



**SPECIFICATION – LEVEL 2 GAS
NETWORK OPERATIVE v1.3
(ST0204)**



Introduction

The Gas Network Operative Level 2 apprenticeship develops the competence required to construct, maintain, and repair gas network infrastructure, ensuring a safe and reliable gas supply to domestic, commercial, and industrial users. Apprentices will work with mains and service pipes operating at below 7 bar, valves, fittings, and associated equipment, while following strict health, safety, and regulatory requirements. The role involves site preparation, excavation, installation, testing, and reinstatement, as well as responding to gas emergencies in line with procedures. Operatives will use a range of plant, powered tools, and hand tools, working in varied environments including public highways, new build developments, and customer properties, in all weather conditions and on varied shift patterns.

Key Information	
Name	Gas Network Operative ST0204
Level	2
Duration	24 months on-programme, 3 months EPA window
Funding Band	£13,000
Prerequisites and Entry Requirements	Before final assessment of the qualification, the Learner must be employed in a relevant role, meet Gateway requirements before taking the End-Point Assessment. have completed a portfolio of evidence and, if applicable, have passed the required Functional Skills. Also, the apprentice must have achieved Network Construction Operations (Gas) level 1 qualification
Methods of Assessment	There are three assessment methods, practical assessment (with questioning) in a simulated environment, multiple-choice test and an interview (underpinned by a portfolio of evidence).
Simulated Assessment	The practical assessment and questioning will take place in a simulated environment selected by the EPAO. This may include the EPAO's premises, a training provider's premises, an employer's training facility, a test centre, or another suitable simulated environment.
Grading	Learners will be assessed across both assessment components and awarded a grade of Fail, Pass, or, where applicable, Distinction. The results from each assessment method will be combined to determine the overall grade of a Fail, Pass or Distinction. Grading combinations and criteria are set out in the End-Point Assessment Plan and associated guidance documents.
Link to assessment plan	Gas network operative / Skills England

End-Point Assessment Objective

The End-Point Assessment (EPA) confirms that the apprentice has achieved the required competence to work independently as a Gas Network Operative. This includes the ability to construct, maintain, and repair gas network assets to industry standards, ensure site safety for colleagues and the public, operate tools and equipment safely, and comply with relevant regulations and environmental requirements. Apprentices must demonstrate they can work effectively within a team, communicate with stakeholders including customers and statutory authorities, and respond appropriately to both planned works and emergency situations to deliver safe, high-quality outcomes.

Programme Structure

Throughout the programme, apprentices will gain practical skills and underpinning knowledge in a variety of settings. They will be employed in a relevant role for typically 24 months, during which they will compile a portfolio of evidence with support from their assessor. The assessor will monitor progress against the standard to ensure the apprentice is fully prepared for the EPA.

Available Support

Sample assessment materials for the practical assessment, knowledge test and the interview are available to approved training providers to support learner preparation and ensure consistency in delivery.

KSB Mapping Table

Knowledge	Assessment Method
K1: Utility industry structure and regulatory requirements, including the Gas Act and regulatory surveys	Multiple choice test
K2: Health and safety standards, regulations and practice, including Health and Safety at Work Act, risk assessments and safe systems of work, permits to work, New Roads and Street Works Act, working in confined spaces, working at heights, Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER), Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH), personal protective equipment (PPE), Lifting Operations Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER), first aid, manual handling, fire safety, asbestos awareness	Multiple choice test Practical assessment Interview
K3: Environmental regulatory requirements: Environment Protection Act, disposal of waste and recycling	Multiple choice test
K4: Principles and processes that underpin the location of utility network assets, including health and safety guidance on avoiding damage to underground utility services	Interview
K5: Checks, maintenance, operation and storage requirements for commonly used gas utility network operations equipment and tools, for example utility location equipment/tools, pneumatic gun, hand/power tools – power disc cutter, chain saw, drills	Practical assessment Interview
K6: Principles of traffic management and control	Multiple choice test
K7: Excavation techniques, for example, open cut, moling, vacuum extraction. Trench support for example, proprietary systems, sheeting and mechanical	Interview
K8: Procedures for the construction, testing, purging, repair commissioning and decommissioning of gas network assets	Practical assessment
K9: Procedures for gas network emergencies	Multiple choice test
K10: Electrical safety, including equipotential bonding	Multiple choice test

K11: Emergency services and statutory authorities – local authorities, highway authorities and Environment Agency; who they are, what they do; escalation procedures	Multiple choice test
K12: Communication techniques – written, verbal; customer service techniques	Practical assessment
K13: Reporting channels; limits of authority	Interview
K14: Equality & diversity considerations in the workplace	Multiple choice test
K15: Data – purpose and protection, for example asset records	Multiple choice test
K16: Information technology, for example to support an accurate audit trail using electronic equipment including handheld and mobile devices	Interview
Skill	Assessment Method
S1: Identify hazards and implement controls to reduce risks	Practical assessment
S2: Interpret work instructions, engineering instructions and determine actions	Practical assessment
S3: Identify and organise resources to undertake activities	Practical assessment
S4: Comply with workplace health, safety & environmental policy and practice; including use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and safety equipment	Practical assessment
S5: Set out signing, lighting and guarding	Interview
S6: Excavate holes for utility network services	Interview
S7: Monitor and maintain site conditions, including good housekeeping	Practical assessment
S8: Identify, locate and avoid utility supply apparatus and sub-structures	Interview
S9: Check, maintain, operate and store equipment and tools; report faults if required	Practical assessment Interview
S10: Communicate with colleagues and/or stakeholders, for example, statutory agencies and members of the public, customers	Practical assessment
S11: Use breathing apparatus	Practical assessment
S12: Use gas detection equipment	Interview
S13: Carry out trench installation for example, sheeting, lightweight and proprietary systems	Interview
S14: Record information, for example job reports, time sheets	Interview
S15: Construct new and replacement gas services to internal and external service termination positions using a range of techniques	Practical assessment

S16: Carry out squeeze off activities on gas services (low and medium pressure)	Practical assessment
S17: Construct new and replacement gas mains using a range of techniques	Practical assessment
S18: Carry out flow stopping on gas mains by use of squeeze off and bag stop	Practical assessment
S19: Disconnect gas meters	Practical assessment
S20: Repair gas assets including valves and fittings using a range of techniques	Practical assessment
S21: Join materials by electro-fusion	Practical assessment
S22: Join materials by butt fusion processes	Practical assessment
S23: Exchange emergency control valve	Practical assessment
S24: Test gas network assets at low and medium pressure	Practical assessment
S25: Purge, commission and decommission gas network assets	Practical assessment
S26: Apply gas network emergency procedures including the analysis of gas readings	Practical assessment
S27: Apply water extraction techniques for gas mains and services	Interview
Behaviours	Assessment Method
B1: Prioritises health, safety and environment when undertaking work to safeguard life and property	Practical assessment
B2: Adaptable, for example willing to accept changing priorities and working requirements	Interview
B3: Team player, for example keeps others informed, recognises personal and professional limitations and seeks advice when necessary	Interview
B4: Professional, for example punctual, trustworthy, polite, courteous, presentable, maintains security of business specific and personal data and assets, takes account of equality and diversity in interactions	Practical assessment
B5: Self-motivated, for example manages own time effectively, takes responsibility to complete the job	Practical assessment
B6: Pride in work, for example works to agreed quality targets and standards	Practical assessment
B7: Customer focus, for example keeps customers informed	Interview
B8: Committed to continued professional development	Interview