

Common Core

Unit - WPTCC14 - Awareness of Excavation Support Systems

This training specification is knowledge only and has been developed from the water process technician standard. The specification details the **minimum** training specification, as agreed by industry employers, to deliver the knowledge required to understand the installation and removal of hole and trench support systems in the water and waste sector.

The specification details the critical requirements of the activity to establish competence and does not preclude employers from adding to the skills and knowledge detailed by the specification in their own training programmes.

All work must be carried out to approved procedures and practices and in accordance with statutory health, safety and environmental requirements.

What does this specification look like?

Learners need to be able to:

- ES1 Understand the different support systems available and the hazards to be aware of when on sites in accordance with company procedures
- ES2 Understand the need for a safety conscious approach to the control of hazards associated with the activity whilst working and communicating effectively with customers / third parties and other team members to achieve tasks

What do I need to take this module?

Candidates to be assessed as competent in this skill area should have completed the modules shown below or have evidence demonstrating an equivalent level of competence:

1. Health safety and the environment
2. SHEA water or waste management – providing basic HS&E awareness and an introduction to specific HS&E factors relating to the water sector
3. Risk assessment
4. Location and avoidance of underground apparatus

Knowledge and Understanding

To achieve this unit, you will need to know and understand:

General Requirements

- K1. The principles of Health, Safety and Environmental legislation when working with water or wastewater processes
- K2. The organisation's safety rules, policies and procedures when working with water or wastewater processes
- K3. The hazards associated with working with water or wastewater processes and the correct way to respond to them
- K4. How to select, inspect and use appropriate PPE when working with waste or wastewater processes
- K5. How to carry out a site specific risk assessment and identify workplace hazards
- K6. How to respond in the event of an emergency situation in the workplace environment
- K7. How to leave the work area in a safe and secure condition
- K8. The company recording and reporting process

Task Specific – Awareness of Excavation Support Systems

- K9. The health and safety guidance governing work in excavations including HSG47 and GS6 and the identification of overhead and underground services and apparatus and the risks they pose
- K10. The occupational health and safety hazards and risks in relation to proprietary shoring activities
- K11. The emergency and rescue procedures within the safe system of work
- K12. The requirements of the NJUG guidelines
- K13. How to deal with and report deviations from the safe system of work
- K14. The different types of support system available and the hazards and risks that can occur with the use of incorrect trench support practices including:
 - a) Proprietary support systems
 - b) Steel sheet support systems
 - c) Timber support systems
- K15. How to interpret a trench support system design
- K16. The importance of providing adequate support and protecting services
- K17. The methods of providing support to protect exposed services
- K18. The hazards and risks that can occur with the use of incorrect trench support practices
- K19. The duties of a banksperson and slinger / signaller when working with excavation support systems
- K20. How to recognise situations that could be, or become, a confined space and report in accordance with company procedures

- K21. How to monitor excavation conditions for stability and atmospheric gasses
- K22. The causes of instability in excavated areas, including soil types, moisture content, presence of surface water and ground water
- K23. How to exclude and remove water from excavations
- K24. The environmental considerations to be taken into account when disposing of trench water and contaminated ground
- K25. The company notification and reporting processes following the detection of any issues

How will it be assessed?

To achieve this unit, you will need to be able to provide evidence of the performance criteria and the knowledge and understanding requirements listed above.

Assessment types:

1. External assessment – an external accrediting body will assess against a national minimum standard
2. Internal assessment process – a company led on-going assessment against requirements
3. End-point assessment – see assessment plan for further details here (will be Energy & Utility Skills defined)

What type of evidence will be expected?

To achieve this unit, you will need to be able to provide evidence of the performance criteria and the knowledge and understanding requirements listed above.

Evidence types:

1. On-going Local assessments
 - a) Assessment plan, review, feedback, standard assessment sheets
2. Knowledge based learning
 - a) Classroom, exams, assignments, Q&A sessions, e-learning modules
3. Evidence portfolios
 - a) Learning logs, photos, observation sheets

Assessment types and process

