

Sector Skills Council: Summit Skills

Website	www.summitskills.org.uk
Footprint – areas of responsibility	The SSC for the building services engineering sector: Electro-technical, Heating and Ventilating, Air Conditioning,, refrigeration, Plumbing, Ductwork, Service and Maintenance, Site Management and Supervision for BSE.
Key Drivers and/or SSC priorities	<p>To champion opportunities for individuals and organisations to succeed.</p> <p>Five Key Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Alleviate skills gaps ⇒ Improve productivity ⇒ Provide career progression ⇒ Develop a competent workforce ⇒ Champion the sector’s skills agenda <p>The employer-led approach of SummitSkills gives businesses in the sector a key role in increasing their own and the country’s productivity and profitability. SSC provides a direct route to influence strategic planning relating to skills and training.</p> <p>SummitSkills is responsible for developing the sector’s National Occupational Standards (NOS) these can be used by educators and trainers to map current provision.</p> <p>Also wishes to have impact on policy by political influence and lobbying.</p>
Key Drivers for Skills for Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment • Competence, standards and qualifications • Career structure and progression • Productivity • Diversity within workforce
Key contact for Skills for Life	Kathryn Hopkins Morgan Kathryn.Morgan@Summitskills.org.uk
Main programmes offered in sector	SummitSkills is responsible for the development of the sector’s frameworks and works in consultation with partners to ensure that the framework content is relevant to industry and employer needs.

	<p>Electrotechnical Advanced Apprenticeship</p> <p>Plumbing Apprenticeship</p> <p>Plumbing Advanced Apprenticeship</p> <p>HVACR Apprenticeship</p> <p>HVACR Advanced Apprenticeship</p> <p>Building Services Engineering Technician</p> <p>White Goods</p>
Key statutory and/or legislative influences in sector	<p>British Standards</p> <p>Building Regulations</p> <p>Wiring Regulations</p> <p>Health and Safety</p>
SSC agreement completed	Expected March 2007
Labour Market Information available	Mike.Hammond@summitskills.org.uk
Delivery issues for providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Possibility for providers to be included at recruitment stage with employers, to ensure candidates possess appropriate key skills to undertake apprenticeships etc. (Over 90% of craft-based operatives will need NVQ L3 which involves technical training, to enable profitable business development.) o The vast majority of businesses in the sector are micro-businesses and 'one-man-bands' and the majority of them were started by individuals who trained as apprentices in the sector. o Sector facing the challenge of new technology in the business and engineering processes that companies employ as well as in the new technology that it installs for clients. This involves not only new processes but new terminology. o The sector is currently experiencing a mini-boom at the same time as it is experiencing a skills shortage exacerbated by the boom-and-bust nature of the wider construction industry.
Embedded learning materials available	Those available are related to specific construction skills rather than building services engineering.
Case studies	See website
National Skills Academy established?	No
Skills for Life projects running	<p>Wales: Basic Skills Pledge</p> <p>Summitskills is continuing working with Building Engineering Services Training and its parent company</p>

	Gas Care Ltd to initiate the Basic Skills Pledge.
Newsletters available	http://www.summitskills.org.uk/cgi-bin/go.pl/registration/index.html