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Enhanced welding training

ESAB reports it has supplied 10 state-of-the-art ESAB Rebel multi-process welding machines to equip a new welding workshop at The JCB Academy for training apprentices. As part of their training programme, apprentices have to pass practical tests in MIG and MMA (stick) welding and have an understanding of TIG welding. In 2016 the academy wanted to enhance its welding training so it converted part of its main building into a new 16-bay welding workshop and it was decided to equip this with the latest machines available in order that the apprentices could learn to weld using equipment that would be a closer match to what they will encounter in industry. Following a conversation with ESAB, it became apparent that the new Rebel multi-process welder would be ideal.

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Process safety certificate

RRC INTERNATIONAL reports it has been chosen by NEBOSH to help it pilot the NEBOSH HSE Certificate in Process Safety Management. This new qualification is designed specifically for those with safety responsibilities in the process industries and aims to provide candidates with the knowledge and understanding they need to contribute effectively to managing process safety risks. The qualification has been developed through a collaboration between NEBOSH and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

This course is suitable for those who work in process industries all over the world, such as oil and gas, chemicals, plastics and pharmaceuticals. RRC says given the hazardous nature of these industries, this qualification has been designed to give specialist knowledge and understanding.

w| www.rrc.co.uk



1000th trainee gains certification

Just three-and-a-half-years after their introduction, FULTON, a leading heat transfer specialist, says it is celebrating having welcomed its 1,000th trainee onto its City & Guilds Accredited training course.

The City & Guilds-certified, one-day training course was introduced by Fulton in 2013 and offers a mix of theoretical and practical operational assignments which, the company claims, bridges the gap between the more expensive courses, and cheaper, straightforward 'toolbox' training.

Customer services manager Jeff Byrne says: "This is a real milestone for the company. We are delighted to have welcomed Muhammad Ateeb Farooq, our 1,000th trainee, who successfully completed the course and gained the City & Guilds certificate. We operate the courses throughout the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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ADVERTORIAL

SHE training confusion

Qualifications 'v' Competence

It is well understood that organisations such as NEBOSH (The National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health) and CIEH (the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health) offer standardised Health and Safety Training following a qualification path leading to membership and recognised letters after a person's name. If you were to talk to delegates on a Human Vibration or Noise at Work Competence course run by the likes of Castle Group Ltd, many of them have already taken the likes of a NEBOSH certificate or diploma. Their reason for attending will be to gain particular skills in technical subjects like Noise, Vibration or Electromagnetic Field Regulations. It soon becomes clear that generalised qualifications in safety spend very little time on any one subject, relying on practical experience and the discretion of the practitioner to go forth and acquire the knowledge independently.

Standards of Training

Without doubt, there are good competence based courses available, and these courses have an important role to play. It is important with specialist training like this, that the provider has a background in the subject matter; this can give the course more depth, better access to equipment and good post-training support.

Competence Accreditation?

A question often asked of training providers is what

accreditation a course has. In the case of competence courses, there is no such thing. Just because one course is run by an institute and another run by a private, commercial organisation, this does not mean either has accreditation in itself.

The current state of play in the UK is that not one organisation (of those contacted) is able to offer accreditation for external competence based courses. Without some form of accreditation, the field is open to less-than-scrupulous training providers and could be leaving many delegates with a false air of confidence in their level of competence!

Conclusions

In conclusion, competence courses can be vital in filling in the knowledge gaps, but they are not regulated and can, therefore, vary enormously. When looking for such technical courses, ask the provider how long they have been going, how many delegates pass through their hands and perhaps even ask your local inspector if they've heard of them!

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