



Latest news
and updates
from

Walsall
Training
Centre

Oct / Nov 2018

Should There Be a Mandatory Licence for Plumbing & Heating Businesses?

During the recent "Quality Plumbers Week" the APHC have raised the idea, within the industry, for having a mandatory licencing body for Plumbers. At the moment, the trade is unregulated, so potentially anyone can go into a DIY retailer buy some supplies and carry out a plumbing job with no checks. In other countries, such as Germany, regulation is much stricter, so fly-by-night businesses can't operate, and legitimate businesses are able to prove that they've undertaken sufficient training and demonstrate they have the appropriate skills to fit the job.

The APHC feels that a more regulated approach is necessary here in the UK, both to improve the reputation of legitimate tradespeople and provide customer reassurance. One of the issues is that the general public is largely unaware that there's the potential for inexperienced tradespeople to move in and put people at risk.

There was broad support for the idea of regulation at one of APHC's Installer Insight Days when the question was posed to an assembled group of plumbers, so the association is now calling for the industry to pull together and debate the pros and cons.

More information on this, and the quality plumber week, can be found on the APHC website <http://www.aphc.co.uk/quality-plumber-week.asp>



Sign Up to The Water Safe Scheme

One of the ways that a Plumbing business, or an individual plumber can become approved, is to join the Water Safe scheme.

WaterSafe is the national register for approved plumbing businesses in the UK. It's free to join for eligible existing approved plumbers, giving you the opportunity to reach more customers online with a stamp of approval direct from UK water companies.

Why Join Water Safe?

- **Get Noticed** – Watersafe helps qualified plumbers working in the UK get noticed by customers.
- **Reassurance for Your Customers** – The general public are now more likely to use approved and qualified tradespeople.
- **Better Company Branding** – Approved contractors who sign up can display the Water Safe branding on vehicles and stationary.
- **Information Access** – Get useful links to industry information, and current regulations.
- **Keep Updated** – Latest newsletters give you the latest industry news and changes.



To join up to the Approved Plumbers schemes please visit their website

https://www.watersafe.org.uk/about/information_for_plumbers/how_to_join/

Level 3 Experienced Worker Qualification

Walsall Training Centre are fully approved to run the BPEC Level 3 Experienced Worker Qualification, which is fully endorsed, and recognised by Water Safe / WRAS. This qualification is aimed at experienced plumbing operatives, who hold no previous qualifications in plumbing.

For more details on this course please call us on **01922 612121** or visit our website

http://www.walsalltraining.com/level_3_award_in_safe_systems.htm



ACS Gas Changes - 2018

On the 1st October 2018, new changes have come into effect regarding the ACS (Nationally Accredited Certification Scheme)

Candidates will now have to prove that they have been on the Gas Safety Register for at least six months in order to:

- **Extend Scope:** Moving from one sector to another e.g. Domestic to Commercial, Catering or LPG changeover.
- **Extend Range:** Remaining within the sector but adding additional appliances or modules e.g. holding CCN₁ & CENWAT and adding Fires (HTR₁) or Cookers (CKR₁).

Also, **ALL** new entrants into the industry will need to undertake a Recognised Managed Learning Programme, such as the Gas Diploma course, before they can undertake ACS Initial Assessments.

These changes have been introduced nationwide, and all training centres in the UK will have to adhere to these new requirements.

More information from IGEM on the new standards of training can be found here

<https://www.igem.org.uk/technical-standards/guidance/standards-of-training.aspx>

Please note that there are no significant changes to ACS re assessment

Are You Competent in Electrical Safety?

One of the fundamental requirements for any Gas Engineer or Plumber is the importance of Electrical Safety, and Safe Isolation of electrical supplies. Gas Safe Register updated the Technical Bulletin (TB118) back in January of this year, focussing on the importance of competency in safe isolation of any electrical appliance.

Here at Walsall Training Centre, we are fully approved to run the following courses:

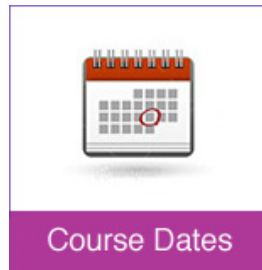
- **1 Day Safe Isolation of Electrical Supplies**
- **2 Day Essential Electrics / Safe Isolation / Boiler Fault Finding**

These courses are fully certificated, and successful candidates will receive a certificate of competence from our awarding body Cert-ain Certification Ltd, or Logic Certification Ltd.

Courses are run every month, and available dates can be found below.

For more information, please call us on 01922 612121 or email walsalltraining@btconnect.com





UP COMING COURSES AVAILABLE:

SAFE ISOLATION OF ELECTRICAL SUPPLY – 1 DAY COURSE

29th NOVEMBER or 17th JANUARY

ESSENTIAL ELECTRICS / BOILER FAULT FINDING – 2 DAY COURSE

29th & 30th NOVEMBER or 17th & 18th JANUARY

VENTED & UNVENTED HOT WATER – 1 DAY COURSE

17th NOVEMBER or 14th DECEMBER

WATER REGULATIONS – 1 DAY COURSE

7th DECEMBER

DISINFECTION / LEGIONELLA - 1 DAY COURSE

23rd NOVEMBER

PART P ELECTRICAL INSTALLER – 5 DAY COURSE

5th NOVEMBER or 28th JANUARY

PAT TESTING – 2 DAY COURSE

25th & 26th OCTOBER

18TH EDITION WIRING REGULATIONS

Dates available throughout OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / JANUARY

(please call for more info)



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