

SITE SAFETY PLUS

Scheme rules – Appendix M Temporary works supervisor training course (TWSTC)



TWSTC
2023

Site Safety Plus

Temporary Works Supervisor Training Course (TWSTC)

Scheme Rules – Appendix M

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1. Introduction

This one-day *Temporary Works Supervisor Training Course* (TWSTC) is designed to help those on site who have responsibility for **supervising** all forms of temporary works. The course seeks to improve the knowledge of this role and the temporary works environment. The development of this course was supported by several organisations, including the Temporary Works Forum and the Health and Safety Executive.

Temporary works are safety- and business-critical. They require careful co-ordination. An accepted way of achieving this is through the adoption of the management process outlined in BS 5975-1&2:2024, which introduces the temporary works supervisor (TWS) as a key figure. This course explains the role and its overall management context. Temporary works on both smaller and larger sites can be high-risk activities. Therefore, understanding the essentials of good risk and safety management, as outlined in BS 5975-1&2:2024, is relevant for projects of all sizes.

The course gives emphasis throughout to the importance of communication, co-ordination, co-operation and competency (the four Cs), and risk management, safety and business relations, allowing the TWS to:

- understand the need for and duties of a TWS
- understand the role of others
- have a detailed knowledge and understanding of BS 5975 in respect of this role.

1.1 Important notes

The main aim of this course is to focus on the processes involved in temporary works, commonly with particular attention on the role of the TWS.

This course is **not** temporary works technical awareness course. However, there are elements of technical awareness that are signposted throughout and that must be included in the course exercises.

Attendance does **not** confer competency as a TWS; this comes from a mixture of education, training and experience, and should be judged by an appropriate senior individual, usually referred to as the designated individual (DI). Training is considered an essential element of TWS competence.

It is highly recommended that these points are clearly stated in any approved training organisation's course marketing material and joining instructions.

2. Purpose and scope

2.1 Purpose

The aim of this course is to focus on the risk management of temporary works with particular attention on the role of the TWS.

It seeks to consolidate and build on the risk-management knowledge that delegates undertaking this role will have established through other experiences on site (likely in other supervisory or management roles), and focus on how to avoid failure in temporary works by adopting appropriate procedural controls, as outlined in BS 5975-1&2:2024.

2.2 Scope

The TWSTC course will cover the following topics:

- the need for and duties of a TWS
- the other key roles involved in temporary works
- the use of BS 5975-1&2:2024 in relation to the role
- typical documents used in temporary works
- other legislation and guidance that interact with temporary works
- the importance of the four Cs: communication, co-ordination, co-operation and competence
- the need for risk management.

3. Entry requirements

There are no formal entry requirements for the TWSTC.

Training centres **must** include this section of the appendix on any course-marketing material and joining instructions, so that prospective delegates (and their employers) can make an informed choice on whether they have suitable knowledge and experience to successfully complete the course.

However, in line with the quality assurance requirements' section on delivery methodology, it remains a training centre's responsibility to determine a delegate's suitability to attend the course.

Delegates are expected to have a working knowledge of the following legislation:

- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007
- Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998
- The Personal Protective Equipment at Work (Amendment) Regulations 2022
- The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992
- The Work at Height Regulations 2005.

A key issue for temporary works is health and safety, so delegates need to be prepared to discuss how health and safety legislation is relevant to temporary works, as well as which Approved Codes of Practice (ACoPs) may assist or contribute to safe practices in temporary works.

Delegates need to be prepared to discuss and explore all the core health and safety factors that are integrated into temporary works processes at all stages of a project, from initiation to closure. They will need to have working knowledge of all associated legislation, specifically the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 in terms of its intention and compliance. Delegates must also have a thorough understanding of health and safety principles, and understand the importance of risk management, design considerations, inspection and testing and recording and monitoring requirements.

Delegates who have achieved a certificate approved against the Health and Safety in Construction Site Supervision standard (such as SSSTS or SSSTS-R) or the Health and Safety in Construction Site Management standard (such as SMSTS or SMSTS-R), will have gained the knowledge to meet these expectations. This is not a mandatory pre-requisite, but delegates with these achievements will benefit from having this knowledge before attending the course.

To further support delegates, CITB has created a Temporary works awareness eLearning package that provides a foundation of the points that will be expanded on in this course. It explores how health and safety legislation plays a pivotal role in temporary works, and how documents which are common to more generic construction activities are a useful aid for planning and the ongoing management and monitoring of temporary works. Delegates may find it helpful to complete the Temporary works awareness eLearning, which is free to access, [here](#).

