



Continuing Competence Scheme

Who does it apply to?

There is a requirement for a 2 yearly test to be completed to keep your technical competence active.

This may apply to you if you fit into one of the following groups:

- Existing holders of a CoTC (Certificate of Technical Competence) who achieved their CoTC before 22 December 2008
- Existing holders of CIWM/WAMITAB's Operator Competence Certificates achieved after 22nd December 2008 (12,6 and 4 unit qualifications, VRQ and EPOC)
- 'Deemed' competent operators (as previously determined by the Environment Agency (EA))
- Operators of some exempt activities, who registered as a relevant exemption prior to 5 April 2010

How do you know when your test needs to be completed?

Operator Competence Certificates (OCCs) are now "date stamped" with a date of issue and you are required to successfully complete your 'test' within two years of this date.

In addition, Continuing Competence certificates are also "date stamped", showing the two-year expiry date by which you need to have successfully completed your 'test'.

When you sit the test, the new two-year expiry date will start from the date on the test certificate. Therefore, it will probably be a different date each time.

CIWM (WAMITAB) have indicated that they will be advising certificate holders as their expiry date approaches, however, this is reliant on them having your up to date records. Therefore, we would suggest that you keep your own record of when your date is due and then you can make the necessary test arrangements well in advance.

What is it?

It is a computer-based test completed at several locations around the Country. The test is made up of 30 questions. 18 of these are generic, whilst 12 are based on the original qualification and/or the site you are covering (e.g. landfill hazardous, transfer non-hazardous, End of Life Vehicle (ELV) etc).



How does it work?

- The test is booked through the CIWM WAMITAB website, which will then direct you to the PearsonVue website to complete the booking process.
- The test is taken at PearsonVue Centres around the country.
- The test costs £174 (from Jan 2023)
- More details on the test can be found at:
<https://ciwmquals.co.uk/competence/continuing-competence/>

What is the Refresher course?

- It is a refresher workshop designed to prepare you for the test, which will need to be booked separately, as indicated above
- As part of the course you will find out practical information on booking the actual test, as well as technical information on the three generic aspects, enabling you to confirm and update your knowledge in these areas.
- To support the taught material and provide learning on your chosen activity area, your Refresher course booking includes access to our Envirolearn training website.
- The Envirolearn website contains extensive learning and revision material, as well as access to hundreds of multiple choice mock questions and answers. These can be completed as many times as you want during your access period, so you can test, confirm and improve on your knowledge across the generic subject areas and your activity specific topic.
- The course is run over one day, with lunch and refreshments provided [unless it is a course being delivered remotely]. The standard start time is 9.30 with a finish at around 16.30 (depending upon discussions).

How much does it cost (as at April 2023)?

- £299 (plus VAT) to include access to the Envirolearn website materials.
- The course will cover several practical and technical issues in relation to the test. It will include all aspects of the generic syllabus, including Legislation, Health and Safety, and Environmental Protection.

