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GOOD THINKING PEOPLE

Nuclear Welding Inspection
Apprenticeship Scheme



Nuclear Welding Inspection – 48 month programme

What is a Nuclear Welding Inspection Technician?

The role of a nuclear welding inspection technician will be to provide quality control and welding inspection services for the nuclear industry.

What will I be doing?

You will be carrying out detailed visual observations, making detailed records and giving technical feedback, as well as, developing the confidence to challenge/question specifications throughout the manufacturing process. You will become trained in other techniques such as liquid penetrant and magnetic particle testing to detect surface breaking defects or using X-ray and ultrasound to see inside a weld. You will need to have the right attitude to health and safety, quality and following instructions.

The scheme will cover:

- Material science
- Welding technology/welding inspection
- Non destructive testing (NDT) techniques

What do I need to consider?

To pursue this apprenticeship scheme you will need a Grade B (Step 5) in Maths and English.

This is an exciting and brand new four year apprenticeship scheme, in fact, there is nothing like it in the UK. For the first twelve months you will be at college learning basic hand skills and three in depth modules covering the most commonly used welding techniques within the nuclear industry. You will have the opportunity to work towards a Level 4 Apprenticeship certificate, during this time you will work alongside existing welding inspectors at Sellafield Ltd and attend college one day per week.

Having high levels of attention to detail is vital in this role and in the written write up on records.

Where will my training be delivered?

1st Year – Training will be delivered at Energen facility. You will learn basic hand, trade skills, welding techniques, reading engineering/fabrication drawings and a basic introduction into welding inspection.

2nd, 3rd and 4th Year – You will be placed in the welding inspection team on site learning about welding, material defects, ultrasound, radiography, dye penetrant and magnetic particle techniques. We also have to carry out inspections off site as well which means we have to inspect manufactured items/equipment that our

suppliers have made in their workshops to check it meets the required standard.

As an integral part of your apprenticeship your progress will be monitored and assessed against government standard requirements. You will compile an evidence folder, demonstrating your areas of learning with accredited certificates of completion for elements of your training. Within the last six months of your apprenticeship you will undertake an assessment by an independently appointed organisation, where you will be expected to clearly demonstrate your capability to perform as a Nuclear Welding Inspection Technician.

What qualifications will I obtain?

- Level 4 Apprentice Certificate.
- Level 4 BTEC Higher National Certificate.
- Internationally recognised qualifications in welding inspection and Non-Destructive Testing.

What are the entry requirements?

- Minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grades A to C (Step 4) including 1 Science; and Mathematics and English Language at Grade B (Step 5) or above.

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