Finishes and Interiors Case Study:

Drylining Routes to Competence carding journey

The Finishes and Interiors Sector (FIS) has taken a proactive, industry-led approach to defining Routes to Competence for Drylining.

By mapping the required Skills, Knowledge, Experience and Behaviours and translating this into a practical carding journey, FIS is ensuring that the relevant CSCS Alliance card scheme, CSCS Cards in this case, reflects the standards as set by the industry. This includes a growing focus on maintaining competence through renewal requirements, health and safety testing and fire safety training.

Read the full case study here

Executive Summary

Following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, the construction industry committed to ensuring that everyone working in the sector can demonstrate competence.

The Industry Competence Steering Group (ICSG), established in 2017, brought industry together to develop clearer sector-led competence frameworks, building on Dame Judith Hackitt's call for more coherent standards.

In 2022 the Building Safety Act came into effect and defined competence as the appropriate Skills, Knowledge, Experience and Behaviours (SKEB) and places a legal duty on individuals to be competent for their roles. Clients and contractors must ensure those working on their behalf meet this requirement.

Through the ICSG and with the support of the Construction Leadership Council, industry agreed that all construction occupations are expected to have a clear Route to Competence, aligned with an agreed set of SKEB statements, with a link to obtaining and renewing a card carrying the CSCS logo where applicable. Once aligned with the relevant Standard Setting Bodies and Sector Representative Organisations, cards will only be issued when defined qualifications, training and health and safety requirements are evidenced.

The 37 card schemes carrying the CSCS logo - the CSCS Alliance - are focused on aligning card requirements with these industry-defined frameworks.

Holding the correct card provides assurance that an individual has achieved the recognised qualifications and training for their occupation, demonstrating skills and knowledge, with future developments expected to better reflect experience and professional behaviours.

Drylining Competence Framework CSCS Card Journey

Progress onto level 3 Drylining supervisor by registering onto level 3 occupational supervisory N/SVQ

CSCS validate achievement of S/NVQ or Apprenticeship, CITB Health Safety and Environment test and Fire Safety in Buildings and issue Blue Skilled Worker card.
Valid for 5 years and renewable. Renewal requires:
1 Retake the CITB Health, Safety and Environment test
2 Retake the CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

Potential renewal requirements after 5 years
1. Employer endorsement
2. Evidence of CPD
3. High Rise Buildings CPD
4. CITB Health, Safety and Environment test and Fire Safety in Buildings

All validated by CSCS before renewal

Retake CITB Health, Safety and Environment test (if Apprenticeship takes 2+ years)
CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

Retake CITB Health, Safety and Environment test (if S/NVQ takes 2+ years)
CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

Complete Apprenticeship

Complete N/SVQ

Apprentice card
CSCS validate Apprenticeship registration, achievement of CITB Health, Safety and Environment test and Fire Safety in Buildings and issue card.

Trainee or Experienced Worker card
CSCS validate S/NVQ, achievement of CITB Health, Safety and Environment test and Fire Safety in Buildings and issue card.

Register onto the Skills England apprenticeship Apprenticeship: Interior systems Installer - Drylining fixer.

Register onto relevant L2 S/NVQ Drylining fixer, boarder or finisher.

CITB Health, Safety and Environment test

CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

CITB Health, Safety and Environment test

CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

Apprentice Route

Trainee / Experienced Worker Route

The Labourer card is not a recognised training pathway. Where appropriate workers should be encouraged to follow a Red Card route.

Obtain **Green Labourer card**.
Valid for two years on first application, then five years on renewal.
Renewal requires:
1 Retake the CITB Health, Safety and Environment test
2 Retake the CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

Content of qualifications below to be agreed between Sector Representative Organisations and Standard Setting Bodies
Pass one of the following:
1 The Level 1 (Scotland Level 4) Award in Health and Safety in a Construction Environment
2 The Scottish Level 5 REHIS Elementary Health and Safety Certificate
3 The NOCN/CSkills Awards Construction Health and Safety (F/618/0738) unit
4 CSCS approved alternative qualification

CITB Health, Safety and Environment test

CITB Fire Safety in Buildings

Labourer Route

Skilled Pathways as set by Sector Representative Organisations and Standard Setting Bodies

Unskilled Pathways as set by Sector Representative Organisations and Standard Setting Bodies

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