


The aim is to check if the candidate has the knowledge and skills to undertake an ECC3 assessment on a safe way

Candidate name:		Feedback comments made to candidate as appropriate & Result (Green or Red)		G	R	
 Assessment Tasks & Criteria pre-test to ECC3 No critical red mistakes and max. 5 yellow errors to succeed!				G	R	
SAFETY CHECKS, BASIC FELLING & CROSS-CUTTING: RECOMMENDED GUIDE BAR SIZE 30-38cm, trees on felling height under guide bar length. Admission requirement: Only for experienced chainsaw operators who have been felling trees over 38cm on felling height in their regular professional everyday work Max. Time allowed - 1 hour						
ECS2-1	Take care of yourself (PPE) and others around you at work - Candidate to wear appropriate PPE for tree felling, sign RA & show ID:				G	R
1:01-1:04	Chainsaw safety trousers, chainsaw safety boots, eye & ear protection, safety helmet	c				
1:05	Gloves appropriate to task	r				
1:06	Non-slag outer clothing					
1:07	Personal /Squad First Aid Kit - on work site	r				
1:08	Whistle/Mobile/Radio					
ECS2-2	Planning the work including what to do in an emergency - Candidate to identify hazards relevant to the site and trees to be worked on:				G	R
2:01	Emergency planning - check information	r				
2:02	Method statement - verbal	r				
2:03	Risk Assessment – walk site, look and discuss	r				
ECS2-3	OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS - Candidate checks chainsaw for condition/sharpness etc and pre-use safety:				G	R
3:01	Cold/Warm start method (ground/'leg lock')					
3:02	Safe start distance from fuel (min.1m or greater according to national guidance, no spillage, gases released)					
3:03	Function of chain brake tested, left hand guard and throttle lock	r				
3:04	Saw checked for oiling (e.g. oil throw test or oil present on drive links)					
3:05	Chain not moving when throttle released (no chain creep)					
3:06	On/off switch is working (pull choke to stop if not, then label not to be used)					
3:07	Chain tension 'warm' re-checked					
ECS2-4	MEET LEGAL & SITE ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL STANDARDS - Candidate must check specifications:				G	R
4:01	Protection of fauna, flora, wildlife, waterways, site specifications etc, regards pollution/damage:	r				
4:02	Use bio-oils and alkylate fuel whenever possible					
4:03	Prevent waste or dispose of it without causing further damage, in accordance with the regulations, especially according to the standard for recyclable waste					
ECS2-5	CONSTANT SAFE AND ERGONOMIC SAWING POSITION AND METHOD - candidate must be able to perform all sawing operations in a safe and ergonomic manner, taking into account:				G	R
5:01	Right hand on the rear handle when sawing	c				
5:02	Left thumb always around top handle, head/neck are not allowed across of line of chain (unless checking the line of the cuts with bar tip in full view) when sawing	r				
5:03	Saw body not above shoulder height	c				
5:04	Chain brake used appropriately: according to national regulations, e.g. when walking with the engine running, if the saw has to be put down while moving cut material or before taking a hand off the saw	r				
5:05	Stable and ergonomic position	r				
5:06	Safe position to side of tree/stem in all activities	c				
ECS2-6	PREPARE THE TREE FOR FELLING BY SAFE BRASHING - Candidate must also remove low branches considering:				G	R
6:01	Correct "break-in" (remove low-hanging branches to create a passage to the stem) and brashing close to the stem moving systematically anti-clockwise					

