

Competency Accord: The Power Skills Scheme

For less than £10 per person per year you can register your operational staff on the Power Skills Scheme on the Energy & Utility Skills Register (EUSR) showcasing your commitment to delivering technical competence and ensuring the safety of your operational staff.

The Power Skills Scheme for craftspersons is underpinned by over 80 industry-agree skills standards, established to help provide a common approach to competency across the UK's Electricity Supply Industry.



What is the Power Skills Scheme?

Designed to establish good practice across Transmission & Distribution Network Operators, the scheme sets common standards for the training and assessment of core skills, reducing the need to duplicate training as individuals move between sites or employers.

The Power Skills Scheme covers core technical (craft) competencies, which are transferrable between Network Operators, and includes ongoing quality assurance from the National Skills Academy for Power.

The scheme recognises the fact that each respective Network Operator will determine the extent of any checks it will complete before allowing a person to work on its behalf. Core technical (craft) competencies achieved via the scheme won't need to be revisited, reducing training time and duplication of effort.

There are four routes to registration designed to check and confirm an individual's existing competencies:

- Trailblazer Apprenticeship (L3 Power Network Craftsperson)
- An approved programme (training and assessment)
- Assessment only
- Grandfather rights (open until the end of September 2021)

How does the Power Skills Scheme benefit the power industry?

- Raises standards in training
- Provides a common assessment standard
- Saves cost through the reduction of duplicate training
- Saves time – for both the individual and the employer
- Establishes a truly flexible workforce that can move easily around the industry

The National Skills Academy for Power has worked with the following organisations to ensure the Power Skills Scheme was developed by the industry, for the industry:



How the Power Skills Scheme Benefits Contractors

An ongoing demonstration of commitment

As a contractor, the Power Skills Scheme allows you to demonstrate your commitment to:

- High standards of technical competence and safety
- High-quality training and assessment
- Staff development
- Industry collaboration

Benefits to your business

You can use the Power Skills Scheme to:

- Ensure your workforce is consistently trained and safe
- Provide flexibility – your workforce can be more responsive (for example in storm situations or when they have to move between contracts)
- Enhance your reputation as a business that collaborates across the industry to address challenges and find innovative solutions
- Maximise efficiency – there is no wasted time or irrelevant content because training is specific to the UK's Electricity Supply Industry (ESI)
- Ensure your business is aligned with ESI industry best practice
- Reduce your requirement for trade testing craft skills - saving your business time and money
- Record your workforce's competence on the Energy & Utility Skills Register (EUSR) of training for the energy and utilities sector

Standards and units

The Power Skills Scheme is aligned to the Power Network Craftsperson's apprenticeship standard which comprises four distinct groups of standards and units:

Group A – Foundation

Pre-requisites for introduction to the power sector

Group B – Generic Technical

Generic technical learning and skills

Group C – Overhead Lines / Cables / Substations

Detailed technical knowledge and skills across the three power network craftsperson areas

Group D – Advanced Technical

More complex power sector learning and skills development

The full list of schemes and training programmes in each group can be viewed at:

euskills.co.uk/Industry-Standards

Get in touch

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