



Cavity Wall & Loft Insulation Installer

Insulation Installer Training

In accordance with the Health and Safety legislation, the employer must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that employees receive “such information, instruction, training and supervision as is necessary to ensure” their health and safety at work.

It is therefore essential that Insulation Installers are given sufficient training and information on the equipment and products specifically used to ensure they work safely and efficiently.

Gas Safety Training

Training on aspects of safety when Cavity Wall Insulation is installed into a property that contains a Gas, Oil or Solid Fuel burning appliance. It is imperative that no flue, chimney or combustion ventilation is compromised during any installation process.

The topics that should be covered are:

- Appliance Identification
- Flue and Chimney Identification
- The need for Combustion Ventilation
- The design and sizing of ventilators
- Carbon Monoxide
- Identification of Incomplete Combustion
- Legal obligation
- Flue and Spillage Testing

Cleaning up (House Keeping)

Installers should be trained to hose down and clean all areas where they have worked, as it is inevitable that drilling will create some dust and mess which can cause tripping or health hazards.

Spillage tests on chimneys and flues

Installers will need to be trained on how to conduct checks and a spillage test on gas appliances and flues. This is to check that the flues are clear before the insulation is pumped into the walls, this test also needs to be done at the end of the installation to check that the flue is still clear and no insulation has escaped out of the cavity into the flue.

Drilling

Installers will need training on how to drill at certain points on all elevations to provide access to the entire cavity for the insulation to be injected in.

The installers will be trained to follow a specific drill pattern to ensure the entire cavity is filled with insulation. Training on how to seal these holes correctly will also be required.

Qualifications

Companies should also support Insulation Installers in gaining a nationally recognised qualification as it is possible that only installers qualified to the national standard will meet the future requirements and that they must be competent.

To be assessed as competent you should be working towards your QCF Level 2 NVQ qualification in Insulation and Building Treatments (Construction). Units include:

- External wall insulation
- Cavity wall insulation
- Loft insulation
- Damp-proofing
- Draught Proofing
- Wood Preserving
- External Wall Insulation
- Wall Tie Replacement

This is the qualification recognised by your industry and the qualification is based on National Occupational Standards that have been approved by the insulation industry.

Many construction firms and their clients already insist that workers hold this qualification.

Qualification assessment methods

New Entrant NVQ assessments and On Site Assessment and Training (OSAT) routes are available at Level 2 and usually takes 2 - 4 months to complete from induction to completing the qualification.

Other recommended training

The following is a list of possible training that you may need depending on your specific area of work. The list is not exhaustive or definitive.

Insulation Installers may require other training throughout their career, such as: Induction training, scaffolding awareness, specific product training, working at heights, ladders, fall arrest, power & hand tools, confined spaces, goods hoist, mobile towers, harnesses, health and hygiene, manual handling - lifting & handling manual loads, slinging loads, fire prevention, site security, working with the public, first aid, fire extinguishers, defensive driving, refresher training.

Associations or training forums

The following groups have direct involvement in the insulation sector.

The National Insulation Association (NIA)

represents the manufacturers and installers of Cavity Wall & Loft Insulation, Draught Proofing and other innovative solutions. Both the NIA and its members are fully committed to maintaining and raising standards within the industry.

British Board of Agreement (BBA)

The BBA is the UK's major approval body for new construction products and installers. Agreement certificates are recognised by specifiers and other industry decision-makers as proof that the products covered by them have been rigorously assessed, will allow compliance with building regulations and will last for a defined period.

Cavity Insulation Guarantee Agency (CIGA)

provides independent 25 year guarantees for cavity wall Insulation fitted by registered installers in the UK. The installer applies for the guarantee after the work has been carried out and it is sent directly to the customer.

Does a registration card exist for this occupation

Yes, a Blue card is available for an insulation installer.

As well as the qualification many construction firms and their clients already insist that workers hold a relevant registration card. The CSR (Construction Skills Register or an affiliated scheme such as the CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) would appear to be the most widely held cards however other schemes may be available and it will in most cases be the client, main contractor or sub-contractor that determines if a card is required and what the preference is.

To receive a card, you must hold an NVQ/SVQ or acceptable equivalent and pass a health and safety assessment or training.

What does CITB NI do for this sector

CITB NI has supported the development of training programmes for insulation installers, these are available to download from the standards section of the CITB NI website.

CITB provide an on-line training directory in our courses section of the web site at www.citbni.org.uk courses are available for a range of different topics.

CITB provide grant assistance for employers that send employees on training courses please see our grant section at the above website.

A Health & Safety advice booklet for insulation installers has been developed and is available to view within the publications section of our website.

A Health & Safety Training Blueprint has been developed and is also available to view within the publications section of our website.

Other specifically funded programmes are also available as required and CITB-ConstructionSkills NI has or will be funding programmes for Demolition, Piling, Core Diamond Drilling, Asbestos Awareness, Insulation Installer and Horizontal Directional Drilling and Scaffolding.

For further advice please view the Health & Safety advice booklet for Cavity Wall and Loft Insulation Installers that has been developed and is available to view within the publications section of our website www.citbni.org.uk

www.citbni.org.uk

CITB NI

17 Dundrod Rd, Crumlin,
Co. Antrim, BT29 4SR

Tel: 028 9082 5466 Fax: 028 9085 5693

