



Part of the
Enginuity Group

Qualification Manual

EAL Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations
(Construction)

Qualification Number: 601/7790/1

Issue E

www.eal.org.uk



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1.0 About EAL

For over fifty years, EAL has been the specialist awarding organisation for engineering, manufacturing, building services and related sectors. Developed to the highest technical standards, our qualifications reflect ever-changing industry and regulatory needs. We support the providers of our qualifications with an unparalleled level of service to ensure that learners are well prepared to take the next step in their journeys, whether study, an apprenticeship or work.

Through industry partnerships with EAL centres and training providers, decades of experience supporting our core sectors, and our role as part of the Enginuity Group, we have built unrivalled knowledge and understanding of employer skills needs. As a result, EAL's skills solutions, including apprenticeship End-Point Assessment, External Quality Assurance and qualifications are respected and chosen by employers to deliver real lifelong career benefits for all our learners. That's why in the last ten years, 1.2 million people across the UK have taken EAL qualifications.

1.1 Equal Opportunities and Diversity

EAL expects its centres to enable learners to have equal access to training and assessment for qualifications in line with equalities legislation. Further details can be located in the EAL Equal Opportunities and Diversity Policy:

<http://www.eal.org.uk/centre-support/centre-support/policies-and-important-documents>

1.2 Customer Experience and Feedback

Customer Experience is a fundamental part of EAL's commitment to you. EAL aims to ensure that all customers receive a high-quality efficient service. We are always interested in feedback and if you have any comments or feedback on our qualifications, products or services, please contact the Customer Experience team:

EAL Customer Experience

Tel: +44 (0)1923 652 400

Email: Customer.Experience@eal.org.uk

2.0 Introduction to the Qualification

This NVQ qualification is gained when all the necessary units have been achieved. The centre will then be able to apply for the learner's NVQ certificate of achievement. The learner will also receive a certificate of unit credit, listing all the units they have completed, which can be used as accredited prior learning to complete a qualification.

2.1 Qualification Support Materials

The following assessment support materials are available for this qualification:

- Units of competence

This qualification is made up of a number of units of competence, which EAL has derived from the National Occupational Standards (NOS) which set out the collective performance, skills requirements and underpinning knowledge requirements. These documents allow both the apprentices and the assessor to record the progress through the qualification. The units contain the performance to be assessed, the knowledge to be assessed and the evidence required from the apprentices to demonstrate their skills.

All units in this qualification contain the following information:

- Unit title
- Unit summary
- Performance and skills to be assessed and evidenced
- Underpinning knowledge to be assessed and evidenced

2.2 Learner's Portfolio Building and Referencing

For guidance to assessment and exemplars on completing documentation including assessment planning documentation refer to EAL centre guidance.

For further information please contact:

EAL Customer Experience
Tel: +44(0)1923 652 400
Email: Customer.Experience@eal.org.uk

2.3 Achievement of the Qualification

The EAL Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations (Construction) has been designed to allow a learner to specialise in **one** of the fifteen pathways listed.

In order to achieve this qualification each learner will be required to attain the **two** Mandatory Units plus units from their chosen pathway. The overall grading type for this qualification is Pass/Fail. Units will be assessed and endorsed against the learners chosen discipline.

Learners will be required to create a Portfolio of Evidence to prove their competence in the workplace. Learners should therefore select the unit that reflects the job they carry out in the workplace to be able to obtain the required workplace evidence.

Learners will be assessed in relation to the chosen discipline and endorsed accordingly. The endorsement will be printed on the certificate to show future employers which discipline was covered during their assessment.

3.0 Qualification Structure

3.1 Rule of Combination

This qualification has a minimum of **54** Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and has a Total Qualification Time (TQT) of **160** hours, the notional time required by the learner to complete the qualification.

Learners must complete the **two** mandatory units of competence **plus** the **specified units** from their chosen pathway.