4. Delegate numbers

The mandatory minimum number of delegates per course is four. The mandatory maximum number of delegates per course is 20. For remote delivery the minimum number per course is four and the maximum is 12.

Should numbers drop below the mandatory minimum numbers once the course has commenced, the course may continue. To preserve learner participation, it is mandatory that the course is delivered to a minimum of three delegates. Please refer to the QA requirements for further information

5. Course duration and attendance

This is a one-day course. Delegates must attend the full course, lasting a minimum of seven hours and forty-five minutes (which includes course delivery and examination but **not** an examination re-sit), to be eligible for certification. This does **not** include breaks. Please refer to page 4 of the *Principal Scheme Rules* for information on course duration.

For certification purposes, and to avoid any ambiguity, the full day's course must be attended. If a delegate does not complete the course due to extenuating circumstances (for example, if a delegate becomes ill), they must restart the course in full. Delegates who are unable to attend part of the course due to extenuating circumstances may re-enrol on a new course to complete the missed day and it must be completed within 30 days from the last day of attendance.

In cases of certified illness, bereavement, or other qualifying extenuating circumstances where more than 30 days are required to complete the course, delegates should refer to Section 94 of the QA Requirements. This section allows an extension of 90 days for certified illness. Delegates must provide evidence for any extenuating circumstances as outlined in the QA Requirements. To be awarded certification, delegates must complete the full course, pass the trainer review (where applicable), and pass the end-of-course assessment.

6. Course materials

6.1 Publications

This course, including its group work and exercises, is primarily constructed around BS 5975-1:2024 with some reference to BS 5975-2:2024. Delegates are expected to have an awareness of the requirements of BS 5975-1:2024, and it is recommended that they bring a copy of BS 5975-1:2024; however, their own organisation's procedures and guidance on temporary works may be more suitable for reference during the course.

For in-house courses, the trainer is expected to tailor the course around the organisation's procedures providing they are comprehensive and follow the philosophy of BS 5975-1:2024. In these cases, delegates will also need a copy of their own organisation's procedures.

6.2 Supporting materials

Scheme of work	Mandatory
Lesson plan template (blank)	Optional
Trainer reference	Mandatory
Course workbook (produced by the trainer and meeting the specification provided in the Trainer reference)	Mandatory
Course exercises (refer to the Trainer reference for full details)	Mandatory
Course exercise delegate handout	Optional
<i>What do you know?</i> Paper	Optional
Glossary of terms	Mandatory
Temporary works documents (blank templates and completed examples) (CITB or trainer's own)	Mandatory
Detailed drawings (trainer's own)	Mandatory
Temporary works image bank	Optional
Simplified flowchart	Optional

6.3 Key information

A scheme of work document is available to each training provider. This details the learning outcomes, assessment criteria, notes for guidance, reference and support materials available for the course. **It is mandatory for the document to be used to assist with lesson planning so that all learning outcomes are met in the delivery of the course.** Training providers may make minor adjustments to the programme to meet delegate needs, if the aims and objectives of the course are met.

Training providers can access the supporting materials online in the CITB secure area. Training providers can also use additional support materials to meet the delegates' needs, provided that the aims and learning outcomes of the course are met. The Trainer reference includes:

- a specification for what must be, and what is recommended to be, included in the delegate's course workbook
- an outline of the mandatory and optional exercises to support the course.

6.4 Recommended supporting publications

A further reading list is provided in the Trainer reference. This list must also be included in the course workbook.

7. Course workbook

The trainer **must** produce a course workbook that meets the specification outlined in the Trainer reference. This specification has been introduced to enable a more-consistent standard of trainer-generated support material. The trainer must make sure that the course workbook is kept up-to-date so that all information is current and accurate.

7.1 Distribution and format

The course trainer **must** provide a course workbook to each delegate at the start of the course. Delegates should be given the option of receiving this in either hard or digital copy. This workbook will be retained by the delegate upon completion of the course.

7.2 Course workbook content

The notes are expected to cover the entire course subject matter (i.e. the scheme of work) and fulfil the minimum requirements outlined in the workbook specification contained in the Trainer reference. Course notes will not be acceptable if they:

- are copies of slides (slides should follow good practice and contain minimal textual information)
- include only specific company procedures that just say what must be done, without any background.

