

Training that gives you extra

Smart Metering

Training routes into the industry



What is Smart Metering?

What is Smart Metering and why would I want to train to be a Smart Meter Installer?

The government have set a target of 50 million Smart gas and electric meters to be installed in over 27 million homes by 2020. In order to reach these targets, energy providers will require many more meter installers, making this an amazing opportunity for you to get into the Gas and Electrics industries.

2016 is set to be the year in which the smart meter installation rollout really begins, and demand for qualified meter installers can only increase. Whether you are already a qualified gas engineer or electrician looking to upskill, or maybe you're new to the industry, ECTA offer nationally recognised qualifications, which will prepare you for a new career as a Smart Meter Installer.

In addition, the Gas programme offered at ECTA will give you the foundation for a career in the Gas industry after the Smart Meter rollout ends, by including ACS domestic gas metering qualifications recognised by the Gas Safe Register (CMA1 and MET1). These qualifications provide the basis for you to upskill to work on additional gas appliances later on, giving you a long-term future in the industry.

Installation stage

The smart meter rollout really gets going in 2016, with the aim of being complete by 2020. The gas and electricity suppliers are responsible for planning and delivering smart meter installation. They can do this in whichever way suits their customers and business best, but they must meet the Government's overall timescale and targets along the way. It's worth noting that all the energy suppliers have different plans for smart meter installation, depending on factors like the location of their main customer base.

The Department of Energy and Climate Change will manage the implementation of the programme, and monitor its progress. The energy regulator Ofgem is responsible for making sure consumers are protected during the installation phase (and beyond). They'll ensure that the energy suppliers stick to the standards set out in the Smart Metering Installation Code of Practice (SMICOP).



Installation projections

The Government expects that smart meter installation will accelerate sharply in 2016, when all the common standards come into force and include around 20 million meters fitted between 2016 and 2018, peak in 2019 and finish in 2020.

www.smartenergygb.org

Smart Meter Installation Courses

We currently offer two routes into the industry.

Learners can choose either a full Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel), which on successful completion, will allow them to install both Gas & Electric Smart Meters.

Alternatively, those with suitable existing Gas (ACS) qualifications who wish to become a Smart Dual Fuel Meter Installer, may wish to opt for a fast track route to be trained in the installation of Electric (Power)

meters. In this route, the assessment is carried out on site by the host company providing the mentored work placement, and they will award MOCOPA authorisation to successful candidates.

Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)

Aimed at new entrants to the industry

For those wishing to install Gas & Power Meters

Process

- Initial Assessment and application to assess candidate suitability (against host company policy)
- 5 weeks classroom based training (theory and practical)
- 4 - 8 weeks real work environment mentored work placement
- Final Assessment week in centre
- Successful candidates start work!

On successful completion of the qualification, you will be able to:

- Install and commission low pressure natural gas smart meters up to 6 cubic meters per hour capacity
- Install and change single phase power (electric) meters
- Install and commission smart communication systems for smart meters
- Carry out related works safely
- Communicate effectively with customers

Fast Track MOCOPA Training

For those with existing Gas or Electric qualifications

Will allow successful candidates to install Smart Power Meters

Process

- Initial Assessment and application to assess candidate suitability (against host company policy)
- 2 weeks classroom based training (theory and practical)
- 4 - 8 weeks real work environment mentored work placement
- Final Assessment for MOCOPA by host company
- Successful candidates start work!

On successful completion of the qualification, you will be able to:

- Install and change single phase power (electric) meters
- Install and commission smart communication systems for smart meters
- Carry out related works safely
- Communicate effectively with customers

Please contact us for more information on the application process for either route, or to discuss your individual training requirements

Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)

The schedule of the Smart Metering (Dual Fuel) qualification is detailed below.

This is a full time programme of study, and involves classroom based training, practical workshop training, home study and a mentored work placement which will be organised by our specialist partnered recruitment companies.

The course is assessed by means of written question papers, practical assessments and a portfolio of work carried out during the mentored work placement. Summative assessments for the Level 2 Diploma and the ACS CMA1 and MET1 are completed in the final week of the programme.

This course is designed for New Entrants to the Industry.

Week 1

- **L/502/9858** – Working Practices in the Energy and Utilities Sector
- **A/502/9855** – Working Safely in the Energy and Utilities Sector
- **J/503/0233** – Using and Communicating Technical Information in the Energy and Utilities Sector
- **F/503/0231** – Install and Commission Communication Systems
- **F/502/9856** – Delivering Customer Services when working in the Energy and Utilities Sector

Week 2

- **M/600/3988** – Install single phase meter and associated equipment
- **A/600/3993** – Change single phase meter and associated equipment

Weeks 3 - 5

- **K/503/0256** – Applied practices and principles for installing low pressure Natural Gas Smart Meters up to U6
- **J/502/9857** – Low pressure Gas Smart Meter tightness testing and direct purging
- **F/503/0232** – Prepare, install and commission low pressure Natural Gas Smart Meter and regulator up to 6.0m³/hr

Weeks 6 - 14 (approx)

- Mentored Work placement - length dependent on progress
- Initial training on meter installations with mentor, as learner gains confidence, they will undertake more and more of the installation. Once Mentor and learner are ready, mentor will start to collect evidence

for portfolio. (8 jobs required). Final assessment on site will be carried out by an Independent Assessor (usually a supervisor or manager from the company - but not the mentor)

Final Assessment Week

- Return to ECTA for final summative assessments for Level 2 Diploma in Smart Metering (Dual Fuel)
- Undertake ACS CMA1 and MET1 Assessments

Fast Track MOCOPA Training

The schedule of the Fast Track MOCOPA training is detailed below.

