

Workforce FAQs

Q1 Why are these new Standards being introduced?

These new Standards have been introduced in order to include compressed air emergency breathing system (CA-EBS) training within the new UK BOSIET and FOET (with CA-EBS) programmes to meet regulatory requirements in the UK.

Q2 Who will be delivering this training?

OPITO Approved Training Providers will deliver these training standards. Information on Training Providers who are approved to deliver these standards can be found on our website via the following link (insert link to Network of Training Providers).

Q3 When will the new UK BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) standards come into effect?

The new standard is effective from Monday 15th February 2016 and that OPITO Approved Training Providers will begin to offer this training from that date onwards.

Q4 These new UK BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) standard do not include in-water CA-EBS training? Why has this not been included?

Oil and Gas Industry Stakeholders have agreed, as a result of additional medical requirements stipulated as a condition of offshore workers undertaking in-water CA-EBS training in the UK, that in-water CA-EBS training should not take place at this time.

Q5 Are there any plans to introduce in-water CA-EBS training in the future?

Oil and Gas Industry Stakeholders remain committed to working towards a satisfactory solution to current issues affecting in-water CA-EBS training. Relevant future updates on this issue will be posted on our website.

Q6 What does the introduction of the new UK BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) standard mean if I have undergone the OPITO BOSIET or FOET training recently in the UK prior to the 15th February 2016?

If you have completed the OPITO Compressed Air EBS Initial Deployment Training along with the OPITO BOSIET/FOET in the UK before the 15th February 2016 you will not be immediately affected. Existing OPITO BOSIET/FOET and OPITO Compressed Air EBS Initial Deployment Training certification prior to the 15th February 2016 will remain valid until the expiry date on the certificate. When the certification nears expiry you will refresh with the UK FOET with CA EBS if you are working in the UKCS.

If you have only completed the OPITO BOSIET/FOET in the UK prior to the 15th February 2016 and you are required to travel offshore in the UKCS you will need to complete the OPITO Compressed Air EBS Initial Deployment Training to travel offshore in the UKCS.

If you have not completed any training and are required to work in the UKCS a UK BOSIET (with CA EBS) is required.

Q7 If you have completed the OPITO BOSIET/FOET in the UK or countries who are part of the mutual recognition prior to Monday 15th February 2016, will you be able to travel offshore in the UKCS?

The mutual recognition agreement will apply.

Q8 If you have completed the OPITO BOSIET/FOET outside the UK and countries who are part of the mutual recognition, will you be able to travel offshore in the UKCS?

Travel offshore in the UKCS will not be possible until you have completed a UK FOET (with CA-EBS). The OPITO BOSIET/FOET they possess will remain valid as per the certificate. The UK FOET (with CA-EBS) you complete will have a validity of four years as per the standard.

Q9 If you have completed the OPITO UK BOSIET/FOET (with CA-EBS) from the 15th February 2016 but wishes to travel offshore in the other North Sea regions?

This is currently being discussed by the National Offshore Industry Associations (NOIA's) who are responsible for the mutual recognition.

Q10 My work only requires me to travel offshore in countries outside the North Sea. How will this affect me?

You will not be affected by this change. This new Standard has been introduced to meet Aviation Regulation requirements in the UK. Existing BOSIET/FOET certificate holders will revalidate their training through FOET prior to the expiry date of their existing certification as per normal.

Q11 Will the current UKCS Mutual Recognition Agreement be affected by this change?

Existing Mutual Recognition Agreements for offshore workers entering the UK from other North Sea countries will not be affected by this change. Discussions are ongoing regarding the potential impact on UK offshore workers entering other North Sea countries.