Smart Awards Level 2 SA008 Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles

SPECIFICATION

SMART AWARDS
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Introduction

This qualification covers 1 (one) module: Cable Installation Over Overhead Obstacles

The purpose of this qualification is to provide learners with the necessary information to install telecommunications cables over low voltage power crossings and through trees. The Cable Installation Over LV Power Crossings qualification and cabling through trees:

- Sets out the skills, knowledge and understanding to support the individual to use correct equipment and methods to carry out this task safely.
- Ensures that learners involved in working within close proximity of low voltage overhead lines and where trees present a hazard, are suitably trained and accredited to industry and National Occupational Standard (NOS).

Key Information	
Name	Smart Awards Level 2 SA008 Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles
Accreditation	This qualification is approved by Industry and accredited by Smart Awards.
Level	2
Duration	1 day
Guided Learning Hours (Ofqual)	5
Time/Notional Learning Hours (SQA Accreditation)	5
Ofqual Total Qualification	7
RQF - Ofqual Credit -Credit value represents the size of a unit which is determined by the learning time. One credit = 10 hours of notional learning.	1
Age	16 Plus
Qualification Type	Vocationally Related Qualification
Smart Awards Product Area	Safety Qualifications
Sector Subject Area	6.1 – Digital technology (practitioners)
Certification	This qualification is valid for a period of three (3) years from the date of certificate issue. To remain compliant and eligible to work on telecommunications networks, individuals must renew their qualification before the expiry date.
Network Operative Passport Scheme (NOPS)	This qualification is fully aligned with the requirements of the Network Operative Passport Scheme (NOPS). Successful completion of this

	qualification is recorded within the NOPS system, ensuring operatives are visible and verifiable to employers and site access systems across the industry.
Prerequisites and Entry Requirements	There are no formal entry requirements and Smart Awards will not restrict access on the grounds of prior academic attainment, employment, geographic location, or any other grounds. There are no barriers that restrict access or progression, thereby promoting equality. Please Note: This qualification requires a learner to have vocational competency in working at height, working on joint user poles carrying LV power lines and be able to operate a mobile elevating work platform (MEWP). Such as SA001 and IPAF. Those working on the highway, the New Roads, and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA) requires at least one person on site to hold a Street Works card to work on the highway. This Smart Awards accreditation is based on a pre-requisite that any work on the highway requires appropriate Street Works accreditation to be held by an individual working on site, and that this individual is qualified to check that the planned provision of footways, traffic lanes and safety zones determined by the site survey meets with the requirements of the site location and approved procedures and practices required by the NRSWA 1991. Some companies' policies may vary where more than one person on site is required to hold a valid Street Works card.
Mandatory units and optional routes to completion.	Learners must complete the Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles unit in full to achieve this qualification. No optional units or routes are available.
Additional requirements to achieve this qualification.	None
Methods of Assessment	This qualification will be assessed through a practical and theory test. The aim of the assessment is to ensure successful learners have adequate knowledge and understanding of working overhead in a telecommunications environment. Assessment guidance, assessor requirements and additional qualification documentation is supplied to approved Smart Awards centres via Quartz.
Theory test	Learners are required to pass a 25-question multiple-choice test, with questions randomly selected from a secure question bank to ensure comprehensive coverage of all assessment criteria. The test is timed, and learners will have 30 minutes to complete it. All multiple-choice tests are conducted online via the Smart Awards online assessment platform.
Practical assessment	During the practical assessment, the learner will demonstrate competency when performing all pre works checks, setting up the site and safely climbing a ladder and pole, then clearing the site. The learner will have 60 minutes to complete the practical assessment
Grading	Learners will be graded (Fail or Pass) on an achievement or non-achievement basis.

