

This newsletter is aimed at all personnel registered on the MCERTS Personnel Competency scheme. It is intended to keep you up-to-date with scheme developments, summarise exam results, provide guidance on some technical aspects and help with future examinations. If you have any comments, suggestions or topics you would like to see included in future editions, please let us know. Send your comments to mcerts@siraenvironmental.com.

Significant changes to MCERTS Personnel Competency Standard

At its meeting on 4 April 2007 the MCERTS Project Steering Committee approved a number of changes to the Personnel Competency Standard. Version 5 of the Standard will be published in April and the changes will take effect from 1 May 2007.

All personnel attending examinations on or after 1 May will be assessed using the new criteria.

The main changes are summarised here.

Level 2 multiple-choice exam

The requirement for Level 2 applicants to sit a multiple-choice exam has been removed. From 1 May 2007, applicants will only be required to attend the Level 2 interview.

Recertification

Recertification is a process of confirming conformity with current requirements. This is particularly relevant where standards change or where there is a change in the regulatory requirements.

Personnel eligible for recertification are required to pass an examination paper, consisting of both multiple-choice and narrative questions. Each paper has 20 multiple-choice questions and two narrative questions. One mark is available for each multiple-choice question and 10 marks for each narrative question. The pass mark is 26/40 (65%).

There is one paper for Level 1 and one paper for each Technical Endorsement.

2-year gap

The requirement for personnel to “not have had a gap of more than two continuous years from stack-emission monitoring” has been removed.

TE2 narrative and multi-choice papers

The number of questions for the TE2 papers has increased to 40 for the multiple-choice and 4 for the narrative paper.

Use of Personal Stack Monitoring Record

The use of an approved stack monitoring record format is mandatory for work carried out after 1 May 2007. Copies of the record, together with an explanation of the information required can be found at www.sira.co.uk/downloads/personalstackmonitoringrecord.doc

Exam board meetings

Exam board meetings are scheduled for 8 June, 11 September and 6 December 2007. Exam results will be notified to candidates shortly after each exam board meeting.

Contact details

Sira maintains a list of personnel registered on the scheme. As competency certification is awarded to the individual, not to their employer it is the individual's responsibility to inform Sira of changes in contact details.

Project Steering Committee

If you have any comments or feedback on the operation of the scheme, please let us know and we will discuss them at the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 11 October 2007.