Mandatory Units:

Learners must complete the following **two** units:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/001	Conforming to general health, safety and welfare in the workplace	1	7	20	A/503/1170
QPOC2/002	Conforming to productive working practices in the workplace	2	10	30	J/503/1169

Pathway PLA: Cranes and Specialist Lifting

Min TQT: 160 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/003	Preparing and operating compact cranes to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	Y/506/4600
QPOC2/004	Preparing and operating remote controlled tower cranes to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	M/506/4604
QPOC2/005	Preparing and operating overhead cranes to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	60	180	T/506/4605
QPOC2/006	Preparing and operating excavator cranes to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	A/506/4606
QPOC2/007	Preparing and operating hoists to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	40	120	L/506/3928
QPOC2/008	Preparing and operating lorry loaders or knuckle booms to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	R/506/4613
QPOC2/009	Preparing and operating skip handlers to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	60	180	Y/506/4614

QPOC2/010	Preparing and operating container handlers to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	60	180	D/506/4615
QPOC2/011	Preparing and operating self-propelled modular transporters - SPMT - to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	H/506/4616
QPOC2/012	Preparing and operating ergonomic manipulating machines to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	40	110	K/506/4617

Pathway PLB : Fork-lift Trucks

Min TQT: 210 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/013	Preparing and operating rough terrain masted forklifts to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	60	180	F/506/4607
QPOC2/014	Preparing and operating industrial forklift trucks to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	53	160	J/506/4608
QPOC2/015	Preparing and operating telescopic handlers to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	83	250	F/506/4610
QPOC2/016	Preparing and operating reach trucks to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	53	160	J/506/4611
QPOC2/017	Preparing and operating sideloader forklifts to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	53	160	L/506/7851

Pathway PLC : Extracting

Min TQT: 210 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/018	Preparing and operating wheeled loading shovels to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	87	260	M/506/4621
QPOC2/019	Preparing and operating skid steer loaders to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	67	200	F/506/4624
QPOC2/020	Preparing and operating loader compressors to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	53	160	Y/506/4628
QPOC2/047a	Preparing and operating suction and vacuum excavators to extract in the workplace	2	167	515	H/506/3709

Pathway PLD : Transporting Loads

Min TQT: 170 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/021	Preparing and operating forward tipping dumpers to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	53	160	J/506/4642
QPOC2/022	Preparing and operating rear tipping dump trucks to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	100	300	L/506/4643
QPOC2/023	Preparing and operating tractors with towed equipment for non-agricultural activities in the workplace	2	67	200	R/506/4644
QPOC2/024	Preparing and operating trailer-mounted concrete pumps to receive, pump and discharge materials in the workplace	2	60	180	M/506/5087
QPOC2/025	Preparing and operating self-propelled bowsers to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	40	120	Y/506/4645
QPOC2/026	Preparing and operating static concrete placing booms to discharge and place materials in the workplace	2	83	250	D/506/4646
QPOC2/027	Preparing and operating volumetric trucks to receive and transport materials in the workplace	2	100	300	H/506/4647

Pathway PLE: Work Platforms

Min TQT: 170 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/028	Preparing and operating scissor-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	40	120	K/506/4648
QPOC2/029	Preparing and operating boom-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	47	140	M/506/4649
QPOC2/030	Preparing and operating mast climber-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	40	120	H/506/4650

Pathway PLF: Laying and Distributing

Min TQT: 300 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/031	Preparing and operating binder spreaders to lay and distribute materials in the workplace	2	83	250	Y/506/4659
QPOC2/032	Preparing and operating self-propelled spreaders to lay and distribute materials in the workplace	2	83	250	K/506/4729
QPOC2/033	Preparing and operating towed scrapers to lay and distribute materials in the workplace	2	83	250	L/506/4660

Pathway PLG: Compacting

Min TQT: 210 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/034	Preparing and operating ride-on rollers to compact materials in the workplace	2	53	160	R/506/4661
QPOC2/035	Preparing and operating soil compactors to compact materials in the workplace	2	53	160	Y/506/4662
QPOC2/036	Preparing and operating landfill compactors to compact materials in the workplace	2	83	250	D/506/4663

Pathway PLH: Processing

Min TQT: 170 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/037	Preparing and operating crushers to process materials in the workplace	2	53	160	H/506/4664
QPOC2/038	Preparing and operating screeners to process materials in the workplace	2	40	120	M/506/4666
QPOC2/039	Preparing and operating batching plant to process materials in the workplace	2	40	120	T/506/4667

Pathway PLI: Loading and Securing

Min TQT: 310 hours

Mandatory unit

Learners must complete the following unit:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/040	Preparing for, and arranging and securing plant or machinery for transportation in the workplace	2	53	160	F/506/4669

