



## NATIONAL/SCOTTISH VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

### Fencing and Fencing (Vehicle Safety) Level 2 Fencing Level 3

- *The recognised qualifications for fence installers*
- *Central to the Fencing Industry Skills Scheme (FISS)*
- *Essential for fencing contractors for major highways construction projects*
- *Certifies competence to install fencing in a chosen specialism.*

#### The demand for proven competence

There is a rising demand for skills in the UK fencing industry, not only among the 15,000 specialist erectors but also among the additional 47,000 people for whom fencing is a major part of their work. Research has shown a considerable and rising need for qualified fence installers. Rising customer expectations at all levels are driving up standards in the fencing industry and feeding the demand for proven competence through qualifications.

*"We and our members have played a key role in developing the national standards for fencing installation on which the NVQ/SVQs in Fencing are based. The standards define what we, as employers, expect from competent installers."*

Wendy Baker, Chief Executive, Fencing Contractors Association

#### Setting the standard – the NVQ/SVQs in Fencing

The National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications in Fencing at Levels 2 and 3 were the first and are still the only recognised qualifications for fence installers. Based on standards set by the industry, the qualifications are central to the Fencing Industry Skills Scheme (FISS). FISS registration is mandatory for general fencing contractors working to Highways Agency contracts under Sector Scheme 2A. So working to NVQ/SVQ standards is increasingly becoming the norm for success in the fencing industry.

#### Delivering the qualification

The NVQ/SVQs in Fencing are awarded by Lantra Awards, which incorporates the former National Fencing Training Authority. We are developing a growing network of NVQ/SVQ assessment centres through our simple centre approval process. To support training and assessment we produce guidelines and support materials for training providers and assessment centres wishing to offer training. We also maintain a national register of candidates who have achieved the NVQ/SVQs.

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Contact Lantra Awards on **024 7641 9703** for more information, including on how to become an approved centre for the NVQ/SVQs in Fencing.  
Or contact your nearest approved centre direct for more details.

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*More details overleaf.*



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#### Demonstrating competence

National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications measure and recognise the contribution that individuals make to a business. Designed around the skills and knowledge people use in their jobs, NVQs and SVQs measure all-round competence at work.

Crucially, the national occupational standards on which NVQs and SVQs are based are developed and kept up to date by the industries themselves through their government-recognised Sector Skills Councils (SSCs). The standards have recently been revised and the new NVQ/SVQs in Fencing come into effect in July 2002.

NVQs and SVQs focus on a particular area of work at a given level and are made up of a number of units which set out the standards that must be reached. The unit-by-unit approach enables employees to set themselves clear training targets and work at their own speed.

Because NVQ/SVQs are about meeting the real demands of work, a lot of assessment takes place in the workplace. Assessment methods are flexible and can include observing an operative carrying out fencing work, examining the work he/she produces and statements from work supervisors or colleagues. An internal verifier appointed by the centre monitors the process to ensure that assessments are carried out fairly to the required standards.

#### The role of Lantra Awards

As the sole awarding body in the UK for the NVQs and SVQs in Fencing, Lantra Awards distributes the NVQ/SVQ specifications, approves assessment centres for the qualification and certifies achievement. We also appoint external verifiers to provide independent quality assurance of the assessment process and the centre's management systems.

If you wish to consider seeking approval of your own organisation as an assessment centre, please contact Lantra Awards for details and costs.

*"The supplier has to demonstrate that his workforce is trained and competent...It is expected that all Lead Installers will hold an NVQ/SVQ in the fence installation which they are supervising by 31 December 2002."*

National Highways Sector Scheme 2A: Design, Supply, Installation and Repair of Fences

*"The holding of a Level 2 NVQ/SVQ in Fence Erection gained in the vehicle restraint systems sector is a mandatory part of the criteria which permits the supplier to newly designate a VRS operative as a VRS lead erector for permanent installations."*

National Highways Sector Scheme 2B: Supply and Erection of Fences – Vehicle Restraint Systems

#### NVQ/SVQ in Fencing – Level 2

#### NVQ/SVQ in Fencing (Vehicle Safety) – Level 2

The updated qualifications are available from July 2002. For details of the current old specifications and transition arrangements, please contact Lantra Awards.

Candidates can choose whether they do a general fencing NVQ/SVQ or whether they specialise in the fencing NVQ/SVQ for vehicle safety fencing.

The units are:

#### Mandatory (common to general and vehicle safety fencing)

- Prepare sites for installation
- Receive, handle, store and protect fencing materials
- Operate powered tools and attachments
- Monitor health and safety.

#### Vehicle safety only:

- Install vehicle safety fencing
- Cast reinforced concrete
- Repair fencing.

#### General fencing only:

- Install fencing

#### and one unit selected from:

- Cast reinforced concrete
- Repair fencing
- Assist with planting and establishing plants.

#### NVQ/SVQ in Fencing – Level 3

A new Level 3 qualification has been developed for fencing supervisors:

- Establish and maintain lines and levels
- Manage the installation of fencing
- Manage the operational area
- Control resources in support of fence installation
- Maintain and enhance working relationships
- Promote, monitor and maintain health, safety and security.

For fuller details of the unit specifications, please contact Lantra Awards.

Contact Lantra Awards on **024 7641 9703** for more information.

Website: [www.lantra.co.uk](http://www.lantra.co.uk) E-mail: [awards@lantra.co.uk](mailto:awards@lantra.co.uk)

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