



Smart Awards Level 3 SA030 – Fire Stopping Installation Specification



Introduction

Fire stopping is part of the passive fire protection for a building and is the practice of reinstating fire compartmentation or barriers that have been penetrated. It is important that suitable products offering equivalent fire protection are used. The purpose is to prevent or slow down the spread of fire and smoke and keep it within zones or compartments, to prevent escape routes from becoming smoke logged to facilitate escape.

This qualification prepares learners in fire stopping installations. It provides learners with the skills, knowledge, and understanding of how service penetration seals work and their place in the wider passive fire protection system including legislation and guidance associated with fire stopping.

Key Information	
Name	Smart Awards Level 3 SA030 – Fire Stopping Installation
Accreditation	This qualification is approved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ofqual: Qualification number 610/3244/X
Level	3
Duration	1 day
Guided Learning Hours (Ofqual)	8
Time/Notional Learning Hours (SQA Accreditation)	
Ofqual Total Qualification	10
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	<p>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 to access or progression, supporting inclusivity and equal opportunity for all learners.</p> <p>Learners must have a basic understanding of the English language for regulated qualifications that are approved by Ofqual or SQA Accreditation.</p>
Mandatory units and optional routes to completion.	Learners must complete the Fire Stopping Installation unit in full to achieve this qualification. No optional units or routes are available.
Additional requirements to achieve this qualification.	None
Methods of Assessment	<p>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 Fire Stopping Installation in a telecommunications environment.</p> <p>Assessment guidance, assessor requirements and additional qualification documentation is supplied to approved Smart Awards centres via Quartz.</p>
Theory test	<p>Learners are required to pass a 20-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.</p> <p>All multiple-choice tests are conducted online via the Smart Awards online assessment platform.</p>
Practical assessment	<p>During the practical assessment, the learner will demonstrate competency when installing fire-stopping products.</p> <p>The learner will have 60 minutes to complete the practical assessment.</p>
Grading	<p>Learners will be graded (Fail or Pass) on an achievement or non-achievement basis.</p> <p>The final grade will be determined by collective performance in the two assessment tools (theory and practical).</p> <p>Learners are required to achieve both the theory and practical assessments to achieve the qualification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 thirteen minor faults to pass the practical assessment.

	<p>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.</p> <p>Guidance on the major failures that should result in stopping the assessment is provided in the practical assessment.</p>
Reasonable adjustments and special considerations	<p>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</p>
Recognition of Prior Learning	<p>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</p>
Required resources and site requirements for delivering this Qualification	<p>To ensure a safe and effective learning and assessment environment, the following site requirements must be met for the delivery of the SA030 Fire Stopping Installation qualification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a suitable training area that simulates real-world telecoms environments. • A safe area which allows for the installation of cables which will be routed through ceilings, floors and walls/partitions. The cables will need to be fixed horizontally and vertically using approved fire safe fixings and routed through holes of varying sizes. • 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. • 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 3 SA030 Fire Stopping Installation qualification consists of one mandatory unit, which learners must complete to achieve the qualification. Attainment at Level 3 demonstrates the learner's ability to apply a range of knowledge, skills, and procedures to perform complex tasks, solve problems, and make decisions with some autonomy and responsibility.

Smart Awards Level 3 SA030 Fire Stopping Installation	
• Ofqual: Qualification number 610/3244/X	
Minimum TQT for this pathway = 10	Minimum number of GLH = 8
Minimum number of credits = 1	Minimum number of assessment time = 1.5

