

## Introduction

As part of the industry's drive to raise the level of health & safety (H&S) awareness in response to Government and the Health & Safety Executive initiatives, the Electrotechnical Certification Scheme (ECS) has introduced a Health and Safety Assessment as a requirement for holding an ECS card. The card is part of the Affiliation Agreement with the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is recognised by the security industry as an equivalent. The card became mandatory in February 2003 for all engineers entering Major Contractors Group (MCG) sites.

## The ECS Card

The ECS card is available to installers of electronic security systems, management/supervisors, apprentices or adult trainees. Applicants for the ECS card who are in possession of a NVQ Level 3 gained within 5 years of their application are exempt the ECS H&S assessment, other exemptions are available, visit [www.jib.org.uk/ecs2.htm](http://www.jib.org.uk/ecs2.htm) to see the full list of exemptions.

## Application forms for a H&S Assessment

Application forms for the H&S assessment can be obtained from the JIB web site ([jib.org.uk](http://jib.org.uk)) by using the ECS menu or by visiting the publications page. Alternatively you can obtain an assessment application from the JIB Offices (see below). Details of the JIB Grading System and how to qualify for a card are available by visiting [www.jib.org.uk/publications/ecs003r.pdf](http://www.jib.org.uk/publications/ecs003r.pdf) or from the Certification Department based at the JIB offices.

## Where can the H&S Assessment be taken?

Assessment facilities have been provided across England, Wales and Northern Ireland by the ECA and Unite. Details of the schedules are available by contacting the following:

### South East London and Kent or block bookings

ECS Assessment Processing, Joint Industry Board, Kingswood House, 47/51 Sidcup Hill, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 6HP. Tel: 020 8302 0031  
Fax: 020 8309 1103. Email: [ecs-assess@jib.org.uk](mailto:ecs-assess@jib.org.uk)

### Other areas across England Wales and Northern Ireland

ECS Assessment Booking Centre, Education and Training, Electrical Contractors' Association, Camden House, Dudley Court, Dudley Road, Yarm Road Industrial Estate, Darlington Co.Durham, DL1 4GG. Tel: 01325 487 829 Fax: 01325 482 196

In addition, JIB members can apply to the JIB to become Licensed Centres to provide the assessment for their own staff. Licensed Centres will have to meet set criteria for the facilities available and have at least one invigilator attend a workshop arranged by the JIB to familiarise them with the operation of the computer based assessment. Full details of obtaining the licence can be obtained from: ECS Assessment Processing, Joint Industry Board, Kingswood House, 47/51 Sidcup Hill, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 6HP. Tel: 020 8302 0031. Email: [ecs-assess@jib.org.uk](mailto:ecs-assess@jib.org.uk)

## Cost

The fee for initial registration and first ECS Card is £35. This includes the issue of a card valid for three years. Reminders are sent to cardholders when their cards are due for renewal. The fee for renewal or amended cards is £15. For replacement of a lost or destroyed card, the fee is £5.