6:02	Position of the saw in relation to the operator, bar on opposite side of stem or out of line of head/neck and body (operating technique)	c		
ECS2-7	Fell one tree in a safe and ergonomic way - Candidate to fell one backward weighted or forward weighted tree (without a winch). Randomly chosen for the candidate from pre-marked trees			
	TREE , Description: (circle)	Backward weighted	Forward weighted	G R
7A:1	Trees Inspected for signs of rot or decay, loose branches & accurate evaluation of weight distribution (tree assessment)	r		
7A:2	Correct choice of felling direction made	r		
7A:3	Escape routes selected and prepared	r		
	Candidate to cut a notch to determine felling direction using:			G R
7B:1	Top notch cut normally between 45-60°			
7B:2	Bottom notch cut as close to ground as practicable (unless site criteria is different)			
7B:3	Cuts 20-30% into stem unless tree condition dictates otherwise			
7B:4	Notch cuts to meet accurately (not undercut)	r		
7B:5	Notch facing in the chosen direction of fall	r		
	Candidate to make the main felling cut/s using a safe and effective felling method (e.g. a standard cut; a 'split-level' cut; a "boring cut" technique leaving rear hold; "Danish" / 'saved corner' cut; or any other cut) appropriate to the aspect of the tree.			G R
7C:1	Correct felling method chosen for the particular aspect of the tree	r		
7C:2	"Ears" cut to avoid tearing, where appropriate			
7C:3	Checks site for specific safety conditions (including third parties) before the main felling cut started & shout verbal warning: no unauthorized persons within two tree lengths or directly below on steep slopes	c		
7C:4	Main felling cut no more than 10% of tree diameter above level of notch			
7C:5	Felling cuts made with "pushing chain" or "pulling" chain as appropriate			
7C:6	Safe withdrawal of the saw and chain brake used as appropriate			
7C:7	A hinge retained appropriate to the tree diameter, aspect and condition	c		
7C:8	Appropriate aid tools as required to fell tree			
7C:9	The operator fully uses a prepared escape route as soon as the tree begins to fall	c		
7C:10	Look up and check for loose branches, tops etc.	r		
ECS2-8	REMOVE BRANCHES IN A SAFE & ERGONOMIC WAY - Safe working practice will include:			G R
8A:1	Correct stance and support of the saw on tree and/or right leg			
8A:2	Apply chain brake if reaching across bar and when negotiating obstacles	r		
	Candidate must to avoid:			G R
8A:3	Walking with a chain in motion when saw is on same side of stem as operator	r		
8A:4	Overreaching with chainsaw or reaching too far round with saw on far side of tree			
8A:5	Cutting towards legs or body	r		
8A:6	Using kick-back zone on tip of guide bar	r		
8A:7	Straddling the stem			
8A:8	Working on lower side of tree on side slopes unless tree is restrained	r		
	Candidate to demonstrate:			G R
8B:1	Systematic sequence of cuts and position of the saw to remove branches as appropriate for the branching habit			
8B:2	All branches removed flush with the stem			
	Candidate to remove the top of the tree in accordance with site specifications:			G R
8C:1	Cut top at appropriate diameter			
8C:2	Remove top with a safe method of cutting			
8C:3	Dispose of top according to Job Specification			
	Candidate to turn tree and remove 'under' branches:			G R
8D:1	The stem turned using appropriate techniques &/or aid tools			
8D:2	Using a safe and effective method to sever remaining branches			

8D:3	All branches removed flush with the stem		
ECS1-6	Inspect timber and use safe crosscut methods		G R
	Candidate to crosscut timber under guide bar length, according to the measurements given, with some moderate tension & compression present: A minimum of 10 cross cuts need to be demonstrated to standard using both upper & lower side of the guide bar, including a minimum of 2 vertical boring cuts		
6:01	Walk site, check timber		
6:02	Safe stance and well balanced (e.g. situation with side tension)	r	
6:03	Right hand always on the rear handle when sawing	c	
6:04	Bar aligned to maintain accuracy (cut at a right angle)		
6:05	Head/neck are not allowed across of line of chain (unless checking the line of the cuts with bar tip in full view)	r	
6:07	Left thumb around top handle when sawing	r	
6:08+6:09	Handling of the saw: Sequence of cuts is made to avoid saw becoming trapped or uncontrolled timber movement or splitting or to avoid kickback and including boring techniques	r	
6:10	Tension and compression cuts should meet		
6:11	Chain brake used appropriately: according to national regulations e.g. when walking with the engine running, if the saw has to be put down while moving cut material or before taking a hand off the saw	r	
6:13	Ergonomics: straight back, use of legs to control saw, bending at knees		
ECS1-7	Select and use appropriate aid tools - Candidate to demonstrate use of appropriate aids to handle / move products:		G R
7:01	Correct stance during lifting		
7:02	Avoiding excessive lifting by levering, sliding, rolling etc		
7:03	Site left tidy & safe		

DATE & LOCATION:			
ASSESSMENT Time Start:	Time stop:	DURATION (min):	
CANDIDATE (PRINT NAME, ID NUMBER & SIGN):			
OVERALL RESULT:	COMPETENT	Not yet COMPETENT	nr.of WARNINGS:
Candidate comment on feedback and result:			
ASSESSOR (PRINT NAME, ID NUMBER & SIGN):			