

## Questions and Answers

# City & Guilds and The IET – 18th Edition Wiring Regulations webinar

08.06.2018

### How soon will the tutor pack be available?

The Qualification Handbook should be available on the [2382 webpage](#) from mid-June. There's very few changes from the current handbook as the structure of BS 7671 hasn't changed and therefore the test specification is only slightly different to the 2382-15. The tutor pack on SmartScreen will be available as soon as possible after 2 July.

### For a job started prior to January 2019 but the completion date is expected to be after Jan 2019 - does the 18th Edition apply?

Any work designed to the 17<sup>th</sup> Edition but completed after 1 January 2019 should be verified to the 17<sup>th</sup> Edition amendment 3, and this should be declared on the Electrical Installation Certificate.

### As Arc Fault Detection Device (AFDD) is only recommended would it not be better suited to guidance notes rather than the main body of the regulations?

There's many regulations throughout BS 7671 that are recommendations where wording such as 'Consideration should be given to...' or 'The following measured may be considered...'

Recommendations within BS 7671 are not new. Sometimes, considerations do become requirements once the concept becomes normal practice.

### Can polarity at the intake/service head position be a visual check?

Verification of conductor identification could be verified by visual inspection once the line conductor is verified as being the line.

Realistically, this can only be done through testing. During the initial verification process, it is the inspector who will be energising the installation for the first time and if they do this without testing polarity, reliance is put on the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) or the supplier who installed the metering to get it right. As the test takes approximately 30 seconds to undertake, it would be prudent to test this rather than rely on others before the installation is energised.

**In light of your new publications does this mean that Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) is now more easily accomplished between 2365/8202/5356?**

Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) between qualifications was greatly simplified in September 2017 with the publication of the Electrotechnical RPL Guidance, which can be accessed [here](#).

**With regards to plastic inserts in incoming services – is this to be a visual confirmation or are there to be values confirmed to determine whether they are extraneous or not?**

If you can visually see an insulating section in the gas or water installation pipe at the point of entry to the installation that would no longer be considered an extraneous conductive part.

**Why will there only be two amendments for the 18th Edition instead of five? Asking the public to re-train every nine years at significant expense seems unfair. Surely the changes don't justify new additions at that frequency.**

There is nothing new about this rule. The 17<sup>th</sup> Edition had been amended three times since it was first published in 2008 and the reason a third amendment was permitted was because the second amendment (Electric Vehicle Charging Installations) did not lead to a reprint of the book.

There's not a regulatory body within the electrical industry that requires you to take 2382. This only applies if you are a member of a certificating body or hold an Electrotechnical Certification Scheme (ECS) card in which case, they may require you to update. In order to be considered skilled (electrically; as defined in BS 7671) you should be knowledgeable of the current requirements.

Even if somebody re-trained every three to four years, as BS 7671 is amended, this is a relatively small expense in relation to potential income for the work carried out in that period. Training is an essential overhead for a safety critical industry and can be considered as important as purchasing tools or test equipment.

**Can you confirm when the 2391 assessments are neutral until?**

2391 questions will definitely be neutral until 1 January 2019. Following this date, the permitted material will be the 18<sup>th</sup> Edition publications.

**Will the changes to BS 7671 also mean there will be a knock on effect with other qualifications and their assessment such as vehicle car charging, and change information to the code of practice used for Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) testing?**

2377 is based on the code of practice for the In-service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment which is not dependent on BS 7671 as it relates to appliances, not the fixed electrical installation so 2377 will only update when that code of practice changes. At this point there is no date for that.

2919- Electric Vehicle Charging will change and the changed assessments are due to be released in August 2018.

For further information of changes to qualifications see the March update FAQ document [here](#).

### **Will book one and two be available on digital formats?**

Both textbooks will be available in print and electronic versions. Currently, book one will be available in print format in September and an electronic version in October. Book two will be available in print in October with an electronic version shortly after.

### **What is the qualification accreditation number for 2382?**

QAN is – 603/3319/4

### **Will both main bonding and supplementary bonding now not be needed in the 18th Edition?**

The requirements for min protective bonding have not changed with exception to the further regulations stating services with insulating sections at their point of entry do not require bonding.

Supplementary bonding has not been a requirement for some time, with the exception of some special locations, providing the requirements of Automatic Disconnection of Supply (ADS) are met. Only where ADS cannot be met, supplementary bonding becomes a requirement.

### **I have seen that a lot of centres are requiring the 17th Edition AM3 as a prerequisite for attending an update rather than a full course for the 18<sup>th</sup> Edition. Are there going to be any requirements from City & Guilds or will this purely be down to each centre to decide?**

This is entirely up to centres to manage. Many centres have a good working relationship with candidates and therefore know their strengths. We only recommend that somebody has a 2382-15 before they undertake a shorter update course rather than the full course. The assessments will be the same no matter on the mode of delivery.