	The final grade will be determined by collective performance in the two assessment tools (theory and practical). Learners are required to achieve both the theory and practical assessments to achieve the qualification. • Theory - To achieve a pass, 80% or more is required. • Practical - If one major fault is given the learner will automatically fail. • Learners must receive fewer than five minor faults to pass the practical assessment. If there are major health and safety failures due to learners' actions or understanding, the assessment MUST be stopped. The learner should be taken to a suitable area to be explained the reason for stopping the assessment and that his assessment is deemed as failed. Guidance on the major failures that should result in stopping the assessment is provided in the practical assessment.
Reasonable adjustments and special considerations	Smart Awards approved centres that have learners with specific requirements should refer to the Smart Awards Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy and Procedure. This document outlines the support available to ensure fair access to assessments. It can be found on the Smart Awards website at www.smartawards.co.uk
Recognition of Prior Learning	Smart Awards is committed to supporting Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and has established a dedicated policy and set of procedures to guide and assist approved centres in its implementation. The full policy is available on the Smart Awards website at www.smartawards.co.uk
Required resources and site requirements for delivering this Qualification	To ensure a safe and effective learning and assessment environment, the following site requirements must be met for the delivery of the SA008 Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles qualification: • Access to a suitable training area that simulates real-world overhead telecoms environments, including poles, ladders, or other relevant infrastructure. • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn by all learners and assessors, including safety helmets, high-visibility clothing, gloves, and appropriate footwear. • The site must comply with current health and safety regulations, including safe access/egress, signage, and emergency procedures. • Adequate first aid provision must be available on-site throughout the training and assessment period. • Learners must have access to safe working at height equipment (e.g. harnesses, fall arrest systems) that has been inspected and approved in line with relevant legislation. • The site must provide access to classroom or indoor facilities for the delivery of theoretical content and the completion of the online multiple-choice assessment.

Qualification Structure

The Level 2 SA008 Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles qualification consists of one mandatory unit, which learners must complete to achieve the qualification. Attainment at Level 2 demonstrates the learner's ability to apply relevant

knowledge, skills, and procedures to carry out clearly defined tasks and resolve straightforward problems with appropriate direction or supervision.

SMART AWARDS LEVEL 2 in SA008 Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles								
Minimum TQT for this pathway = 7 Minimum number of credits = 1 Minimum number of units = 1				Minimum number of GLH = 5 Minimum number of assessment time = 1.5 Other learning time = 0.5				
Unit Number	Unit title	Level	M/O	GLH	ASS	OTHER LEARNING	TQT	CREDITS
SA008	Overhead Safety	2	M	5	1.5	0.5	7	1

Learner Support and Assessment Conditions

Learners will have access to support throughout the training period via their trainer. Trainers are responsible for ensuring that each learner is adequately prepared and competent before presenting them for assessment.

No support or assistance may be given to the learner during either the theory or practical assessments, to maintain the integrity and validity of the qualification.

Qualification objectives and requirements

This qualification confirms that the learner has demonstrated the required competence to work safely when Cabling Over Overhead Obstacles in the telecommunications network. To successfully obtain this qualification, the learners will need to demonstrate the knowledge and ability requirements set out in the learning outcomes and assessment criteria.

Unit Title:	Cable Installation over LV Power Crossings
Unit Reference Number:	SA008

Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know relevant health and safety legislation and industry good practice when installing and recovering telecommunications cables crossing above low voltage power lines	1.1. Outline the key health and safety legislation and industry good practice. 1.2. Identify the hazards and risks associated with the working area. 1.3. State the importance of maintaining tools, equipment, and personal protective equipment. 1.4. Outline safety zone requirements.

2. Be able to carry out safe use of equipment and methods for installing telecommunication cables crossing above low voltage power lines	2.1. Select, prepare, and use materials, components, tools, and associated equipment to install or remove telecommunications cables crossing above low voltage power lines. 2.2. Inspect equipment to ensure it is safe and fit for use under manufacturer's instructions and relevant legislation. 2.3. Carry out a risk assessment to control hazards on site. 2.4. Demonstrate safe working practices when using a one- and two-man MEWP to assist with installation or removal of telecommunications cables crossing above low voltage power lines.
3. Be able to work safely when installing or recovering telecommunications cables crossing above low voltage power lines	3.1. Carry out the minimum clearance checks between telecoms cables and the LV power cables. 3.2. Carry out your work and maintain safe work practices. 3.3. Demonstrate safe installation methods when installing telecommunications cables crossing above low voltage power lines. 3.4. Demonstrate safe cable recovery methods for cables crossing above low voltage power lines. 3.5. Communicate appropriately with ground staff. 3.6. Site cleared and closed down correctly.
4. Know the emergency and reporting procedures in case of emergency or failure.	4.1. Outline the emergency planning procedures relevant to the work area. 4.2. State the importance of initiating and maintaining good communication and team working. 4.3. Identify the records required for management and legislative purposes and the importance of maintaining them. 4.4. Describe the hazards of working in different types of sites and situations.
5. Know how to carry out safe installation and recovery of telecommunication cables through trees	5.1. List the hazards and risks associated with cabling through trees. 5.2. Outline materials, components, tools, and associated equipment to install or remove telecommunications cables through trees from a MEWP. 5.3. Describe safe installation methods when installing telecommunications cables through trees from a MEWP. 5.4. Identify safe cable recovery methods for cables through trees from a MEWP.