These will not cover the entire course, however relevant they are. This is not an exhaustive listing. For in-house courses, the trainer is expected to insert company-specific procedural examples and requirements into the notes, or alternative methods, as agreed with the client.

7.3 Exercises and interaction with delegates

Trainers must include the minimum number of exercises outlined in 6.2 above. Exercises must support the scheme of work and wherever possible draw on, or be centred around at least one of the temporary works focus topics outlined in the Trainer reference.

Seven exercises are suggested in the Trainer reference, with an explanation of which areas of the scheme of work they support, and how they may be run. A complementary delegate handout is available on the trainer portal – trainers have full flexibility to use this in whichever way they see fit – and therefore the document is provided in an editable Word format.

The course should encourage a high level of delegate participation: in addition to exercises, further opportunities for delegate engagement throughout the course are strongly recommended, for example through questioning and discussions. The course delivery must be supported by a variety of media, including case studies (a minimum of three), images, video, drawings and example documents. Refer to the Trainer reference for more detail on this.

Examples should be spread across the construction industry as far as reasonable, specifically buildings and civil works, including above- and below-ground temporary works situations.

8. Learning outcomes

Delegates taking this course should be able to achieve all the learning outcomes listed below by the end of the course.

Module 1 – What are temporary works?

1. Types of temporary works

Describe the different types of temporary works and temporary works solutions.

Module 2 – The history of temporary works

1. The history of temporary works and its legislative framework

Describe the history that set the requirements for a series of changes to create a robust, safety-conscious process in the design, installation, management and removal of temporary works.

2. The causes and consequences of failure

Explain the hazards, risks, causes and consequences of failure in temporary works.

3. The avoidance of failure

Describe the techniques used to avoid failure, focusing on the four Cs.

Module 3 – Who is involved with temporary works?

1. Stakeholders' and duty holders' responsibilities and accountabilities

Identify the key roles and responsibilities of the primary stakeholders responsible for managing the safe implementation, management and dismantling of temporary works, including the appointment of key roles.

Module 4 – Planning temporary works

1. Management and control of design

Explain how the TWS supports the TWC in the management and control of the design, materials, components and key solutions.

2. Key processes

State the key processes that form a safe system of work.

3. Implementation risk classification

State the importance of implementation risk classification and its impact on design and risk management.

Module 5 – Managing the construction, erection and dismantling of temporary works

1. Key activities required during the active life of the temporary works

Describe the key considerations which will help a TWS support the TWC in the co-ordination, supervision and checking of work on site during the construction, erection and dismantling of temporary works.

9. Assessment

Trainers may wish to start the course with a *What do you know?* question paper to establish delegate knowledge levels (an informal, initial assessment). Successful completion of the course requires:

Completing mandatory exercises	Three mandatory exercises
Passing the trainer review	Mandatory
Passing the end-of-course exam	Mandatory

We recommend you remind delegates at the end of the examination that attendance of the course and examination success does not confer competency as a TWS, but is for the purposes of continuing professional development (CPD).

9.1 Trainer review

The trainer review provides a pass or fail based on the delegate's performance and engagement in the course exercises and engagement in the course overall. Further details are provided in the Trainer reference. The trainer review must be completed before the end-of-course examination. If a delegate is assessed as failing the trainer review, then they are not permitted to sit the end-of-course examination.

9.2 Examination paper

The paper consists of 20 questions, selected by CITB, covering all aspects of the course. This examination paper must be taken at the end of the course. Each paper has:

- 17 multiple-choice and/or multiple-response questions (each worth one mark; no half marks available)
- Three free text questions (each worth two or three marks – part marks are available, but no half marks should be awarded).

The examination paper must be taken at the end of the course. The examination paper number will be notified when the course booking is accepted by CITB. The examination pass mark is 76% (19 out of 25 marks). The examination lasts for 45 minutes and must be completed within this time under examination conditions.

The examination is **open** book: delegates are permitted to use their course workbook – which may include any notes made by the delegate during the course – for the duration of the examination. The examination paper forms part of the overall assessment as to whether the delegate has successfully passed the TWSTC.

9.3 Re-sits procedure

A delegate may re-sit the examination one further time if they meet all the following:

- completed the mandatory three course exercises
- passed the trainer's review
- gained at least 60% (15 out of 25 marks) in the exam.

If a delegate fails the initial course examination, a re-sit may be offered on the same day, provided the delegate agrees and is given adequate time to prepare.