### **Will there be any change to the consumer unit? If so what? When will these be ready for us to buy?**

There are no plans to change consumer units. If the question is in relation to the installation of AFFDs then we recommend you contact manufacturers to obtain advice. AFDDs are not a requirement, but only for consideration in certain locations.

### **If there is a change, could we retro fit the change to 17th Edition boards?**

Regulations don't need to be applied retrospectively. If a periodic report reveals that an installation was designed and installed to the regulations current at that time, and no major modifications undertaken, a C3 code is issued which is still considered satisfactory, just not compliant with current regulations.

### **The FAQ in the City & Guilds guidance says candidate's knowledge should be up to date and sound. As the exam is the same would a centre be able to stipulate any 17th Edition qualification or recent completion of AM2 as an entry requirement onto a shorter path?**

This is entirely up to centres to manage. Many centres have a good working relationship with candidates and therefore know their strengths. We only recommend that somebody has a 2382-15 before they

undertake a shorter update course rather than the full course. The assessments will be the same no matter on the mode of delivery.

**As we are already a registered centre for the 17th Edition, do we need to action anything to be able to register candidates for the new examinations?**

No, approval is automatic but check your centre profile on Walled Garden after 2nd July to ensure this has been included. Any issues contact your regional quality office.

**Are the numbers of questions in each Section in 2382-18 the same as the numbers in 2382-15?**

They're very similar. The test specification and hand book will be on the [qualification webpage](#) very soon.

**For those of us who have The IET online subscription access to BS 7671, will the 18th Edition be available to customers of this service on 1 or 2 July?**

You'll need to contact The IET Digital Services regarding your subscriptions as many different packages are offered. It will also be offered on 2 July.

**For the 35 hour e-learning is this available on disc or downloadable?**

This will be available to purchase through Walled Garden or The IET academy on a per-learner subscription.

**Regarding dual marking schemes, can the candidate mix answers from both 17th and 18th Editions or should they be consistent to one edition throughout the exam or assessment?**

Candidates should be consistent with the version they are using. It would only be confusing to try and work from several versions, so we suggest using only one.

**Will an updated commentary to the regulations be issued with the new guidance notes?**

Please visit the IET [website](#) for resources offered by the IET.

**Is there a question bank on SmartScreen?**

There are plans to update the current questions on SmartScreen. Timescale to be confirmed but this will be as soon as possible after 2 July.

**What impact does the 18th Edition have on plumbing 6189-31/6189-33, exam taken this year 6189-025?**

The current assessments will remain until the summer break when they will be reviewed. Any potential amendments will be carried out and centres updated.

**A question on the e-learning packages - is this just something that assists the learner and they still come to a course or is a separate learning unit and learners come in to college to take an exam?**

This depends on the choice of the training providers. A candidate could take the e-learning only and take the exam, or the e-learning could be used to complement classroom training.

**Will you be providing support packs for training providers and when will these packs be available?**

Tutor support materials will be available on SmartScreen. These will be to support classroom delivery and will be entirely separate from the e-learning options. The aim is have them available as soon as possible after July 2nd.

**If a candidate does the e learning, do they still have to attend a registered centre to do the online exam?**

Yes. The e-learning is for training purposes only. It does not replace the exam.

**When can centres expect delivery of pre-ordered BS 7671-2018?**

If you're referring to the wiring regulations publications, these will start being shipped from a warehouse the week commencing 2 July. There will be a delivery period – you'll need to check this with your supplier.

If you're referring to the exam, this can only be taken from the 2 July. The e-learning can be made available to centres/learners with 24-48 hours of purchase.

**With the online courses do the learners sit the assessment at a local centre?**

If you are purchasing the e-learning directly from The IET, you'll need to find a centre for the exam. Centres will have their own delivery methods. Please check with you local provider to see what options they are available.

**Permitted reference material for 2382-18. Obviously BS 7671 but can you use the on-site guide? When will the new on-site guide be published?**

The only material permitted for 2382-18 is BS 7671. The on-site guide (OSG) will be of no benefit. The IET on-site guide is due to be published mid-July 2018.

**Will the on-site guide be published at the same time as BS 7671?**

The on-site guide is expected to be published in mid-July 2018.

**Do you have a centre facility checklist available to download including laptop and broadband specification for the online assessments?**

Please see [here](#) for information about the Evolve platform.

**Can people with amendment 3 17th Edition do just an update?**

Yes. We recommend you contact your local centre to see what they're offering.

**What do you consider to be the area of most difficulty for this updated edition?**

If you're referring to installation difficulties, probably the supporting of wiring systems against premature collapse in all parts of an installation, not just escape routes.

**Under chapter 42 regulations 421.1.7 will it come to a stage in the regulations that AFDDs will be required in most applications?**

At the present time, AFDDs are only recommended for consideration.

**Chapter 41 411.3.1.2 the term metallic pipes does this refer to the customers or service providers?**

This refers to service providers.