Optional units

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/041	Preparing to and directing and guiding the movement of vehicles, plant or machinery in the workplace	2	40	120	A/506/4668
QPOC2/042	Slinging and hand signalling the movement of suspended loads in the workplace	2	33	100	R/506/3929
QPOC2/043	Operating Plant or Machinery for Non-operational Activities in the Workplace	2	33	100	L/505/0175

Pathway PLJ: Road/Rail

Min TQT: 250 hours

Mandatory unit

Learners must complete the following unit:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/044	Preparing and operating road/rail adapted plant in the workplace	2	27	80	T/506/4670

Optional units

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/006	Preparing and operating excavator cranes to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	A/506/4606
QPOC2/013	Preparing and operating rough terrain masted forklifts to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	60	180	F/506/4607
QPOC2/015	Preparing and operating telescopic handlers to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	83	250	F/506/4610

QPOC2/008	Preparing and operating lorry loaders or knuckle booms to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	R/506/4613
QPOC2/018	Preparing and operating wheeled loading shovels to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	87	260	M/506/4621
QPOC2/020	Preparing and operating loader compressors to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	53	160	Y/506/4628
QPOC2/021	Preparing and operating forward tipping dumpers to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	53	160	J/506/4642
QPOC2/022	Preparing and operating rear tipping dump trucks to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	100	300	L/506/4643
QPOC2/023	Preparing and operating tractors with towed equipment for non-agricultural activities in the workplace	2	67	200	R/506/4644
QPOC2/028	Preparing and operating scissor-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	40	120	K/506/4648
QPOC2/029	Preparing and operating boom-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	47	140	M/506/4649
QPOC2/030	Preparing and operating mast climber-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	40	120	H/506/4650
QPOC2/019	Preparing and operating skid steer loaders to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	67	200	F/506/4624

Pathway PLK: Attachments

Min TQT: 240 hours

Mandatory unit

Learners **must** complete the following unit:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/045	Preparing and operating plant or machinery attachments in the workplace	2	23	70	A/506/4671

Optional units

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/006	Preparing and operating excavator cranes to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	A/506/4606
QPOC2/013	Preparing and operating rough terrain masted forklifts to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	60	180	F/506/4607
QPOC2/015	Preparing and operating telescopic handlers to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	83	250	F/506/4610
QPOC2/008	Preparing and operating lorry loaders or knuckle booms to lift and transfer loads in the workplace	2	100	300	R/506/4613
QPOC2/018	Preparing and operating wheeled loading shovels to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	87	260	M/506/4621
QPOC2/019	Preparing and operating skid steer loaders to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	67	200	F/506/4624
QPOC2/020	Preparing and operating loader compressors to extract loose materials in the workplace	2	53	160	Y/506/4628
QPOC2/021	Preparing and operating forward tipping dumpers to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	53	160	J/506/4642
QPOC2/022	Preparing and operating rear tipping dump trucks to receive, transport and discharge materials in the workplace	2	100	300	L/506/4643
QPOC2/023	Preparing and operating tractors with towed equipment for non-agricultural activities in the workplace	2	67	200	R/506/4644
QPOC2/028	Preparing and operating scissor-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	40	120	K/506/4648
QPOC2/029	Preparing and operating boom-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	47	140	M/506/4649
QPOC2/030	Preparing and operating mast climber-type mobile elevating work platforms (MEWP) in the workplace	2	40	120	H/506/4650

Pathway PLL: Excavating

Min TQT: 250 hours

Learners must complete **one** unit from the following:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/046	Preparing and operating wheeled loading shovels to excavate in the workplace	2	87	260	T/506/4829
QPOC2/047	Preparing and operating skid steer loaders to excavate in the workplace	2	67	200	M/506/4828
QPOC2/047b	Preparing and operating suction and vacuum excavators to excavate in the workplace	2	167	515	L/617/3078

Pathway PLM: Sweeping, Cleaning and Clearing

Min TQT: 180 hours

Learners **must** complete the following unit:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/048	Preparing and operating plant or machinery to sweep, clean or clear in the workplace	2	58	130	D/506/4677

Pathway PLN: Operations Guide

Min TQT: 230 hours

Learners **must** complete the following unit:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/049	Controlling, directing and guiding the operation of plant or machinery in the workplace	2	60	180	Y/506/4676

Pathway PLO: Movement Guide

Min TQT: 170 hours

Learners **must** complete the following unit:

EAL Code	Unit Title	Level	GLH	TQT	Ofqual Code
QPOC2/041	Preparing to and directing and guiding the movement of vehicles, plant or machinery in the workplace	2	40	120	A/506/4668



4.0 Centre and Qualification Approval

Centres wishing to run this qualification will need to comply with this qualification manual and EAL's centre approval criteria for the qualification. Centres must also put in place the appropriate physical and human resources and administration systems to deliver the qualification effectively.

