October 2017, which was the date that the IGEM/IG/1 Standards of Training requirements were introduced.

NICEIC Certification Training & Assessment Portfolio Up-date.

The Gas Safe Register (GSR) has recently released a revised Technical Bulletin (TB) to the Gas Safe Register website, a complete copy can be found at the end of this article.

- **TB 118** Safe electrical isolation of gas appliances

The revised TB has been uploaded to the engineers web site and will be published in the next available edition of the Registered Gas Engineer Magazine.

A section within the Technical bulletin reads as follows;

When working on Class 1 (earthed enclosure) equipment such as a gas appliance, it is important that the earthing of the power supply to the equipment is adequate and efficient. In customers premises, this is likely to be unknown, so it is important to carry out a test to demonstrate the effectiveness of the earthing. The safe way to do this is to measure the “earth loop impedance” of the power supply using an instrument designed for that purpose.

Within NICEIC Certification’s updated “Electrical Testing and Fault Finding for Gas Engineers” package the correct method of carrying out an “earth loop impedance” test, along with interpreting the results found within the test, are all covered in detail.

The Aims and Objectives of the “Electrical Testing and Fault Finding for Gas Engineers” package

The aim of the programme is provide the learner with sufficient knowledge and understanding for:

- Basic electrical fundamentals
- How gas appliance and controls systems work
- Health, safety and safe isolation of electrical equipment
- Fault finding techniques and product replacement

The NICEIC objectives for the programme, is for the learner without error to:

- Successfully complete a theory assessment consisting of a range of questions related to basic electrical fundamentals.
- Successfully complete a theory assessment consisting of a range of questions related to how gas appliances and system controls work.
- Successfully demonstrate the correct safe isolation procedure
- Successfully complete three theory assessments consisting of a range of questions related to fault diagnostic techniques’, practically demonstrate electrical safety checks and locate and repair an electrical fault on a wet central heating control system.

Programme Limitations

This course is designed to give gas installers the ability to appreciate the safety requirements when:

- ✓ Maintaining gas appliances and systems
- ✓ Fault finding on gas appliance electrical systems
- ✓ Replacing controls and components on different types of gas appliance electrical systems
- This course is not intended to train gas installers to become electricians

Programme Content

The training programme is delivered through a balanced mixture of instruction, discussion, demonstration and practical learner participation.

There are four modules each with their own learner guides and power-point presentations.

There are a “range” of appliances consisting of wet central heating system boilers, combination boilers, gas cookers and ducted air heaters. System controls, components and wiring arrangements for each appliance type are included.

The learner evaluation is demonstrated by attaining the required standard in an assessment environment for each module.

Assessment Methodology

There are 4 methods of assessment used within the electrical testing & fault finding for gas engineers programme to evaluate the learner is meeting the required standard:

1. Multiple Choice Questions
2. Practical Scenario Questions
3. A Mixture of 1 & 2
4. Practical Performance Criteria (PPC)

The required attainment standard is:

- 100% or:
- Without Error

The learner will be allowed three attempts to attain the required level for knowledge, understanding and performance.

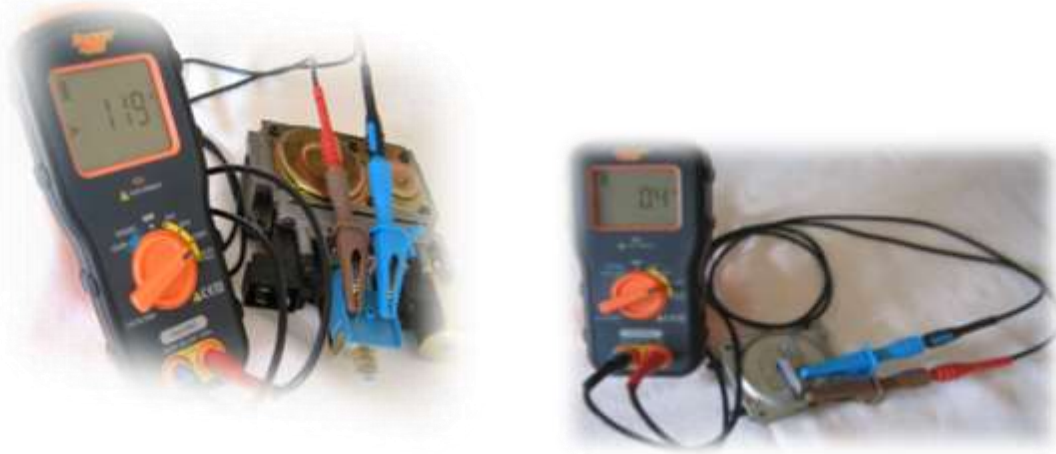
Recommended Durations

NICEIC Certification recommends the following durations for each module:

- Module 1 & 3 – 1 Day (Based on a 7 hour day)
- Module 2 – 1 Day (Based on a 7 hour day)
- Module 4 – 1 Day (Based on a 7 hour day)

Completing all four modules is a three day programme. Learners can talk to their approved centre regarding a tailored delivery model.

Note: It has been evaluated that candidates not wishing to undertake the ducted air heaters and cooker elements may be able to complete the above 3 day programme in 2 days. Centres must ensure that their delivery model is capable of achieving this option before commencement.



If you would be interested in offering the Package within your Centre, then for more details contact Lainey Waddoups via her email lainey.waddoups@niceic.com

Paul (Comms), please drop in here a copy of TB118, sent as a separate PDF attachment.

Group Competence Scheme (GCS) Update.

NICEIC Certification is still the only one of two Certification Bodies accredited to Certify the Group Competence Scheme (GCS).

If you would like more information on GCS please contact lan.crockett@niceic.com .

An Introduction to NICEIC Team member;



Ella O'Regan, Certification Administrator

When did you join NICEIC?

In September 2017 as an agency employee and then from February this year as a Certsure Employee.

Who were your previous employers?

I worked at Chesterfield College through an agency in several different departments.

What qualities do you bring to the roll?

I'm organised, efficient, polite and friendly.

What skills have you developed during your career?

How to make a good To Do list!

Tell us about your home life and any interests.

I live with my partner, son and our two cats, and I enjoy reading, drinking coffee and eating chocolate!!