If the delegate does not agree to re-sit the examination on the same day and requires additional preparation time, they may attend the final day of another course for the examination period, or attend a standalone course, within a 30-day period. The delegate is **not** required to re-do the whole course.

The re-sit may be conducted either face-to-face or in a remote setting.

If a delegate fails the re-sit by not achieving 76% (19/25 marks) or more in the examination, they must take the TWSTC course again.

The training provider must make the arrangements with the delegate and ensure that the same examination paper is not used twice.

A charge may be made to the delegate, however; this fee is left entirely to the discretion of the training provider. The training provider may also recover additional costs from the delegate, which should be agreed in advance. Subsequent arrangements will be at the delegate's own expense.

10. Remote delivery

CITB permits the TWSTC course to be delivered as a face-to-face course or remotely via your chosen video technology. The training must follow the scheme of work and deliver the same standard of training, meeting all scheme rules unless exceptions or amendments exist in this section.

10.1 Access to Quality Assurance team

The facility to monitor the delivery of any remote training must be made available to our Quality Assurance (QA) team for every remote course being delivered. The Site Safety Plus (SSP) QA team must be invited to attend every remote course being delivered. All links to attend should be sent to quality.assurance@citb.co.uk.

10.2 Course duration and attendance

The course duration and attendance rules outlined in section 5 of this document remain the same. However, due to the delivery method, the course may be split into two sessions. These split sessions must be completed over two consecutive days. Delegates must complete the full course to be eligible for certification.

10.3 Technology

Where a course is delivered remotely, the trainer may choose suitable technology that allows for the course to be delivered in its entirety. At no point should the difference in delivery method disadvantage the delegate's training experience or gaining of knowledge. The chosen technology must not be a barrier to delegate interaction or collaboration.

10.4 Course exercises

The mandatory exercises must be delivered in full. Delegates must be encouraged to make the same levels of interaction that would be expected in a face-to-face setting – e.g. group exercises. Delegates must have access to the support material required to complete each exercise. The trainer must keep a record of the delegates' work for audit purposes.

10.5 Assessment

An alternative exam method is in place for any TWSTC that is delivered remotely. Due to the nature of the examination questions, it is compulsory to use an online examination tool. [Classmarker](#) or [Microsoft Forms](#) are recommended by CITB for online assessment. Any other online examination solution must be referred to CITB for approval prior to use, or examinations will be invalid. In these circumstances, please contact quality.assurance@citb.co.uk.

Identification must be checked prior to the examination starting and recorded on the course results form (remote training version). During the examination, the trainer may invigilate a maximum of six delegates. If a course is delivered with more than six delegates, either two examination sessions must be conducted, or two invigilators must assess one examination. Each delegate must be visible via the video at all times.

Exam material retention should be kept as outlined in the Quality Assurance Requirements. All other exam conditions apply as stipulated in Section 9.

11. Trainer requirements

In addition to the Quality Assurance Requirements that set out the minimum trainer requirements for all SSP courses, trainers must have attended and achieved this course (or one of a higher level in the SSP temporary works suite), as well as meet the criteria below:

Requirement 1	Requirement 2	Requirement 3
- Be a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers (MICE/FICE) or - be a member of the Institution of Structural Engineers (MIStructE/FIStructE) or - be a member of the Institution of Royal Engineers (InstRE).	Be registered with the Engineering Council at leng or CEng level.	Hold relevant practical and design experience of temporary works (such as falsework, formwork, access and protection).

To complement BS 5975-1&2: 2024, we recommend that training centres describe their temporary works course trainers' skills, knowledge and experience for delivering this course on their course webpages, so that delegates may better align themselves to a trainer that they feel will best suit their needs. An example of this could be included in an area like 'Meet the team'.

It is good practice, but not mandatory, for trainers to also hold one or more of the following qualifications:

- NEBOSH National Certificate in Construction Safety and Health.
- Level 4 or 5 NVQ Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety Practice (or SVQ equivalent)*.
- A health and safety degree.
- NEBOSH Diploma in Occupational Safety and Health Part 2 NEBOSH Units A, B, C and D.
- IOSH Level 6 Diploma in Safety Management (or equivalent).

**Note: The Level 5 NVQ/SVQ in Occupational Health and Safety has replaced the Level 4 within the Qualifications and Credit Framework. Holders of the Level 4 qualification with a valid certificate will be accepted.*