For **existing** EAL centres to put this qualification on their centre remit:
Create and complete a qualification approval application form in Smarter Touch and submit to EAL.

For non EAL centres to gain centre approval to run this qualification, EAL Customer Experience will be happy to help. Please contact them on:

EAL Customer Experience
Tel: +44(0)1923 652 400
Email: Customer.Experience@eal.org.uk

5.0 Profiles and Requirements

5.1 Staff Responsible for Registering and Certification of Learners

Centres are required to appoint a suitable member of staff who can take responsibility for registering learners onto qualifications, submitting entries for assessments to EAL and taking receipt of external assessment procedures (if appropriate). They may also be responsible for applying to EAL for learner certificates. The role may be undertaken by the same person who undertakes quality assurance.

5.2 Learners

The Level 2 Units have been designed to cover those learners who are either:

- Individuals working in construction needing to acquire Plant Operations competencies for roles such as plant operator, crane operator, slinger/banksman
- Individuals employed in other sectors but require additional competencies as part of an existing job role or to enable career progression, for example, fork-lifts, work platforms etc.

There are no formal entry requirements for this qualification. Learners must have been initially assessed to ensure they have both the potential and opportunity to achieve the assessment criteria set out in the qualification units and gain evidence from the workplace.

Learners are required to obtain evidence against each assessment criteria when competence has been proven.

Performance, Skills and Knowledge evidence must be sufficiently covered and recorded in the Evidence Reference boxes contained within the units, to ensure all criteria has been met.

5.3 Assessors

Assessment must be carried out by competent Assessors who, as a minimum, must hold the Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment. Current and operational Assessors that hold units D32 and/or D33 or A1 and/or A2 as appropriate to the assessment being carried out, will not be required to achieve the Level 3 Award as they are still appropriate for the assessment requirements set out in this Unit Assessment Strategy. However, they will be expected to regularly review their skills, knowledge and understanding and where applicable undertake continuing professional development to ensure that they are carrying out workplace assessment to the most up to date National Occupational Standards (NOS).

Assessor technical requirements

Assessors must be able to demonstrate that they have verifiable, relevant and sufficient technical competence, to evaluate and judge performance and knowledge evidence requirements, as set out in the relevant learning outcomes and associated performance criteria within the unit.

This will be demonstrated either by holding a relevant technical qualification or by proven industrial experience of the technical areas to be assessed. The assessor's competence must, at the very least, be at the same level as that required of the learners in the units being assessed.

Assessors must also:

Be fully conversant with the EAL assessment recording documentation used for the units of competence, against which the assessments and verification are to be carried out, plus any other relevant documentation and system and procedures to support the QA process.

5.4 Internal Quality Assurers

Internal quality assurance (IQA) must be carried out by competent IQA's that as a minimum must hold the Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices. Current and operational IQA that hold internal verification units V1 or D34 will not be required to achieve the Level 4 Award as they are still appropriate for the verification requirements set out in this Unit Assessment Strategy.

Internal quality assurers will be expected to regularly review their skills, knowledge and understanding and where applicable undertake continuing professional development to ensure that they are carrying out workplace Quality Assurance (verification) of assessment processes and practices to the most up to date NOS.

Internal quality assurers will also be expected to be fully conversant with the terminology used in the units of competence against which the assessments and verification are to be carried out, the appropriate Regulatory Body's systems and procedures and the relevant EAL documentation, systems and procedures within which the assessment and verification is taking place.

Specific technical requirements for persons undertaking the role of external quality assurance

Internal and external quality assurers for the units of competence must be able to demonstrate that have verifiable, sufficient and relevant industrial experience, and must have a working knowledge of the processes, techniques and procedures that are used in the rail engineering industry.

The following tables show the recommended levels of technical competence for assessors, internal and external quality assurers.

