

## Overview

This standard is for people who commission domestic plumbing and heating systems.

The person performing this work must be able to comply with the correct procedures and practices for commissioning domestic plumbing and heating systems. This work must be in accordance with the current versions of the appropriate industry standards and regulations; the specification; industry recognised working practices; the working environment and the natural environment. They must know and understand the types:

- direct and indirect cold water systems
- direct and indirect hot water systems
- hot water heating systems
- unvented domestic hot water storage systems
- above ground sanitary pipework systems
- rainwater systems
- site services and system supplies
- methods and techniques for connecting appliances, components and accessories

Please note that industry specific terminology is identified by *italic* text and its explanation and/or definition can be found in the glossary of this standard.

## Performance criteria

**To carry out work in accordance with the current versions of *the appropriate industry standards and regulations, the specification, working practices, the working environment and the natural environment***

- You must be able to:
- P1 verify that the job information and documentation are current and relevant and that the **plant**, instruments, *access equipment* and tools are fit for purpose
  - P2 confirm before work starts that the work location and work area can be accessed safely and has been checked for the risk to other personnel on the **site**, and take appropriate action if a risk is present
  - P3 confirm **appliances, components and accessories** installed are:
    - P3.1 of the right type and size
    - P3.2 fit for purpose in accordance with the **domestic plumbing and**

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- heating system's design**
- P3.3 suitable for the **working environment** in which they are installed
  - P4 confirm that the **site services and system supply** are compatible with the **domestic plumbing and heating system's design**
  - P5 produce a risk assessment and method statement for the work to be carried out, including the identification and use of *personal protective equipment*, in accordance with the **working environment**
  - P6 perform visual and manual checks to ensure that the **appliances, components and accessories** have been fixed, fitted and connected in accordance with:
    - P6.1 the **domestic plumbing and heating system's design**
    - P6.2 the **working environment**
    - P6.3 manufacturers' instructions
  - P7 comply with industry practices and **organisational procedures** to ensure the co-ordination of **site services and system supply** and the activities of other trades
  - P8 commission **appliances, components and accessories**, adjusting safely and effectively the control features in accordance with:
    - P8.1 the **domestic plumbing and heating system's design**
    - P8.2 the **working environment**
    - P8.3 manufacturers' instructions
  - P9 confirm with the **relevant people**:
    - P9.1 those necessary variations to the planned programme of work
    - P9.2 the actions to be taken to ensure that any variations to the planned programme of work will minimise the potential for hazard and risk
  - P10 implement **organisational procedures** for the safe transport and/or disposal of waste material, substances and liquids in accordance with suppliers' and manufacturers' instructions
  - P11 complete relevant documentation in accordance with **organisational procedures**

## Knowledge and understanding

To carry out work in accordance with the current versions of *the appropriate industry standards and regulations, the specification, working practices, the working environment and the natural environment*

## You need to know and understand:

- K1 the applications, advantages and limitations of different **domestic plumbing and heating systems**
- K2 the applications, advantages and limitations of **appliances, components and accessories** in relation to the **working environment**
- K3 the **appropriate industry standards and regulations** relevant to the commissioning of **domestic plumbing and heating systems**
- K4 how to verify that job information and documentation is current and relevant and that the **plant**, instruments, *access equipment* and tools are fit for purpose
- K5 how to produce a risk assessment and method statement for the work to be carried out, including the identification and use of *personal protective equipment*, in accordance with:
  - K5.1 the **domestic plumbing and heating system's** design
  - K5.2 the conditions of the **working environment**
  - K5.3 **organisational procedures**
- K6 the visual and manual checks required to confirm that the **appliances, components and accessories** have been fixed, fitted and connected in accordance with:
  - K6.1 the **domestic plumbing and heating system's** design
  - K6.2 the **working environment**
  - K6.3 **organisational procedures**
- K7 the **organisational procedures** for confirming, before work starts, that the work location and work area can be accessed safely and has been checked for the risk to other personnel on the **site**, and for taking appropriate action if a risk is present
- K8 the methods and techniques for commissioning the **domestic plumbing and heating system** in accordance with:
  - K8.1 the **domestic plumbing and heating system's** design
  - K8.2 the **working environment**
  - K8.3 manufacturers' instructions
- K9 the **soundness testing procedures** for confirming the systems'

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integrity

- K10 the **organisational procedures** for confirming with the **relevant people** the appropriate actions to be taken to ensure that any variations to the planned programme of work will not introduce a hazard and have minimum negative impact on the commissioning work to be undertaken
- K11 the methods for the safe transport and/or disposal of waste material, substances and liquids in accordance with suppliers' and manufacturers' instructions
- K12 how to complete relevant documentation in accordance with **organisational procedures**

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**Additional information****Scope related to performance criteria**

The contexts and circumstances below identify where and when the NOS could apply.

