



Smart Awards Level 2 SA021

Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banks person Operations Specification



Version Number	Date	Purpose of Change	Classification	Sign Off
V1.0		Original release		
V2.0	14/07/26	Full review and update	Public	Marc Henson

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Qualification Overview

This qualification covers one module:

Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations.

This qualification covers the safety requirements associated with Pole Erection Units (PEUs) and the responsibilities of personnel involved in supporting their safe operation.

The qualification provides learners with the knowledge and practical skills required to carry out vehicle safety inspections, recognise defects and unsafe conditions, support safe vehicle manoeuvring activities and undertake banksperson duties when directing vehicle movements.

Learners will develop an understanding of the hazards associated with PEU operations, the importance of effective communication between drivers and supporting operatives, and the actions required to prevent incidents and unsafe practices. The qualification promotes a shared responsibility for safety, ensuring that all personnel involved in PEU operations are able to identify, report and challenge unsafe acts or conditions.

As PEUs may vary in design, specification and associated equipment, the qualification focuses on the principles of vehicle safety inspections and safe operation. Specific inspection routines, maintenance requirements and operational checks must always be completed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, company procedures and any local requirements.

The qualification also covers emergency stop procedures, defect reporting requirements and the importance of challenging unsafe acts or conditions that could place personnel, members of the public, property or equipment at risk.

This qualification is suitable for PEU operators, supporting operatives and other personnel who are required to contribute to the safe operation of PEU vehicles and associated equipment.

The qualification does not provide authorisation to operate PEUs, vehicle-mounted cranes, augers or associated lifting equipment. The qualification provides learners with the knowledge and skills required to support safe PEU operations, undertake vehicle safety inspections, act as a banksperson and recognise unsafe conditions requiring intervention.

Terminology

Banksperson: A competent person responsible for assisting and directing vehicle movements through the use of agreed signals and communication methods. The term Banksperson may also be referred to as Banksman within some industry procedures and guidance.

Key Information	
Name	Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations
Accreditation	This qualification is approved by: • Industry accreditation SA021
Level	2
Duration	1 days
Guided Learning Hours (Ofqual)	5
Total Qualification Time	7
Credit	1
Age	This accreditation is available to anyone over the age of 16

Qualification Type	Vocationally Related Qualification
Smart Awards Product Area	Safety Qualifications
Sector Subject Area	6.1ICT 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 for this qualification. However, learners should be involved in, or intending to work in, activities associated with PEUs. This qualification does not provide authorisation to drive a PEU or operate a vehicle-mounted crane. Learners undertaking activities requiring such authorisations must hold the relevant licences, certificates of competence and company approvals. 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. Learners must have a basic understanding of the English language for regulated qualifications that are approved by Ofqual or SQA Accreditation. Please note: 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 the requirement 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. This accreditation does not provide the qualification required to comply with the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991.
Mandatory units and optional routes to completion.	Learners must complete the Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations 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 Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations. 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 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. 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 requirements for Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations. 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 6 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 so the reasons for stopping the assessment can be explained and notified that the assessment is deemed as failed. Guidance on the major failures that should result in stopping the assessment are 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	The theory element of the qualification must be delivered in a suitable training environment that meets Smart Awards requirements for the delivery and assessment of knowledge-based learning. Practical assessments may be undertaken at an approved training facility or at a suitable operational site.

	Where practical assessments are conducted on an operational site, the assessor must ensure the assessment area is safe, suitable for the activities being undertaken and subject to appropriate risk assessment and control measures. The practical assessment area requires: • A safe area suitable for carrying out PEU safety inspections and vehicle manoeuvring activities. • A PEU and associated equipment suitable for the assessment activities. • Approved risk-assessed control measures implemented to ensure the safety of learners, assessors, members of the public, property and the environment. The assessor is responsible for confirming that the assessment environment is suitable and that all assessment activities can be completed safely and without undue risk.
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Qualification Structure

The Level 2 Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations 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 Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations								
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 = 2					
Unit Number	Unit title	Level	M/O	GLH	ASS	OTHER LEARNING	TQT	CREDITS
SA021	Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations	2	M	5	1.5	2	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 performing Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations. 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 of Assessment

Unit Title:	Pole Erection Unit Vehicle Safety Inspection and Banksperson Operations
Unit Reference Number:	SA021

Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know how to carry out pole vehicle safety checks in accordance with relevant health and safety legislation and company policies	1.1. Outline the regulation for working on the highway. 1.2. State the regulation associated with Lifting Operations and Lifting equipment. 1.3. State the regulation for reporting injuries, diseases, and dangerous occurrences. 1.4. Outline the risks associated with using vehicles mounted with cranes and auger to erect wooden poles. 1.5. Outline the importance of following manufacturer instructions and company procedures when carrying out safety inspections.
2. Be able to carry out Pole Erection Unit safety checks.	2.1. Carry out a daily safety check on a Pole Erection Unit in accordance with manufacturer instructions and company procedures.
3. Know how to carry out safety checks and identify actions required to ensure Pole Erection Units are safe to use	3.1. State the operator checks required prior to using vehicles with mounted cranes and augers. 3.2. State who should carry out the weekly checks. 3.3. State the inspection intervals for equipment classified under LOLER. 3.4. Outline the prerequisites to operating and driving such vehicles. 3.5. State the actions to take when a defect or unsafe condition is identified. 3.6. State the actions to take in the event of an emergency during Pole Erection Unit operations.
4. Know the banksperson (signaller) signs to direct the driver's operations.	4.1. Outline the signals used to guide drivers when reversing and manoeuvring. 4.2. State the responsibilities of a banksperson during vehicle manoeuvring activities. 4.3. State the actions to take if communication with the driver is lost.
5. Be able to carry out banksperson (signaller) signs to direct a driver in charge of a vehicle.	5.1. Demonstrate banksperson duties in directing the driver of a crane mounted vehicle. 5.2. Demonstrate the correct actions to take when communication with the driver is lost.