Technical requirements for Assessors and Quality Assurers

Position	Prime activity requirements	Support activity requirements	Technical requirements (see notes)
Assessor	Assessment skills	Internal Quality Assurance Systems	Technical competence in the areas covered by the units being assessed
Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)	Quality Assurance skills	Assessment knowledge	Technical understanding of the areas covered by the qualification
External Quality Assurance (EQA)	Quality Assurance skills	Assessment understanding	Technical awareness of the areas covered by the qualification

Notes

1. Technical competence is defined here as a combination of practical skills, knowledge, and the ability to apply both, in familiar and new situations, within a real working environment.
2. Technical understanding is defined here as having a good understanding of the technical activities being assessed, together with knowledge of relevant Health & Safety implications and requirements of the assessments.
3. Technical awareness is defined here as a general overview of the subject area, sufficient to ensure that assessment and evidence are reliable, and that relevant Health and Safety requirements have been complied with.
4. The competence required by the assessor, internal verifier, and external verifier, in the occupational area being assessed, is likely to exist at three levels as indicated by the shaded zones in the following table.

Technical competence Job role:	An ability to discuss the general principles of the competences being assessed	An ability to describe the practical aspects of the competences being assessed	An ability to demonstrate the practical competences being assessed
Assessor			
Internal Quality Assurance			
External Quality Assurance			

6.0 Assessment

6.1 Assessment environment

Assessment of all learners in the plant operations related occupations, against the NOS developed by the employers in the construction and associated sectors, will be undertaken in accordance with the following criteria:

- Evidence of occupational competence should be generated and collected through real work activities in a real working environment.
- Real work activities are those undertaken to provide a secure product or service under typical business conditions.
- A real working environment is one that reflects typical employment conditions relevant to the work activities being assessed.
- The evidence collected under these conditions should also be as naturally occurring as possible.

Taking account of the above, it is not acceptable to undertake assessments in a classroom, or similar environment that has been set up specifically for training. Where opportunities for evidence collection are not available at the workplace, simulation is permitted, in accordance with the criteria listed in section 6.3 below.

6.2 Access to assessment

16 is the minimum age limit required by learners to undertake the units unless this is a legal requirement of the process or the environment. Assessment is open to any learner who has the potential to achieve the criteria set out in the units.

When used as part of an apprenticeship standard apprentices must have achieved the requirements of the foundation phase of the apprenticeship in line with the apprenticeship standard they are working towards.

Aids or appliances, which are designed to alleviate disability, may be used during assessment, providing they do not compromise the standard required.

6.3 Carrying out assessment

The EAL Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations (Construction) units have been specifically developed to cover a wide range of activities.

The evidence produced for the units will, therefore, depend on the learner's choice of "bulleted items" listed in the unit performance criteria. Where the performance criteria gives a choice of bulleted items (for example '**any three from five**'), assessors should note that learners do not need to provide evidence of the other items to complete the unit particularly where these additional items may relate to other activities or methods that are not part of the learners' normal workplace activity or area of expertise.

Performance evidence

Performance evidence must be the main form of evidence gathered. In order to demonstrate consistent competent performance for a unit, a minimum of **three** different examples of performance of the unit activity will be required, unless otherwise stated. Items of performance evidence often contain features that apply to more than one unit and can be used as evidence in any unit where they are suitable.

- Products of the learners' work, such as items that have been produced or worked on, plans, charts, reports, standard operating procedures, documents produced as part of a work activity, records, or photographs of the completed activity.

Together with:

- Evidence of the way the learners carried out the activities, such as witness testimonies, assessor observations or authenticated learner reports of the activity undertaken.

Competence performance is more than just carrying out a series of individual set tasks. Many of the units contain statements that require the learner to provide evidence that proves they are capable of combining various features and techniques. Where this is the case, separate fragments of evidence would not provide this combination of features and techniques and therefore, will not be acceptable as demonstrating competent performance.

Simulation

Direct evidence produced through normal performance in the workplace is the primary source for meeting the evidence requirements of this qualification.

If the learner cannot meet all assessment criteria under naturally occurring activities in their workplace and need to simulate a specific task, please refer to the guidance notes "Centre Guidance for Developing Assessments for Simulation/Replication" in smarter touch.

