

## ILEVE News

### H&S Expo – Excel London

The ILEVE stand was well received by many that walked by to have a chat about ILEVE and it's purpose.



Ideally placed near to the main stage and spotlight H&S stage, we saw a large amount of footfall and a great level of interest in what ILEVE has to offer. Even with the glorious conditions outside attempting to stifle internal interactions we, still gathered a good number of contacts, all of whom showed a directed interest in some aspect of our offer to industry. Including both Duty Holders and HVAC engineers alike.

All in all, it was a definite success in its purpose of promoting the organisation!



A big thanks to our volunteers - Carl Latham, Lloyd Barker and Ian Marshall who attended and helped to spread the word about ILEVE to the wider industry. Another big thank you to Jack Batley and Roisin Sweeney of CIBSE, without their assistance, the event couldn't have come together.

### ILEVE AGM rescheduled

Due to a number of external factors, the recent ILEVE AGM was not deemed quorate. In order for the AGM to proceed we require 10 corporate ILEVE members in attendance. The meeting is now scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023. If you are a corporate member, please make the time to attend. [Book your place now.](#)

### A Massive thank you to Roisin Sweeney

ILEVE would like to thank past CIBSE Head of Membership Networks and Engagement, Roisin Sweeney, for all her hard work, time, and effort that she put in to support ILEVE. Roisin has now moved on to pastures new and gives ILEVE her best wishes as they continue their endeavour to get the recognition needed to make a positive impact on workers' health.

### BSi Update

A meeting of the UK representatives took place on the 19th June to review the current draft Laboratory local exhaust devices Articulated extraction arms – Part 2: Commissioning and On-site Testing where Dean Greer and Adrian Sims represented ILEVE.

## SHEP committee meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May

SHEP meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at SAFeD HQ. Unfortunately, ILEVE representatives were unable to attend this meeting. No LEV related issues were discussed.

The SHEP webinar on Metal Working Fluids was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> July. ILEVE issued an email circular to all interested members. You can go to the [SHEP website](#) for more details.

## BESA Vent Hygiene Register Goes Live

As you may or may not be aware, the [Vent Hygiene Register](#) is now live on the BESA website. The register contains details of trusted hygiene contractors.



## BESA CSCS Skillcard for LEV now linked to BOHS and ILEVE

As many of you know, the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) SkillCards have had a cull over recent years to reduce the number of professional cards available.

More than 60,000 CSCS industry skills cards issued under Industry Accreditation (IA) aka 'Grandfather Rights' are set to be banned on 31st December 2024 and cannot be renewed.

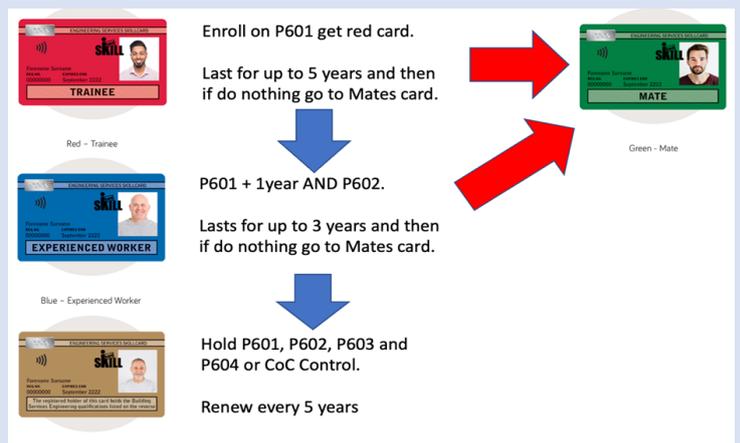
Current industry requirements state that card schemes carrying the CSCS logo can only issue cards to individuals holding nationally recognised qualifications.

Over the past two years, ILEVE have been working with BOHS and BESA to ensure the LEV industry is covered and that members still have an open route to acquiring a LEV related Skills Card.

This new structure requires the applicant to be signed up to and hold various BOHS qualifications and to be and, depending on the level of card being applied for, hold the relevant ILEVE accreditation for that discipline.

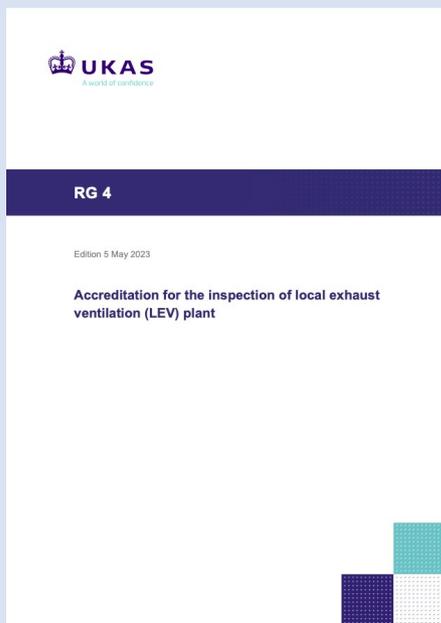
It is based on the knowledge identified in the LEV industry competency matrix and the ILEVE Professional Progression program (available from [www.ileve.org](http://www.ileve.org)).

