British Occupational Hygiene Society
Faculty of Occupational Hygiene

P701 – Management and Assessment of Exposure to Hand-Arm Vibration

Requirements for Practical Assessments

General:

1. The course provider is responsible for providing all of the suitable facilities, including all safety provisions, for the practical assessment for this Module.

2. The room(s) and other locations in which this assessment is conducted must be suitable for the purpose.

3. The assessment must be supervised throughout by an approved assessor(s) who must be satisfied that the facilities and equipment provided are suitable for the practical assessment.

4. The practical assessment is an examination and comprises several elements. The assessment of all the elements must take place at the date, time and location declared. Unapproved changes may result in the examination being declared void. Candidates may have access to relevant reference material during the examinations but must not be allowed to communicate with each other.

5. Assessors must ensure that candidates complete and sign the Practical Assessment Attendance Form before the examination begins. This form must be returned to the BOHS office within five working days of the date of the examination.

6. The practical assessment for each candidate must contain the essential elements as detailed in the syllabus and described below:

    a. Undertake HAV measurements on tools.
    b. Understanding of HAV risk assessments
    c. Evidence of Field Proficiency - A full understanding of the numbers produced by the tests (e.g. what is an acceptable vibration magnitude for the application? Recognising artefacts such as a d.c shift, and what to do about it, etc)

7. These notes are intended to provide assessors with more details of the requirements and to try to ensure that all assessors operate to similar standards.

8. In order to be awarded a pass, assessors must be confident, as far as is reasonably practicable, a candidate is competent to carry out all aspects of the essential elements as detailed in the syllabus.

9. Many assessors also evaluate the performance of candidates during the practical work required in the course, by either one to one evaluation or more often by asking the candidates to prepare notes which are then marked against a marking schedule. These not only provide additional evidence of competence but also show the assessor whether the candidates have fully understood the lectures etc. However, this approach must not be allowed to reduce the actual content of the practical assessment examination on the last day. The course providers must keep records of all candidates and their performance at assessment.

Safety Responsibility:

10. The assessor is responsible for checking that the safety arrangements made by the course provider for the practical examination are satisfactory and that they are observed by all those present.

Assessment:

11. The assessment must test the candidate's ability in the following areas:

    a. Demonstrate the ability to carry out HAV measurements on at least 2 different tools Candidates must show, by relevant testing during the practical assessment, a full understanding of the numbers produced by the tests (e.g. what is an acceptable vibration magnitude for the application? They must also demonstrate that they are capable of recognising artifacts such as a d.c shift, and what to do about it, etc.
    b. Demonstrate the ability to carry out of HAV risk assessments on the basis of measurements carried out on 3 additional scenarios [presented as documents].

12. The testing of knowledge will normally be divided into two parts one will involve the evaluation of diagrams with data the other will involve the making of actual measurements on systems. The latter stage is best conducted on a one to one basis with the assessor. All testing must be evaluated using marking schedules and check lists.