

Apprenticeship Standard for Thermal Insulation Operative

Occupational Profile:

Thermal Insulation Operatives apply specialist insulation materials and cladding for the prevention of heat loss and heat gain, energy efficiency and personnel protection either on a construction site or within a workshop.

Overview of the Role:

Depending upon the industry sector, Thermal Insulation Operatives may work on a diverse range of sites including:

- Power Generation sites
- Onshore and Offshore Oil and Gas sites
- Petrochemical Plants
- Process Plants
- Commercial Construction sites
- Shipyards.

They can expect to work under supervision, or where appropriate, on their own initiative. The role of a Thermal Insulation Operative involves the installation and application of appropriate thermal insulation materials, identifying the specific surface types and the changing temperature and site conditions. The Operative will apply cladding or weatherproofing materials in line with the job specification.

When in a refurbishment environment, additional preparation tasks may be required e.g. removal of existing materials, cleaning down of and appropriate preparation of surfaces.

Core Knowledge: Thermal Insulation Operatives need to understand:

- Environmental and safe working legislation.
- How to communicate accurately/effectively with others and comply with instructions and directions.
- How to interpret and use relevant product information and design specifications.
- How to calculate quantity, length and area of materials to be used in order to minimise wastage of resources.
- The characteristics, qualities, uses, sustainability, limitations and defects associated with different types of insulation materials such as mineral wool, glass fibre, cellular glass, nitrile rubber etc.
- How to joint, seal, weatherproof and clad as appropriate.
- The importance of, and need for, the correct use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Employment Rights and Responsibilities (ERR) for the individual.
- A safe working knowledge of the appropriate actions to take on finding asbestos
- A general understanding of asbestos including its uses, health and medical monitoring, legislation, personal protective equipment, health hazards and emergencies, personal hygiene, asbestos waste and destruction.

Specific Skills: Thermal Insulation Operatives are able to:

- Identify and correctly use tools and equipment including: Swagers, Dividers, Metal shears, Lockformers, Mole grips, Metal folders, Metal rollers, Drills and Safe blades.
- Comply with and support all organizational security arrangements and procedures.
- Apply insulation materials to cylindrical and flat surfaces.
- Fabricate and/or fit sheet metal and/or other finishes from existing templates, for insulation protection.
- Safely move, handle and store resources.
- Competently erect and dismantle portable scaffold towers.
- Work safely at heights.
- Maintain effective relationships with colleagues, clients, suppliers and the public

Behaviours:

- Act professionally; demonstrating a positive, dependable, ethical, responsible and reliable attitude.
- Be risk aware and help reduce risks by checking information, concentration on the task and awareness of changing circumstances in activity eg changes in weather when working outdoors, changes in the specification.
- Display a self-disciplined, self-motivated, proactive approach to work understanding individual personal limitations.
- Occasionally work without close supervision, to approved industry standards and safe working practices.
- Work effectively and efficiently, both individually and as part of a team.
- Be receptive to feedback, willing to learn new skills.
- Be adaptable and able to adjust to change as required.
- Be prepared to make a personal commitment and be able to commit to the objectives of the employer and to the wider professional standards of the industry.

Qualifications:

Apprentices without Level 1 English and maths will need to achieve this level and take the test for Level 2 English and maths prior to taking the end-point assessment.

Career Progression:

For those wishing to develop their career, this apprenticeship will form an integrated platform from which to explore opportunities to progress to technician or supervisor role.

Level: This is a Level 2 Apprenticeship.

Duration of Apprenticeship: The Apprenticeship will typically be completed in 18 months

Review: The Apprenticeship Standard will be reviewed after 3 years.