This is a full time programme of study, and involves classroom based training, practical workshop training, home study and a supervised work placement.

The MOCOPA accreditation is issued by the company providing the work placement. There are formative assessments throughout the course, consisting of written question papers and practical assessments.

Initial training on meter installations with mentor, as learner gains confidence, they will undertake more and more of the installation. Final MOCOPA assessment on site will be the responsibility of, and carried out by, the host company.

Week 1

- Working Practices in the Energy & Utilities Sector
- Working Safely in the Energy & Utilities Sector
- Using and Communicating Technical Information in the Energy & Utilities Sector
- Install & Commission Communication Systems
- Delivering Customer Services when working in the Energy & Utilities Sector

Week 2

- Install and change single phase meter and associated equipment. Including practical and theory training, to include various simulated scenarios , basic electrical theory

Weeks 3 -11 (approx)

- Mentored Work placement - length dependent on progress & Client requirements

This course is designed for existing gas engineers wishing to install both gas and electric smart meters (subject to ACS qualifications held, e.g. MET1), or those with existing electric qualifications who wish to gain the required knowledge and accreditation to install Smart Power meters.

Please contact us for further information on your individual requirements and suitability for this course.

Why train with ECTA?

Founded in 2005, we have been training in the Gas, Electrics, Renewables and Water industries for over 10 years.

Industry expertise

We have a proven track record of delivering quality training to companies both large and small throughout the UK. Our 16,000 sq ft training centre in Stockport is dedicated to offering the best resources and facilities possible, and our dedicated Smart Metering training rooms offer a wide range of scenarios to prepare you for the realities of working in real-life situations.

Our team have personal experience of working in the industries they teach, giving an extra dimension to our training programmes. We've been training the pros for years, and some of the biggest companies in the UK trust us to train their teams.

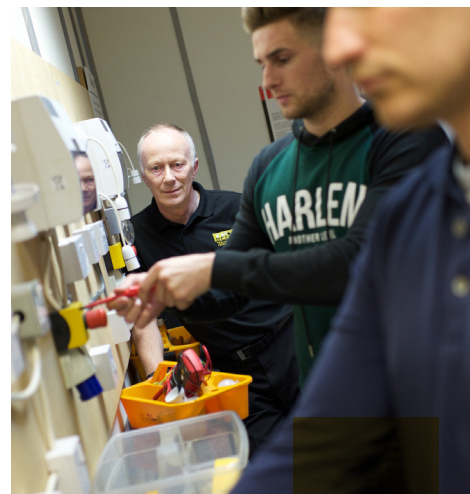
We are always adding extra courses, to cover new sectors and the latest innovations, which all means you'll be getting great quality training to set you up for a rewarding future.

Free parking is available in our car park. We are just 5 minutes from Junction 27 on the M60, and close to major rail links.

You can take a tour of the centre on our website at www.ectatraining.co.uk

"I was really impressed with the depth of knowledge displayed by both the training and assessment teams. I can highly recommend and I would book again."

Peter Lamb
Harding Building Services Ltd



Prerequisites

What qualifications or experience do I need to get on the course?

There are no prerequisite qualifications required to enter the programme. However, we will expect you to undergo a vetting process before you book on the course to ensure you meet the requirements of the meter installation company supplying the work placement.

Those wishing to take the fast track MOCOPA route should contact us to discuss eligibility and individual training requirement

You will be required to

- Hold a Full UK driving licence (Restrictions apply for candidates with excessive penalty points.)
- Prove your eligibility to work in the UK
- Undergo a CRB check
- Hold a minimum of 4 GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade C and above (to include Maths and English)

There is an initial assessment process before you can book on the course that will ask for details on your work experience and qualifications. You may also be required to take a Skills check. This initial assessment will also be used to determine if there is any Recognised Prior Learning which can be taken into account (and potentially reduce the duration of training required) as well as assessing your suitability for the course and ensuring you understand what will be required of you in order to complete the qualification.

Some useful further reading

www.smartenergygb.org

www.gov.uk/guidance/smart-meters-how-they-work

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobprofiles/Pages/smartmeterinstaller.aspx

www.britishgas.co.uk/smarter-living/control-energy/smart-meters.html

www.eonenergy.com/for-your-home/smart-meters

careers.g4s.com/jobs/Meter-Installer-Dual-Fuel_58354/

Please contact us for further information on your individual requirements and suitability for either of these courses.

“The course was challenging, but with an excellent trainer and equipment available, it was enjoyable and the overall atmosphere very friendly”

Mr Coulter - Isle of Man

Get in touch

If you would like to find out more, please get in touch with a member of our team

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