Minimum number of units = 1		Other learning time = 0.5						
Unit Number	Unit title	Level	M/O	GLH	ASS	OTHER LEARNING	TQT	CREDITS
H/650/8443	Fire Stopping Installation	3	M	8	1.5	0.5	10	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 when installing Fire Stopping. 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 Reference	H/650/8443
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know the regulations and standards applying to fire-stopping installation.	1.1. Outline the regulations and standards applying to fire stopping. 1.2. State the different types of fire-stopping products and their use 1.3. State the importance of the different types of fire-stopping products. namely penetration sealing systems, linear gap seals and cavity barriers 1.4. State how service penetration seals work and their place in the wider passive fire protection system 1.5. Outline your legal responsibilities for health and safety 1.6. Outline the implication/impact of the Building Regulations (England and Wales) on safe site working 1.7. Outline the scope and limitations of fire-stopping systems
2. Be able to implement safe site working practices.	2.1. Identify the hazards and risks associated with the working area and the proposed work. 2.2. Interpretation of drawings, and specifications for work schedules. 2.3. Comply with the given contract information to carry out the work efficiently to the required specification instructions, fire performance documentation/certification, and manufacturers' information 2.4. Work to maintain health and safety and is consistent with relevant legislation and industry good practice. 2.5. Check the work site is cleared and left in a safe and satisfactory condition 2.6. Carry out work to minimise environmental damage.
3. Be able to use tools and equipment to support fire-stopping installations	3.1. Demonstrate how to correctly operate access equipment according to suppliers' instructions. 3.2. Use the correct personal protective equipment

Unit Reference	H/650/8443
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
	<p>3.3. Demonstrate good manual handling techniques.</p> <p>3.4. Carry out prework tools and equipment checks</p> <p>3.5. Use hand tools, power tools, and equipment</p> <p>3.6. Work at height and use access equipment</p> <p>3.7. Ensure tools equipment and materials are removed from the site and stored safely and securely.</p>
4. Know the requirements for fire-stopping installation	<p>4.1. Outline the requirements for agreeing on the installation of cable and equipment with the property owner.</p> <p>4.2. Describe the key safety factors to be considered before and when drilling into a building.</p> <p>4.3. Explain the cables, materials and SSoW to be used to prevent fire from spreading quickly within a dwelling/building.</p> <p>4.4. Explain the key factors and safety requirements in installing internal and external cables to the fabric of the building.</p> <p>4.5. Describe the role of compartment walls and their role in the wider fire protection of the building</p> <p>4.6. Describe what the role of the penetration seal system is</p> <p>4.7. Describe the actions that must be undertaken before installing tested penetration seal systems: pre-installation planning/pre-installation documentation/pre-installation product checks</p> <p>4.8. Explain the roles of competent person/qualified supervisor/responsible person/principal duty holder</p> <p>4.9. Outline the purpose of labelling fire-stopping materials</p> <p>4.10. State how to carry out a temporary fire-stopping installation</p> <p>4.11. Recognise specific requirements for structures of special interest</p>
5. Be able to carry out the installation of fire-stopping products	<p>5.1. Check the area where fire-stopping is to be installed for existing fire-stopping issues and report or escalate issues</p> <p>5.2. Check safety precautions before drilling.</p> <p>5.3. Carry out drilling activities safely and without damaging the property.</p> <p>5.4. Carry out safety through the installation of external cables to the fabric of the building.</p> <p>5.5. Carry out fire-stopping by using approved and authorised materials.</p> <p>5.6. Prepare and install fire-stopping products to the given working instructions and manufacturers' instructions</p> <p>5.7. Carry out safe work practices relating to the method/area of work and materials used</p> <p>5.8. Select and justify the correct products or systems for installation into fire penetration sealing projects</p> <p>5.9. Calculate quantity, length, area, and wastage associated with the method/procedure to install fire-stopping penetrations</p> <p>5.10. Prepare and install fire-stopping to voids, gaps, and openings within fire-resisting ceiling, floor, and wall installations</p>

Unit Reference	H/650/8443
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
	<p>5.11. Prepare and install fire stopping around plastic pipes, cables, and insulated pipes and to the following penetration types, linear gaps, cable trunking, cable trays, metal pipes, ducts with or without fire dampers large blank openings, and switch boxes</p> <p>5.12. Install batts, pillows, plugs/blocks, mortars/compounds, foam seals/slabs/strips, sealants, stone wool and fibre barriers, collars/pipe wraps, and proprietary systems</p> <p>5.13. Record and label fire-stopping activity</p> <p>5.14. Carry out post-installation checks</p> <p>5.15. Store fire-stopping material in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, paying attention to temperature and shelf life.</p> <p>5.16. Check the work site is cleared after the work ends and is left in a safe and satisfactory condition in accordance with health and safety regulations and good housekeeping practice</p>