The graphic below summarises the qualifications required for each card. More details will be released in a specific press release in the near future.



## ILEVE and UKAS in summary

### RG4 - Accreditation for the Inspection of Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) Plant



In quarter 1 of 2023 the United Kingdom Accreditation Service, UKAS, looked at a review on their document RG4 'Accreditation for the Inspection of Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) Plant'. This document relates to LEV Commissioning, LEV Retrospective Commissioning & Thorough Examination and Test and ILEVE have been trying to work with UKAS on RG4 and accreditation for some time and this was the ideal time to offer our suggestions.

A number of ILEVE Members gave their comments on what was Edition 4 and these were collated and sent into UKAS prior to the closing date for comments on 31<sup>st</sup> March and, on 1<sup>st</sup> June, we had an email from the Quality Manager at UKAS, Pia Tracey informing us that all ILEVE comments had been accepted for Edition 5 of RG4 and that changes were made to the document and this is now [available for download](#).

This shows that ILEVE are being listened to at all levels and the ILEVE Steering Committee wish to pass on their gratitude to all Members who sent in their comments.

The following alterations have now been made highlighting the correlation between the ILEVE competency matrix and competency card:

**Category 1** – *Technical Management didn't need any LEV qualifications however now states ' Technical management **shall only be undertaken by a Chartered Engineer in a related field or persons with Professional Occupational Hygienist qualifications of CoC Control.***

**Old Category 2** –Supervision, training and Initial Appraisals shall only be provided by persons with at least equivalent competency to that defined in the BOHS P601 course and with at least Incorporated Engineer, (e.g., HNC), or equivalently occupational hygienist qualifications and with at least five years' experience in a relevant inspection activity. This level must be maintained by a defined programme of competency maintenance.

**New Category 2** - *Supervision, training, commissioning and retrospective commissioning shall only be provided by persons with **at least equivalent competency to that defined in the BOHS P601, P602, P604 and W201 courses** with at least Incorporated Engineer status and five years' experience in a relevant inspection activity. This level must be maintained by a defined program of competency maintenance.*

**Old Category 3** - *Unsupervised Inspections shall only be undertaken by persons trained in a relevant discipline with a recognised and documented apprenticeship or equivalent formal training with a minimum of three years' experience working in a relevant engineering inspection activity or the inspector will have*

*completed both a training course, either internal or external, provided by someone with Cat 1/2 competency or the BOHS P601 course and the appropriate supervised training in LEV inspection to enable them to make professional judgements in their defined areas*

*of competency. This level of competence shall be both maintained and improved by a defined programme of ongoing training aimed at raising the level of competency.*

**New Category 3** - *Unsupervised inspections shall only be undertaken by persons training in a relevant discipline with a recognised and documented apprenticeship or equivalent formal training with a minimum 3 years' experience working in a relevant inspection activity. The LEV inspector, carrying out Thorough Examination and Test (TE<sub>XT</sub>), will have completed a training course, either internal or external, provided by someone with Cat 1 or 2 competency or the BOHS P601, P602 and W201 courses and a minimum of 2 years' experience and the appropriate supervised training in LEV inspection to enable them to make professional judgements in Thorough Examination and Test inspections. This level must be maintained by a defined program of competency maintenance.*

And finally,

**Old Category 4/5** - *Supervised inspections shall only be undertaken by persons trained in a relevant discipline with a recognised and documented apprenticeship or equivalent formal training with a minimum of two years' experience working in a relevant engineering inspection activity. and the inspector will be undergoing training which includes supervised training in LEV inspection with the aim to enable them to make professional judgements in their defined areas of competency.*

**New Category 4/5** - *Supervised inspections shall only be undertaken by persons trained in a relevant discipline with a recognised and documented apprenticeship or equivalent formal training with a minimum of two years' experience working in a relevant engineering inspection activity. The inspector will be undergoing training which includes supervised training in LEV inspection with the aim to enable them to make professional judgements in their defined areas of competency. **Persons should hold BOHS P601 and W201, or equivalent, within the first year of their training with a BOHS P602 course, or equivalent, in the second year to aid in their progression.***

They have also acknowledge our document TR40 as one of their references.

## **Retraction of ILEVE Technical Day on 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Unfortunately, we are unable to proceed with the DSEAR technical day scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 due to a lack of technical speakers coming forward.

Thank you to John Saunders from the HSE for organising the day and what would have been a brilliant explosion demo.