**20A RCD – which application would I find that in, i.e. purpose?**

Where RCD protection is required on a TT installation, but sensitive RCDs may cause unwanted tripping. When you consider a 32 A Type C circuit breaker requires 320 A to disconnect, a device that trips at an earth fault of 20 A is considerably safer yet not too sensitive as a 100 mA RCD. It must coordinate with the earth electrode resistance.

**Can you provide an example of the difference between 'partial' and 'total' selectivity.**

There's a lot of detail around this is the new annex to Chapter 53 within BS 7671: 2018. As a short reply, it is in relation to down-stream protection, perhaps by a DNO device so partial selectivity is all that is required.

**Please provide more information on IR L to E test. For IV only.**

If it is unreasonable to remove vulnerable equipment during the final testing of insulation resistance, in order not to damage the equipment, it will be permissible to test L&N to E only.

**Zs max on schedule of test results. Which one? Ch 41 or 80%?**

This is currently stated as values from BS 7671 but it is expected that certificating organisations will have their own view on this.

### **RCD rated at 20 A? What's that about?**

See above FAQ; it offers much better protection than no RCD.

### **Schedule of test results, can we fit all the information on? We struggle already on A4 size.**

There's no regulation governing the format or page size of a schedule of tests results, providing they contain the minimum information. Many certificating bodies produce their own versions of the document.

### **The end assessment will be based on the 17th Edition until 1 January 2019. If the learners are taught from the 18th Edition books after 2 July 2018, does this mean they will only have the 17th Edition qualification?**

Without knowing which specific qualification is being referred to in the question; current apprenticeships allow a year changeover. 5357 and 2365 17<sup>th</sup> Edition assessments will be available until July 2019. This caters for apprentices studying to the 17<sup>th</sup> Edition and a suitable switchover period.

### **Will the number of questions per Part of BS 7671 be the same as for the 17th Edition?**

Very similar. The 2382-18 handbook will be available on the [qualification webpage](#) from mid-June.

### **Is there a standard the learners' books are to comply with i.e., can they have post-it notes, highlighted sections, handwritten notes etc. If a learner attends an exam with their own material that is fully marked and written on, could they still use their copy?**

Candidates are allowed post-it notes for navigation purposes and minimal notation in their copies of BS 7671. If notation includes practice materials or procedures etc., this is not. The type of notation allowed would be, as an example, where a regulation states that something must be compliant with another regulation, a short note explaining that regulation is okay (e.g. and RCD complying with 415.1 "30 mA RCD"). Another example is where BS 7671 uses BS numbers such as BS 3036 fuses, a note stating re-wireable fuse is acceptable.

### **Can we see samples of the e-learning on offer?**

Yes. For sample of the e-learning please email [directsales@cityandguilds.com](mailto:directsales@cityandguilds.com)

### **Will separate earth systems still be part of the 18th Edition? Has there been any consideration to battery back-up?**

The answer to this question relies on the specific protective measure, type of system and much more so sorry, we cannot provide a specific answer to this question.

**Are there any suggestions for cable containment of Steel Wire Armoured (SWA) and such when it comes to adhering to regulations?**

SWA cables do not require containment as they have suitable mechanical protection. Support of the cables will require consideration to comply with requirements relating to premature collapse of wiring systems.

**How much are the books through City & Guilds – are they discounted?**

There will be a discounted price on the books. This will be dependent on volumes. For further information please contact [directsales@cityandguilds.com](mailto:directsales@cityandguilds.com)

**What happens if a job starts before 1 January but will finish after this date – which regulations should be worked to?**

Any installation designed to the 17<sup>th</sup> Edition must be designed prior to 1 January 2019. If they are installed and/or certificated after this date, the version of BS 7671 they were verified to must be declared on the certificate.

**I'm not delivering City and Guilds qualifications at the moment but I'm interested in delivering the 18<sup>th</sup> Edition? How do I get set up as a centre and who can support us to do this?**

Contact [directsales@cityandguilds.com](mailto:directsales@cityandguilds.com) who can support you through the process.

**Important update on invigilation**

- **Can you clarify what constitutes independent invigilation for the evolve test? Is it completely independent from the centre or as per current invigilation rules/regulations?**

City & Guilds policy remains unchanged and refers to the publication JCQ instructions for conducting examinations (ICE).

- 
- **Can you confirm that the trainers can carry out the exam in a centre as long as it is invigilated as per City & Guilds policy?**
- **Re-taking exam in own centre – you mentioned quality office rather than External Quality Assessment (EQA) could you please clarify?**

If members of centre staff need to complete the new 2382 qualification, please email [highpriorityqualifications@cityandguilds.com](mailto:highpriorityqualifications@cityandguilds.com) to request permission. This must be done before the exam date.

The email must include: centre number, enrolment number (for the member of staff), exam date, location of the exam and details of their role at the centre.