Pre-test to ECC3: Explanatory Notes

The ECC3 Pre-test was developed by EFESC to enable candidates for ECC3 (Advanced Tree Felling and Safe Winch Systems - Medium & Large Trees) to undertake the test without formally obtaining ECC1 & ECC2 as pre-requisites. This is conditional on evidence being provided of experience of felling trees over guidebar length in diameter (recommended max. 38cm)

The ECC3 Pre-test has the same overall content as ECC1 &2 but is carried out in a simpler format: **Evidence of recent prior experience of felling trees over guidebar length in diameter <u>must</u> be provided by the candidate** (e.g. Records from an employer), prior to registration. This then carries weight towards the assessor's observation and evaluation of performance in ECC3 pre-test.

EFESC prescriptions of tasks and criteria	The aim is to check if the candidate has the knowledge and skills to undertake an ECC3 assessment
To get an **extraordinary permission** for an ECC3 assessment (without the normal required ECC1 and ECC2	Candidate must pass this pre-test, in which skills and knowledge, both theoretical and practical, are tested. The Pre-test can only be undertaken if the Assessment centre and Assessor both accept that the evidence provided by candidate of prior experience felling trees over guidebar length in diameter is 'SMART' (Sufficient, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-based)
With this permission	Candidate can prove ability to work according to the European minimum chainsaw standards to safely participate in an ECC3 assessment.
This pre-test does not entitle candidate to an ECC1 and ECC2 certificate.	It simply means that if a candidate passes ECC3 pre-test, then is eligible to undertake the ECC 3 test (in place of ECC 1& 2 as prerequisites).
This pre-test is optional to be offered and applied by the National Agencies.	Some National Agencies will <u>not</u> offer a pre-test for ECC3 and will require ECC1 & 2 as pre-requisites. This is to comply with e.g. state or institutional rules
During the pre-test to ECC3	The theoretical and practical minimum tasks and criteria must be checked objectively by an EFESC certified assessor.
Training and assessing must be separated:	The assessor may not be familiar with the candidate (e.g. the trainer / instructor); this is an independent test
Admission requirement:	**Strictly only for experienced chainsaw operators who have been felling trees over guidebar length in diameter at felling height in their <u>regular professional everyday work</u>.** Documented evidence of such Continuous Professional Development (CPD) should be submitted to the registering Assessment Centre to evaluate the level of experience that is claimed.
Theoretical test:	A minimum 10 ECC1 and 10 ECC2 questions, written or oral, **must** be answered correctly to proceed. If multiple choice: recommended minimum score to succeed: 70% (depending on the national scoring system)
Practical Test:	This is undertaken by following the list in EFESC 'Pre-test to ECC3 tasks'
Practical Test: Errors allowed, from list in 'Pre-test to ECC3 criteria'	CRITICAL (C) errors: If one of the following critical points is not fulfilled, the candidate can not pass this pre-test to ECC3: No errors allowed
	RELEVANT (R): If, after one warning, more than the maximum number of relevant errors on the topics below are made, then the candidate can not pass this pre-test to ECC3: Max 5 errors allowed
Pass or fail ECC3 Pre-test?	A pass means the ECC3 test can then be undertaken by the candidate
	A failure means the ECC3 test cannot then be undertaken by the candidate: ECC1 & 2 must then be passed before ECC3 registration can take place. **It is NOT permissible for a candidate to undertake the ECC3 Pre-test more than once.**