As the new editor of the newsletter, I would like to pose a question to all our readers: Could you have helped make this technical day a reality? If so, what prevented you from coming forward to assist? Please send your replies to [ileve@cibse.org](mailto:ileve@cibse.org) lets come together in order to further the LEV industry in the correct way.

## HSE Updates

### Targeted Enforcement

The Health and Safety Executive are currently conducting a number of targeted enforcement campaigns aimed at reducing the harm caused by dust in the construction industry. There is a focus on both Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) and Asbestos.

There have been a number of documents released to help duty holders reduce and prevent the risks associated.

They can be found at the following links

<https://workright.campaign.gov.uk/campaigns/construction-dust/>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/>

### Dichloromethane Wheel Stripping

The HSE is currently witnessing a worrying trend of non-conformance in relation to DCM, especially in conjunction with the wheel stripping process.

At present 90% of those companies visited by the HSE have failed to prove adequate control of the contaminant.

All LEV practitioners and duty holders must be aware of the hazards presented by DCM. There is a guidance note in relation to the adequate control at this link:

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/guidance/dcm3.pdf>

We are likely to see an increased level on inspection in relation to companies that carry out this activity within their workplace.

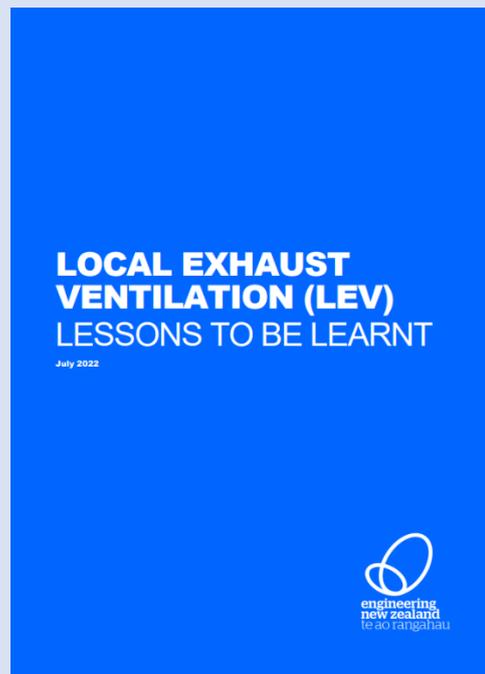
## In memory of Derek Miller

As some of our readers may be aware, Derek Miller, a formidable force in OH in New Zealand passed away last year. He compiled some really useful hints and tips, gained through his life in LEV.

### [Lesson Learnt Local Exhaust Ventilation](#)

Although an Occupational Hygienist in NZ a number of the points raised in his article are still prevalent here in the UK.

A pleasant note to take away from this article is that the likes of NZ and Aus look to us in the UK as industry leaders in the field of Local Exhaust Ventilation. Something we can be proud of in the work we do and a pedestal to hold ourselves to.



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## Spotlight Article

### LEV and Climate Change – Hero or Villain?



The undoubted positive health benefits on workers through the proper installation, operation and use of LEV are a single factor in how businesses look at their operations. Climate change has become a ubiquitous factor in a whole range of corporate conversations. In BOHS, we need to be equipped to have different and difficult conversations with businesses who may see LEV as even less attractive than they would have before.

At the outset, there may be an assumption that the law requires the use of LEV in certain circumstances. However, this is clearly not the case. LEV may be one of the solutions, but the duty is to adequately control exposure to substances hazardous to health. Practicability is, itself, a complex beast, but it does have strong elements of cost/benefit analysis.

Climate change drivers may impact this analysis. The direct and indirect impact of LEV on heat and energy loss and therefore on CO<sub>2</sub> generation is obvious.

LEV moves air and, with it the heat that it carries. On cold days, it can cause significant heat loss, requiring more heating and on hot days, it can draw in more hot air from outside, requiring more cooling. Both circumstances require more energy, impacting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but also business energy costs. LEV requires energy to run and the cost of use, together with maintenance costs, will have risen sharply during the fuel crisis, further distorting the picture.

Building standards for commercial premises are changing and targets for energy efficiency are being increased. A system that requires perforation of a thermal element such as a roof or a wall is always going to be a headache when trying to meet thermal efficiency standards. Designing a LEV system into a new premises is going to require off-setting of heat loss through investment in more insulation or other measures.

There are tighter targets on industrial emissions, derived from the new government framework on Best Available Techniques. Air quality standards are being delinked from workplace exposure limits, reflecting a decoupling in Whitehall of joined-up thinking and the potential, as is happening in the context of heat/water/legionella, for one part of government pushing for standards that create more health risk for workers. Air quality is becoming a more potent political driver and industry is being more and more singled out as the cause of the problem.

