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CISRS

Industry Standard for Scaffold Inspection Launched



The CISRS (Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme) has launched two long awaited additions to their card scheme, Basic Scaffold Inspection and Advanced Scaffold Inspection. CISRS is the only recognised scaffolding training scheme in the industry – organisations such as UKCG (UK Contractors Group), NASC (National Access & Scaffolding Confederation) and CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) acknowledge the CISRS as the definitive qualification for anyone working in or around the scaffolding sector.

The new courses will provide the knowledge requirement for those individuals wishing to effectively carry out scaffold inspections that comply with industry standards, best practice guidance and regulations.

Inspection of Scaffolding by a competent person is a statutory legal requirement (Working At Height Regulations 2005). It is essential that the person carrying out these inspections

has the relevant knowledge, industry experience and has received specific training. Although there are a number of scaffold inspection courses currently available, these vary widely in content, duration and quality and as such the competence levels of scaffold inspectors varies widely across the UK. It has become apparent that the training or assessment regimes and the experience required for qualifying a scaffold inspector need to be more stringent.

CISRS will review the courses on a regular basis and aim to develop an S/NVQ qualification to accompany the CISRS practical training courses which will bring 'Scaffold Inspection' into line with existing operative training. This will provide the industry with a scheme that has the both the quality and rigour to produce competent scaffold inspectors.

The training scheme will be split into two distinct levels, Basic Inspection Training and Advanced Inspection Training.

Basic Inspection

This course is aimed at persons responsible for inspecting Tube and Fitting scaffolds and completing a report in accordance with the Working At Height Regulations 2005.

CISRS would expect delegates to have some awareness and experience of scaffolding structures, which would have come from their time in their individual industry sector e.g. construction, engineering, manufacturing, offshore etc. This experience will need to be demonstrated by the production of a CV with contactable references.

Delegates who do not have any previous knowledge or experience of scaffolding will not be eligible to attend this course. Individuals in this position may need to consider attending a more general 3 day scaffold appreciation or awareness course prior to committing to inspection training.

Delegates who successfully complete a Basic Scaffold Inspection course will be issued with a certificate of attendance by the approved training provider as a record of their training.

Upon completion of a CSkills Health and Safety test, they will be eligible to apply for a CISRS Basic Scaffold Inspection Card.

The Basic Inspection Card will be valid for 5 years. To enable the card to be renewed holders will be expected to attend refresher course before the expiry date to ensure they remain compliant on current legislation and developments in best practice.

Advanced Scaffold Inspection

This course is aimed at persons responsible for inspecting complex tube and fitting scaffolds and completing a report in accordance with Work at Height Regulations 2005.

This course would require delegates to have held the CISRS Basic Inspection Card for a minimum of 2 years prior to attending the Advanced Course.

It is likely this course will suit delegates who are required to inspect complex tube and fitting scaffolds on a regular basis e.g. a full time Scaffold Inspector, Scaffold Supervisor, Project Engineer etc.

The CISRS Advanced Scaffold Inspection card will be valid for 5 years and as in the Basic Scaffold Inspection course, delegates will be expected to take a refresher course prior to the expiry of their card to ensure it can be renewed and that they remain up to date with latest guidance and standards of best practice.

Both training schemes are available at any one of the twenty three CISRS approved training centres in the UK. Each course is held over 2 consecutive days and includes a minimum of 12 hours of tuition, practical exercises and examinations. Only on completion of the course and a successful pass on the examination will delegates be able to apply for the industry recognised inspection card(s).

For full details on the content of the courses and to find your nearest CISRS training centre please visit www.cisrs.org.uk or call the CISRS hotline on 0844 815 7223