

It is envisaged that by the end of this course of training the trainee operator will be able to answer questions on and perform the following:

- Have a basic understanding of the industry, the dangers of working in the industry and their responsibilities as a plant operator
- Have a working knowledge of the manufacturer's handbook for the particular machine to be used
- Be able to locate and identify the major components of the machine and explain their functions
- Be able to locate and identify steering, driving and braking controls and explain their functions
- Identify and maintain PPE appropriate for excavator use
- Conduct all pre-operational checks in accordance with manufacturer's and legislative requirements
- Safely mount and dismount the machine
- Start and stop the engine and safely move the machine off and stop it safely
- Configure the machine for travel and manoeuvre it safely across varying terrain in open and confined areas
- Conduct all necessary safety checks at the work area
- Manoeuvre the machine to the work area and correctly configure in readiness to carry out excavating tasks
- Carry out excavating tasks
- Load material onto transporting vehicles or into containers
- Reinstatement excavation, grade and level ground
- Fit and remove attachments
- Carry out all end of shift and shut down procedures

	<p><b>ACTIVITY GUIDELINES</b></p> <p><b>The candidate must :-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete all pre-start and running checks before any activity takes place</li> <li>• Only complete the shutdown procedures at the end of the test</li> <li>• All additional test requirements can be completed in any order</li> </ul>
<b>Test sequence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete all pre-start and running checks before any activity takes place</li> <li>• Only complete the shutdown procedures at the end of the test</li> <li>• All additional test requirements can be completed in any order</li> </ul>
<b>Operator safety &amp; observations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seat belt must be worn if stated in the employers risk assessment / method statement</li> <li>• The excavator must be serviceable, meets the current legislation and fitted with a standard excavating bucket</li> </ul>
<b>Travelling to work area</b>	<p><b>The candidate must:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel up and down a gradient</li> <li>• Travel through a restriction in a forward and reverse direction</li> <li>• Travel over varying terrain</li> </ul>
<b>Setting up to excavate</b>	Prepare and set up the machine for excavating duties
<b>Excavate trench and load vehicle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excavate a trench with vertical ends</li> <li>• Form a load out bench appropriate for loading vehicles (see additional notes below)</li> <li>• Load material on to vehicle</li> </ul>
<b>Backfill excavation</b>	Backfill and reinstate excavated area to original state
<b>Change attachment</b>	Remove and attach bucket / attachment
<b>Shutdown procedures</b>	Excavator parked in a safe position with the engine and isolator key removed and handed to the instructor
<b>Additional notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A verbal description to the instructor of the pre-start checks would be acceptable if the machine is hot</li> <li>• The operator's manual must be accessible</li> <li>• When the bucket is released from the quick hitch system, the boom must be raised and slewed away from the released bucket, the excavator must be moved and reposition before re-attaching</li> <li>• The slope must be of sufficient incline to enable the candidate to demonstrate the correct procedures for traveling up and down a gradient as per manufacturers recommendations</li> <li>• The task of forming a load out bench appropriate for loading vehicles can be substituted by loading a vehicle when carrying out the trench excavation</li> </ul>
<b>Specifications</b>	<p>Trench length will be determined by the machine weight as listed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Below 10 tonnes – 10 meters</li> <li>• Above 10 tonnes – 15 - 20 meters</li> <li>• Trench depth must be a minimum of 1 meter</li> <li>• The loading vehicle must be filled to the capacity (<i>minimum 2 loads</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>Test timings</b>	The full test must be completed within 2hrs 15min
<b>Note</b>	It is recommended that all learners completing basic training receive a minimum 7hr Health, Safety, Environment and Induction Training