Arguments that LEV needs to become more economical, LEV services cheaper and that it may not be a practicable solution are beginning to circulate in some areas. Of course, the answer can't be cheaper LEV and cheaper LEV services, because we know what a race to the bottom looks like.

The answer, of course, lies in making the case for professional and expert services, delivered at the cutting edge of technology. Recirculating LEV may need to take a step forward and better design can make the difference in terms of thermal and energy impacts, Air quality standards are driven by Best Available Techniques, hopefully driving businesses towards effective and efficient mechanisms to reduce and remove emissions. There is a need for more evidence in this area with regards to the performance of recirculating systems and how they can best serve both aspects of being energy efficient whilst also providing effective filtration. If you have any information, data and or experience in this then please share.

There is a case to be made and a case that needs to be made, if workplace health protection through LEV is not going to suffer in the race to net zero. We look forward to working with ILEVE to get the messages to duty-holders that the answer is not cheaper, but better.

*Kevin Bampton, CEO BOHS*

## Technical Committee Updates

### TC01 Text & Commissioning Reports

The new Text & Commissioning report templates are now available to download from ILEVE website. Click on this link to visit the page.

### TC02 ILEVE Partnership Scheme

Since our last Newsletter we have had some queries about the Partnership Scheme and we are currently assessing a further Company for this.

### TC03 Recirculating Filters

Actively recruiting for a new chair of the technical committee. Please let us know if you're interested in joining the committee.

### TC04 On torch extraction

No update

### TC05 BOHS BESA Qualifications

At the time of going to press we are waiting to hear if the application is going to be voted on at the next BESA Skills Partnership meeting.

### TC06 Direct Reading Instruments

Do you have experience of using Direct Reading Instruments for measuring dust/fume in the workplace? Could you share your knowledge or help with research? ILEVE are now putting together a Technical Group to consider the use of DRI instruments as part of an LEV test. Our aim is to provide a useful guide on the benefits and limitations of using DRIs for LEV Testing, guidance on their use and some comparisons of the different types.

Our meetings will be held on-line with the first one scheduled for **1:30pm on 28th July**. If you are interested in contributing to this group, please send your details to [ileve@cibse.org](mailto:ileve@cibse.org).

### TC07 Stack Design

Actively recruiting for a new chair of the technical committee. If stack design is your passion let us know at [ileve@cibse.org](mailto:ileve@cibse.org).

### TC08 LEV Guidance Document

Following a meeting with CIBSE on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, CIBSE are reviewing the best format in which to publish the guidance. CIBSE are looking to move away from paper and PDF publications are wanting to have an easier updateable format, along the lines of 'Wikipedia for Building Services' and in our case 'LEV'. Unfortunately this has not been done before and, frustratingly, we are likely to experience a delay whilst this is looked into.

### Fume cupboard competency matrix

Good news! After many months of work, this document is now live and available for members to peruse and use as they see fit.

It will be used to form the basis of new competencies on the ILEVE Competency Card and has highlighted gaps in the market for training requirements and guidance. The document can be viewed on the ILEVE website or by clicking on this link. Please send any feedback or comments to

[ileve@CIBSE.org](mailto:ileve@CIBSE.org)



- **Downdraught Benches**
- **Dust Extraction Booths**
- **Mist Extraction**





## Positions vacant!

The ILEVE Steering committee has several positions vacant which we are keen to fill.

Like all positions on the ILEVE committees they are all voluntary roles and apart from the reimbursement of the occasional travelling expenses from CIBSE, we do this to help develop the industry and to promote best practice in all matters relating to LEV.

We are looking to fill the following positions...

### Events Organiser

Working with the marketing committee, we are looking for an individual who would be able to organise and run our events.

Typically, we organise three events each year including:

- LEV Conference (joint with BOHS)
- Annual General Meeting (on-line)
- Technical Training Day

We also see potential in organising one-day training seminars on specific topics or short webinars.

The organiser will be responsible for organising content, booking venues and promotion of the events.

### Grading Committee Member

The ILEVE grading committee is looking for two new members to join to help with

the influx of new members applying for LEV grading.

To undertake this role, you need to have a good understanding of LEV, the qualifications within the industry and what good experience looks like.

Typically, this role involves attending regular (monthly) TEAM's meetings to work through members' applications.

### ILEVE Business Plan Co-ordinator

As ILEVE grows over the coming years, we are looking for someone to join the committee to develop a business plan for the next 1, 3 & 5 year periods, to develop our interaction with our industry partners and to develop our offer for our members.

Once the plan is in place we would then look for guidance and management of the plan along with updates and amendments.

You will be working with members of the Steering Committee and reporting back on a quarterly basis via TEAMs meetings.

If you think you have what it takes to carry out any of the above roles and have a few precious hours to give each month, then please contact us at [ileve@cibse.org](mailto:ileve@cibse.org)