

Access, Movement and Egress (AME) of a Power Utility Underground Cable Environment

Power System Competence Specification - PSCS003

Area of competence

This specification has been developed from the National Occupational Standard EPUS012 and the derived City and Guilds 2339 Level 2 QCF Units 006 and 020. The specification details the performance criteria and knowledge requirements to establish competence for the safe access, movement and egress in **BOTH** of the following power utility environments.

- Transmission Underground Cables
- Distribution Underground Cables

Skills and competencies which demonstrate effective performance

You must show you are competent to:

- Safely access, move around and egress an underground cable work area
- Comply with Company procedures, health and safety regulations and environmental practices
- Identify the risks associated with underground cable excavations and damaged underground cable apparatus
- Use and communicate data and information
- Resolve problems effectively and efficiently

Performance Criteria

In relation to the access, movement and egress of a power utility underground cable environment

1. Identify the underground cable work area to be accessed using available information
2. Select, inspect and wear required personal protective equipment in line with Company procedures
3. Conduct a site specific risk assessment of the underground cable work area to be accessed to ensure it is safe to enter
4. Inform all relevant parties of their presence and intended activity in the underground cable work area in line with Company procedures
5. Access, egress and move around the underground cable work area in a safe and controlled manner
6. Ensure excavated spoil, obstacles and other waste materials do not constitute a hazard to safe movement
7. Carry out given activities safely in accordance Company procedures, health and safety regulations and environmental practices
8. Identify the risks associated with cable excavations and damaged underground cable apparatus
9. Confirm completion of the given activity with relevant parties in line with Company procedures
10. Leave the underground cable work area in a safe and secure condition in accordance with Company procedures

Restore and reinstate work location

11. Ensure all tools and equipment are accounted for and stored safely and appropriately on completion of the work activity

12. Ensure hazardous and non-hazardous waste materials are dealt with in accordance with Company and statutory procedures

Use and communicate information and data

13. Report unavailable or defective tools, equipment and resources
14. Read and interpret Company work instructions and supporting documentation

Resolve problems effectively and efficiently

15. Deal with problems within the limits of own role responsibility
16. Report problems outside role responsibility to designated personnel in line with Company procedures

Behaviour which underpins effective performance

You work in a manner which:

Demonstrates awareness of changing work situations and potential work hazards

Takes responsibility for resolving problems within the limits of their own work role

Knowledge and understanding

In relation to the access, movement and egress of a power utility underground cable work area, you know and understand:

General

- a. The main principles of health and safety and environmental legislation and regulations
- b. The organisation's reporting lines and relevant authorisation roles and responsibilities
- c. The organisation's policies and procedures that affect the activity to be undertaken
- k. How to identify the difference between underground utilities including high voltage cables, low voltage cables, water, gas and telecoms
- l. The hazards associated with underground cable networks, including cable identification, cable damage, open excavations, use of barrier systems and protection from traffic

Work area

- d. The information required and the precautions to be taken before entering an underground cable work area
- e. Where to find relevant information about the underground cable area to be accessed and its requirements
- f. The use of Company work instructions, method statements, reporting systems and safety documentation
- g. The methods and procedures used to control the activities of persons in an underground cable work area
- h. The personal protective equipment requirements for access to an underground cable environment
- i. The purpose and procedures for conducting a risk assessment in an underground cable work area
- j. How to recognise and deal with the hazards associated with an underground cable environment that might cause harm or injury to self and others
- m. The company procedures and processes for reporting problems with tools and equipment
- n. How to safely store and dispose of hazardous and non-hazardous waste materials and substances in relation to underground cable activities
- o. How to respond in the event of emergency situations that might occur in an underground cable environment