

# Environmental Permitting Regulations 2007

## Operator Competency Scheme

### Competency Requirements

Choose between NVQ, VRQ or EPOC

**All environmental permits issued under the 2007 Regulations effective 6/4/08 require waste contractors and operators of permitted facilities to have competent personnel. Under the new Regulations there is greater choice and flexibility for determining competency. Currently there are two schemes – this leaflet focuses on the CIWM/WAMITAB scheme – which is based on personal competence. The nature of the site's operation – whether low risk, medium risk or high risk drives the level of competency which the permit holder's personnel must achieve.**

Permit holders can have a choice over which competency route their personnel take - suited to their learning styles and operational needs. This choice is between the established NVQ methods or classroom based VRQ training and assessment.

New for all competent personnel is – Continuing Competence - a requirement that every two years they will have to pass a knowledge based assessment to ensure that their knowledge of current legislation and practices are up to date.

“**SERAC can deliver all the learning and assessment needs for competent personnel as required by a permit – whether for new or existing personnel.**”

### Serac Courses and Assessment

#### STATUTORY

- Operator Competence Certificate(s)  
4, 6 or 12 Units of a NVQ – site based assessment
- Vocationally Related Qualification (VRQ) – level 3  
Certificate in Waste and Resources Management  
4/5 Day Course – classroom based
- Environmental Permit Operators Certificate (EPOC)  
2 Day Course – classroom based
- Continuing Competence  
Training and Assessment preparation –  
1 Day Course

#### NON STATUTORY NVQ's & VRQ's

##### Non Statutory NVQ's

- Waste Management Operations Levels 1- 4
- Recycling - levels 1 – 4
- Weighbridge - level 2
- Construction - levels 1 & 2
- Street Cleansing - levels 1 & 2

##### VRQ's

- Level 3 Sustainable Waste Management
- HLA Advanced Technologies

See our learning brochures for Health and Safety, Environmental Management and Technical Training.

Risk Type	When	What	New Permit First Operator	Additional Operator(s)	Existing CoTC	Deemed Competent
<b>High Risk LANDFILL</b>	Prior to permit issue	12 unit NVQ	✓	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
	New employee	12 unit NVQ	Not Required	✓	Not Required	Not Required
	Every 2 years	Continuing Competence	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>High Risk Other than – Landfill</b>	Within 4 weeks of operation start up	EPOC or 4 units of an NVQ	✓	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
	4 weeks - 12 months	Remaining Units of NVQ	✓	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
	New employee	12 unit NVQ	Not Required	✓	Not Required	Not Required
	Every 2 years	Continuing Competence	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Medium Risk</b>	Within 4 weeks of operation start up	EPOC or 4 units of an NVQ or VRQ	✓	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
	4 weeks - 12 months	Remaining Units of NVQ	✓	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
	New employee	VRQ or 6 units of an NVQ	Not Required	✓	Not Required	Not Required
	Every 2 years	Continuing Competence	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Low Risk</b>	Within 4 weeks of operation start up	EPOC or 4 units of an NVQ or VRQ	✓	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
	New employee	EPOC or 4 units of an NVQ or VRQ	Not Required	✓	Not Required	Not Required
	Every 2 years	Continuing Competence	✓	✓	✓	✓

## TECHNICAL COMPETENCE RISK TIERS – SUMMARY TYPE OF FACILITIES

HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous and Non Hazardous Landfill (open and closed)</li> <li>• Hazardous and Non Hazardous Incineration</li> <li>• Hazardous Waste Disposal</li> <li>• Recovery of Oil/Organic Solvents</li> <li>• Cleaning/Regeneration of Carbon/Charcoal/Ions</li> <li>• Production of Solid Fuel from Waste</li> <li>• Hazardous Transfer/Treatment + Clinical Waste</li> <li>• WEEE ATF Chemical Processing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non Hazardous Transfer</li> <li>• Contaminated Land Remediation</li> <li>• Treatment of Waste Soils</li> <li>• Non Hazardous Clinical Waste Transfer/Treatment</li> <li>• CA Sites/HWRC</li> <li>• MRF, End of Life Vehicle</li> <li>• MRF (wet scrap)</li> <li>• Composting</li> <li>• MBT</li> <li>• WEEE ATF - physical dismantling</li> <li>• Pet Crematoria</li> <li>• Mobile Treatment Facilities</li> <li>• Inert Landfill (open and closed).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In House Storage of Waste</li> <li>• Inert Transfer/phy treatment</li> <li>• MRS (dry scrap)</li> <li>• WEEE (storage only).</li> </ul>

See full list on SERAC website