

FDQ - Qualification Specification

FDQ number	Qualification title	Qualification number (QN)	EQF Level	Review date
243-251	FDQ Level 3 Advanced Award in PUWER Inspection	601/8683/5	4	31 st March 2026

Qualification Purpose

This qualification is designed to develop and confirm advanced level inspection skills and knowledge for learners who have responsibility for the PUWER inspection of work equipment. It is ideal for those with technical responsibilities in the workplace including technicians, team leaders, supervisors and health and safety practitioners.

Ofqual purpose E. Updating and continuing professional development (CPD). Sub purpose E3. Develop knowledge and/or skills relevant to a particular specialisation within an occupation or set of occupations.

Learners need to be 18 years old or over to take this qualification. Learners do not require any prior qualifications or units or experience to take this qualification. However, prior achievement of a Level 2 Award in Health and Safety may be an advantage. Additionally experience in monitoring health and safety standards in the workplace and understanding safety management systems and how they contribute to risk reduction may be an advantage for some learners. The qualification assesses and recognises achievement in a learning environment.

The qualification covers mandatory inspection skills in areas like: the requirements and implementation of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER 98), principles of risk assessment, principles of the hierarchy of control, inspection and reporting skills. There are no optional units in this qualification. See below for details of the unit that makes up this qualification and its value within the qualification.

This qualification could lead to

The qualification will support progression to further learning in:

1. subject areas including;
 - health and safety
 - risk assessment
 - inspection of plant and machinery
 - audit of plant and machinery
 - hygiene, safety and quality management
2. particular qualifications including;
 - FDQ Level 3 Award in Health and Safety for the Food Supply Chain Business
 - NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety
 - NEBOSH Health, Safety and Environment in the Process Industries
3. This qualification may support employment in/into technician/manager level roles including;
 - teacher/trainer
 - product development manager
 - processing and manufacture technician/manager
 - service manager
 - health and safety manager
 - quality assurance technician/manager

Qualification support

This qualification has been designed and developed in partnership with Spiers Engineering Safety (Spiers Ltd). It is also supported by the Food and Drink Training and Education Council.

Further Information

Further information can be obtained from our website at: <http://www.fdq.org.uk>

Or by contacting FDQ:

Tel: 0113 859 1266

Email: fdq@fdq.org.uk

Assessment

Occupational skills (OS) units are designed to assess the learner’s applied skills required to demonstrate competent performance in the workplace in a defined role. Assessment of this qualification is by learner portfolio of achievement. Evidence of performance can be supplemented by other assessment evidence e.g. witness testimony, work-related questioning, workplace documentation, photographic evidence and professional discussion.

Other assessment methods may be used to assess knowledge requirements including e-assessment, multiple-choice examination and assignment. Assessment requirements are set out in individual units of assessment, see exemplar *J/508/3398 Inspect work equipment in accordance with PUWER 98*. Reasonable adjustments apply that allow learner support for oral or other assessment adjustment arrangements to meet learner needs. All assessment activity is subject to internal quality assurance.

FDQ has in place a quality system comprising policies and procedures to ensure its qualifications are developed, delivered and remain fit for purpose. FDQ externally quality assures all centre assessment and internal quality assurance quality and arrangements.

Rules of Combination (RoC)

FDQ Level 3 Advanced Award in PUWER Inspection	
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	30 hours
Group A – Mandatory unit	3 credits
Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	24 hours

Mandatory unit

Unit ref	Unit type	Unit title	Level	Credit	GLH
J/508/3398	VS	Inspect work equipment in accordance with PUWER 98	3	3	24

Exemplar unit of assessment

Title		Inspect work equipment in accordance with PUWER 98			
RQF unit ref		J/508/3398			
RQF Level	3	Credit value	3	GLH	24
Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria			
The learner will:		The learner can:			
1. Carry out inspections and report findings in accordance with PUWER 98 guidance (Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations)		1.1 Conduct inspections of work equipment and identify hazards 1.2 Complete a risk estimation individually and as part of a team 1.3 Identify common European safety standards and apply practical control measures for work equipment 1.4 Apply a consistent rationale for what is reasonably practicable versus practicable 1.5 Report inspection outcomes to the relevant person.			
2. Understand the requirements and implementation of PUWER 98		2.1 Outline the legal framework and requirements for PUWER 98 2.2 State how PUWER 98 relates to the Health and Safety at Work Act and related regulations 2.3 Outline the purpose of the PUWER 98 Approved Code of Practice and its function regarding safe machinery 2.4 Explain when a PUWER inspection is required on work equipment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scope of the inspection • limits of the inspection 2.5 Summarise the types of hazards implicated by the European standards 2.6 Explain the inconsistencies of the Conformité Européene (CE) European conformity process.			