Assessing knowledge and understanding

Knowledge and understanding are key components of competent performance, but it is unlikely that performance evidence alone will provide enough evidence in this area. Where the learner's knowledge and understanding (and the handling of contingency situations) is not apparent from performance evidence, it must be assessed by other means and be supported by suitable evidence.

EAL expects oral questioning and practical demonstrations to be used, as these are considered the most appropriate for these units. Assessors should ask enough questions to make sure that the learner has an appropriate level of knowledge and understanding, as required by the unit. EAL may choose other methods, which must be supported by a suitable rationale.

The achievement of the specific knowledge and understanding requirements of the units cannot simply be inferred by the results of tests or assignments from other units, qualifications, or training programmes. Where evidence is submitted from these sources, the assessor must, as with any assessment, make sure the evidence is valid, reliable, authentic, directly attributable to the learner, and meets the full knowledge and understanding requirements of the unit.

Where oral questioning is used the assessor must retain a record of the questions asked, together with the learner's answers.

Please note: Knowledge and understanding can be demonstrated in a number of different ways.

Witness testimony

Where 'observation' is used to obtain performance evidence, this must be carried out against the unit assessment criteria. Best practice would require that such observation is carried out by a qualified Assessor. If this is not practicable, then alternative sources of evidence may be used.

For example, the observation may be carried out against the assessment criteria by someone else that is in close contact with the learner. This could be a team leader, supervisor, mentor or line manager who may be regarded as a suitable witness to the learner's competency. However, the witness must be technically competent in the process or skills that they are providing testimony for, to at least the same level of expertise as that required of the apprentice. It will be the responsibility of the assessor to make sure that any witness testimonies accepted as evidence of the learner's competency are reliable, auditable and technically valid.

7.0 Quality Control of Assessments

General

There are two major points where EAL interacts with the Centre in relation to the external quality control of assessment for a qualification and these are:

- Approval - when a Centre take on new qualifications, EAL, normally through an external verifier ensures that the Centre is suitably equipped and prepared to deliver the new qualification.
- Monitoring - throughout the ongoing delivery of the qualification EAL, through external verification monitoring and other mechanisms must maintain and the quality and consistency of assessment of the qualification.

Approval

In granting approval, EAL, normally through its external verifiers must ensure that the prospective Centre:

- Meets any procedural requirements specified by EAL
- Has sufficient and appropriate physical and staff resources
- Meets relevant health and safety and/or equality and access requirements
- Has a robust plan for the delivery, assessment and quality assurance for the qualification/units.

EAL may decide to visit a Centre to view evidence or may undertake this via other means and there must be a clear rationale for the method(s) deployed.

Monitoring

EAL, through external monitoring and other mechanisms will ensure that a strategy is developed and deployed for the ongoing EAL monitoring of the Centre.

This strategy must be based on an active risk assessment of the Centre. In particular, the strategy must identify the apprentice, assessor, and internal verifier sampling strategy to be deployed and the rationale behind this:

- That the Centre's internal quality assurance processes are effective in assessment.
- That sanctions are applied to a Centre where necessary and that corrective actions are taken by the Centre and monitored by the EAL external quality assurer (EQA).
- That reviews of EAL's external auditing arrangements are undertaken.



Appendix 1: Unit Summaries

All unit summaries for this qualification are available in the Qualification Specification unit summaries document. For more information, please visit the [EAL Qualification Website](#)

Appendix 2: Learner Registration and Certification

Learners must be registered with EAL on a code which relates to the qualification, this must be completed prior to assessment. Both learner registration and certification can be completed online at the [EAL website](#). For paper-based registration and certification use the appropriate forms. These are located on the EAL website, for guidance on registration and Certification please refer to the Registration and Certification User Guide.

To register the learner on the chosen qualification/pathway code:

Qualification Title:	Code:
EAL Level 3 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations (Construction)	601/7790/1
Pathway:	Pathway Code:
Cranes and Specialist Lifting	PLA
Fork-lift Trucks	PLB
Extracting	PLC
Transporting Loads	PLD
Work Platforms	PLE
Laying and Distributing	PLF
Compacting	PLG
Processing	PLH
Loading and Securing	PLI
Road/Rail	PLJ
Attachments	PLK
Excavating	PLL
Sweeping, Cleaning and Clearing	PLM
Operations Guide	PLN
Movement Guide	PLO



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