**1 Working Environment** (Internal and/or External)

- 1.1 light commercial
- 1.2 domestic
- 1.3 agricultural
- 1.4 horticultural
- 1.5 leisure and entertainment
- 1.6 residential medical and care facilities
- 1.7 *public services establishments*
- 1.8 pre 1919 traditional/historic buildings

**2 Domestic plumbing and heating systems**

- 2.1 cold water – direct and indirect
- 2.2 hot water – direct and indirect
- 2.3 unvented domestic hot water storage systems
- 2.4 hot water heating systems
- 2.5 above ground discharge
- 2.6 below ground drainage

**3 Site**

- 3.1 new build construction – building or structure
- 3.2 existing building or structure

**4 Site services and system supply**

- 4.1 electricity
- 4.2 water
- 4.3 gas
- 4.4 oil
- 4.5 *solid fuel*
- 4.6 solar thermal

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4.7 heat pumps

4.8 water harvesting

4.9 drainage

**5 Organisational procedures**

5.1 information management

5.2 project management

5.3 risk assessment and management

5.4 implementing and monitoring health and safety requirements and issues

5.5 implementing and monitoring issues relating to the *natural environment*

5.6 customer service

5.7 accident reporting

5.8 emergencies

5.9 communication with clients, customers and stakeholders

**6 Plant**

6.1 generators

6.2 transformers for low voltage hand-tools

6.3 lifting equipment

6.4 *access equipment*

**Range related to  
performance criteria**

The contexts and circumstances below identify where and when the NOS must apply

**1 Appliances, components and accessories**

- 1.1 *pipework*
- 1.2 boilers
- 1.3 heat exchangers
- 1.4 pumps
- 1.5 accelerators
- 1.6 valves
- 1.7 storage vessels
- 1.8 sanitary appliances
- 1.9 cisterns
- 1.10 backflow prevention devices
- 1.11 control devices

**2 Relevant people**

- 2.1 *customers/clients*
- 2.2 client representatives
- 2.3 supervisors
- 2.4 site/contract manager
- 2.5 other contractors/trades
- 2.6 members of the public
- 2.7 work colleagues

**3 Soundness testing procedures**

- 3.1 pressure tests for pipework systems
- 3.2 static pressure tests
- 3.3 air tests
- 3.4 system hygiene and charging
- 3.5 performance tests

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**Glossary****Appropriate industry standards and regulations for:**

- construction design and management
- controlling noise at work
- controlling asbestos in the work place
- controlling substances hazardous to health
- electricity at work
- gas supply and installations
- managing health and safety at work
- manual handling operations
- personal protection at work
- provision and use of work equipment
- recycling and disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment
- requirements for electrical installations
- the quality of buildings and building work in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales
- water supply
- water fittings
- working at heights
- workplace health and safety and welfare

**Specification**

A verbal and/or documented instruction that is an explicit set of requirements for installing identified systems, equipment or products, to be satisfied by materials, components, design, processes, procedures, data management and/or service (s).

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**Clients and customers**

- purchaser of installation services
- other trades and services at the work site
- colleagues within the same organisation
- architect
- contract manager
- main/sub-contractor
- consultant
- local authority representatives
- work colleagues

A **public services establishment** can be a:

- hospital/medical centre
- school/college/university
- museum/library
- prison
- military base
- car park
- place of worship

**Natural environment**

The climate, weather and natural resources that effect and are affected by human life and economic activity

**Working practices**

Methods, techniques and procedures that are adopted for carrying out specific tasks that ensures workers' exposure to hazardous situations is controlled in a safe manner when:

- working with equipment, tools and plant
- working with materials and substances (hazardous and non-hazardous)
- manual handling lifting
- using lifting equipment
- using personal protective equipment (PPE)

- excavating

**Access equipment**

- scaffold
- ladders
- steps
- staging
- trestles
- mobile elevated work platform (MEWP)

**Personal protective equipment (PPE)**

- safety helmets/hats
- hairnets
- gloves
- safety steel toe capped boots/shoes
- safety spectacles/goggles
- face shields/visors
- ear plugs/muffs
- conventional or disposable overalls, boiler suits, aprons, chemical suits
- respiratory protective equipment (RPE)

**Pipework**

- copper pipes
- low carbon steel pipes
- plastic pipes (hot and cold water; sanitation; rainwater)
- flanges
- joints
- fitting and fixing accessories

**Solid fuel**

- mineral
- biomass
- wood

**Links to other NOS**

EUSDSG3.10 Install gas warm air central heating systems and appliances  
EUSDSG3.11 Maintain gas warm air central heating systems and appliances  
EUSDSG3.3 Install gas water heating and wet central heating appliances  
EUSDSG3.5 Install gas pipework up to 35mm BS6891  
EUSDSG3.60 Gas tightness testing and direct purging – IGE/UP/1B  
SUMETS1 Plan, prepare and install environmental technology systems  
SUMETS7 Service and maintain environmental technology systems  
SUMETS10 Inspect and commission environmental technology systems  
SUMETS11 Diagnose and rectify faults in environmental technology systems

**External Links**

Links correct at time of NOS approval:

- Health & Safety Executive Documents <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns>
- The quality of buildings and building work in England  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/providing-effective-building-regulations-so-that-new-and-altered-buildings-are-safe-accessible-and-efficient>
- The quality of buildings and building work in Wales  
<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/planning/buildingregs/?lang=en>
- The quality of buildings and building work in Northern Ireland  
<http://www.dfpni.gov.uk/building-regulations>
- The quality of buildings and building work in Scotland  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/Building/Building-standards>
- British Standard 7671 – Requirements for Electrical Installations  
<http://www.theiet.org/resources/wiring-regulations/>
- International industry standards and regulations  
[http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue\\_ics\\_browse?ICS1=27&ICS2=060&ICS3=30&](http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue_ics_browse?ICS1=27&ICS2=060&ICS3=30&)

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