

Construction Plant Competence Scheme

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CPCS is an Industry Scheme developed by Industry for the Industry.



The Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) provides skills cards for the plant sector of the Construction and allied industries. It was launched in 2003 and since then over 300,000 cards have been issued across 60 categories of plant and related occupations.

We continually review and amend the Scheme in the light of on-going Industry feedback, and external factors such latest occupational health issues, technology advances and new plant types is where the Scheme has undertaken such amendments

We maintain our focus on ensuring that the Scheme is centred on the principles of:

- independent, rigorous assessment of operating ability,
- competence assurance,
- the raising of standards expected in the plant sector.



Who owns CPCS?

CPCS is owned by the Construction Industry Training Board (otherwise known as CITB) which allocates staff to manage and administer it on behalf of the CPCS Management Committee that develops its policy and strategy.

The Management Committee is made up from representatives of the industry that use the plant and equipment covered by the Scheme, including the following organisations:

- Armed Forces (HM Forces)
- Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA)
- Construction Plant-Hire Association (CPA)
- CITB Northern Ireland
- Federation of Piling Specialists (FPS)
- Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
- Home Builders Federation (HBF)
- Lantra Awards
- Mineral Products Qualifications Council (MPQC)
- National Federation of Demolition Contractors (NFDC)
- Scottish Plant Owners Association (SPOA)
- Build UK
- Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians (UCATT)
- Unite the Union



CPCS aims to:

- provide identification for plant operators and those involved with plant operations
- raise health, safety and environment standards through a programme of Health, safety and environment testing
- provide standards of learning and assessment to equip individuals with relevant skills
- provide or improve employment prospects for individuals and experienced operators



- keep a record of workers in the construction and allied industries
- be self-financing; with any surplus funds being used for the benefit of the construction industry
- encourage construction and allied employers to use certificated and competent plant operators
- provide certification for UK workers that could be accepted in Europe



What is the Scope of CPCS?

The Scheme provides certification for plant operators and associated operations for UK construction and allied industries. This is supported by CPCS Testers and Test Centres, who are approved by CPCS.

Membership of the Scheme is voluntary, but is mandatory on many construction sites and in other work environments.

Basic skills and understanding, and competency standards are defined by the Scheme for:

- plant operators
- slinger/signallers
- individuals securing plant and equipment to vehicles/trailers for transportation
- individuals planning and controlling lifting operations.



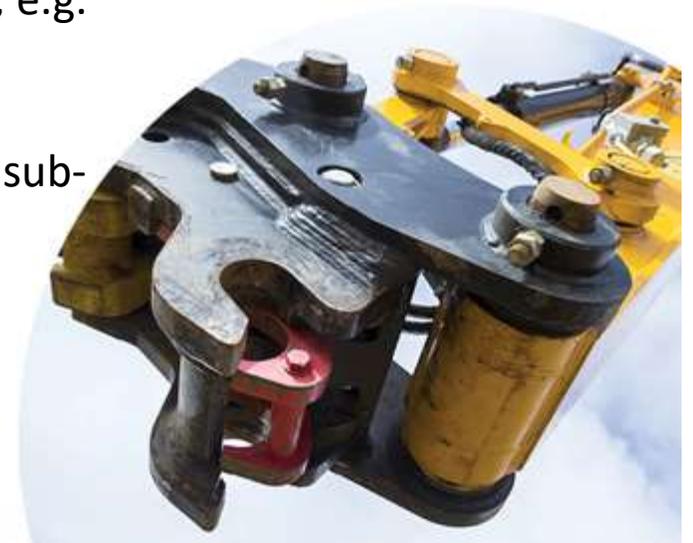
CP Construction Plant CS Competence Scheme

A wide range of construction plant and equipment is covered by CPCS, and new plant and equipment is continually added at the request of industry.

A category is defined as:

- an item of plant or equipment used within the construction industry in accordance with the manufacture's basic design, or
- an agreed duty or occupation involving plant operations, e.g. Appointed Person.

Certain categories have endorsements. Endorsements are sub-categories that reflect the variation in a category.



What are the standards that define the Scheme?

Categories within CPCS are derived through employer consultation and relevant national occupational standards.

CPCS works closely with many federations, organisations, plant users, other plant certification schemes, CPCS Testers as well as the Health and Safety Executive to ensure that the standards for plant categories are relevant, up-to-date and realistic.

The Scheme adheres to Codes of Practice, British Standards and other sector-led guidance documents for many items of plant.



CPCS works closely with Sector Skills Councils and specialist plant certification schemes, and continually contributes to industry-led and produced codes of practice and guidance documents.

CPCS follows the principles and requirements of BS EN.

Delivery Standards are continually monitored by dedicated staff employed by CITB to ensure national standards are applied.



Operator Cards

Red Trained Operator Card



What is a Red Trained Operator Card?

The Red Trained Operator Card confirms a level of core skills, knowledge and understanding that can be applied in the workplace until measured as competent against national standards.

Experienced and able operators may hold a trained operator card whilst being measured against national standards through an SVQ or NVQ.

Blue Competent Operator Card



What is a Blue Competent Operator Card?

The Blue Competent Operator Card confirms you have demonstrated a level of health, safety and environment awareness through the CITB health, safety and environment test, underpinning knowledge through a CPCS theory test, operating ability through a CPCS practical test and operating competence on the type of plant evidenced by a SVQ or NVQ.

Further information on the CPCS is available on our website www.citb.co.uk/cpcs

The Future Of CPCS

As part of the Vision 2020 programme of reform, CITB is divesting its cards schemes to other suitable providers, including the CPCS. NOCN has been selected as preferred bidder for the CPCS.

If the sale progresses successfully, NOCN are proposing the creation of an independent subsidiary as part of their overall approach to the purchase and delivery of the CPCS.

Further updates will be published on our website
<https://www.citb.co.uk/news-events/>



THANK YOU

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