



Smart Awards Level 2 SA011 – Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities SPECIFICATION



Introduction

This qualification covers 1 (one) module:

- Locate and clear blockages in utilities

This qualification covers the requirements for Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities, in accordance with industry standards and practices. It provides learners with the skills and knowledge of the hazards and potential risks involved working in a construction utility environment including the highway ensuring they can locate and clear blockages in the pipe work safely including excavation and reinstate surfaces on utility network plant.

This qualification ensures that individuals working in the civils aspects of network construction and maintenance are suitably trained and understand the dangers of working in this environment.

Key Information	
Name	Smart Awards Level 2 SA011 – Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities
Accreditation	This qualification is approved by: • Industry Qualification SA011
Level	2
Duration	1 day
Guided Learning Hours	5
Total Qualification Time	7
Credit	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. It is expected however that learners will have a level of literacy adequate to cope with both the theory and practical assessments Please note Learners must have completed an SA002 Underground Safety Accreditation and the SA006 Safe Working in Civils prior to undertaking this accreditation module. This accreditation does not qualify an individual to enter a confined space. Those individuals who need to enter confined spaces MUST hold appropriate accreditation or qualification to enter confined spaces. Any references made in this material to confined spaces are for information only and to make learners aware of the risks and presence of gases that may also be present in confined spaces The New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA) requires at least one person on site to hold an appropriate Street Works card showing the relevant qualifications held for the activities being performed 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 qualification to be held by an individual working on site, and that this individual is qualified to check that the planned provisions and the statutory requirements of NRSWA are met.
Mandatory units and optional routes to completion.	Learners must complete the Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities 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 how to Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities. 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 adequate knowledge and understanding to locate and clear blockages in utilities

	safely. The learner will have 3 hours 30 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 six 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 SA011 Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities: • A safe area suitable for access to a duct network of minimum of 20 metres connected between jointing chambers. This can be a working site or a simulated working environment; the site must be safe and comply with legislation to carry out any observation and assessment of the learner's capability • 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 2 SA011 Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities 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 SA011 Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities								
Minimum TQT for this pathway = 7			Minimum number of GLH = 7					
Minimum number of credits = 1			Minimum number of assessment time = 4					
Minimum number of units = 1			Other learning time = 0					
Unit Number	Unit title	Level	M/O	GLH	ASS	OTHER LEARNING	TQT	CREDITS
	Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities	2	M	7	4	0	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 Locate and Clear Blockages in Utilities. 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	SA011
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
1. Know the processes, regulations and legislations associated with working safely in locating and clearing blockages in utility pipe networks.	1.1. Outline the legislation, codes of practice, procedures and the main responsibilities of the employer and employee in relation to health and safety, the environment, lone working, hazardous materials, excavations, tools and equipment, accidents, emergencies, roads, and street works 1.2. State how to carry out and review site specific risk assessments and apply the necessary control measures. 1.3. Outline the company structures, reporting lines, roles, responsibilities, and levels of authority inside and outside the highway operations team including site management structures. 1.4. State how to identify and apply safe handling and disposal procedures for hazardous and non-hazardous materials.

Unit Reference	SA011
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
	1.5. Outline the range, use and importance of personal protective equipment for the work activity and procedures for checking PPE is fit for purpose, including storing. 1.6. Describe the safe procedures for handling and using excavation equipment. 1.7. State how to protect the supply apparatus for utilities and other agencies, above and below ground services, built structures and the natural environment including foundations, tree roots, and natural watercourses. 1.8. State the types of hand and power tools, and motorised equipment, their uses and maintenance requirements including those used for compaction.
2. Know the procedures, tools, equipment and materials for excavation for locate and clear pipe blockage including excavation and reinstate surfaces on utility network plant.	2.1. State how to confirm that the location of excavation, cavity and trenches is in accordance with instructions and work specifications. 2.2. State how to determine potential deep excavation, confined spaces and hazardous materials and how to clarify where information appears to be incorrect or insufficient. 2.3. Outline the approved procedures and practices and statutory requirements to determine the requirement for excavation support. 2.4. Outline the requirements and methods used to track and locate underground services. 2.5. Outline the tools, equipment and materials and process used for identifying location of blockage in the utility pipe networks. 2.6. State the processes for making good the pipe after the blockage is cleared and the tests to confirm that this has been achieved successfully including the organisations processes. 2.7. Describe how to protect supply apparatus and sub-structures in accordance with relevant codes of practice. 2.8. Describe the impact of weather related to these activities. 2.9. Outline the regulations and dangers associated with asbestos. 2.10. Outline the requirements to maintain conditions, safety and security of excavations and the site in line with operational and regulatory requirements 2.11. Describe the requirements to store and dispose of waste and surplus materials in accordance with work instructions and statutory and regulatory Codes of Practice 2.12. Describe how to report any problems and record and store required data and information in organisational information systems.
3. Be able to carry out locate pipe blockage including excavation surfaces on utility network plant.	3.1. Demonstrate how to prepare and use correct tools and equipment. 3.2. Carry out risk assessment and the control measures necessary for the works.

Unit Reference	SA011
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
The learner will:	The learner can:
	3.3. Demonstrate correct PPE requirements under the Personal Protective Equipment at work regulations and procedure for checking PPE is fit for purpose. 3.4. Monitor site safety and security and respond to any unsafe situations. 3.5. Locate and identify underground network plant including able to read utility prints. 3.6. Identify over ground signage and marker posts 3.7. Interpret plans and drawings (Job Packs) and follow instructions. 3.8. Follow company procedure for identification and application of safe procedure for handling hazardous and non-hazardous materials 3.9. Identify and adhere to processes when handling materials subject to COSHH regulations 3.10. Follow organisations procedures for handling new, used and contaminated materials. 3.11. Carry out safe dig processes. 3.12. Identify marking and carry out pilot hole to identify and locate blockage in network plant infrastructures 3.13. Use industry methods and equipment for identifying and locating pipe blockage.
4. Be able to carry out clear and repair pipe blockage including reinstating surfaces on utility network plant.	4.1. Follow organisations method statement for repair of various diameter pipe made of different materials. 4.2. Follow organisations method statement for repair of earthenware or Self Aligning pipe 4.3. Follow organisations method statement for repair and removal of asbestos pipe 4.4. Use the tools and materials for removing damaged sections of pipe and repairing the removed section to make good. 4.5. Identify and use correct repair kit for the pipe type using the organisations method statements. 4.6. Clear blockage in pipe bends and swept tees. 4.7. Clear blockages and affect a repair to pipes that are occupied by cables. 4.8. Test the box-to-box section of the repaired pipe network. 4.9. Reinstatement the excavation in accordance with the NRSWA requirements. 4.10. Leave site secured, sign and guarded to the NRSWA requirements for the next activity, repair of network, to take place. 4.11. Clear the site and report the site status and record 4.12. Store information to organisational requirements.

