

Purpose Statement

Open Awards Level 3 Award in Advanced Polarisation Mode Dispersion and Chromatic Dispersion Testing (RQF)

The primary purpose of this Award qualification prepare you to enter or progress within the growing Communications Networks sector. You could progress onto the nested certificate, which enables smaller periods of learning, ie for the Awards, which could build into a Certificate.

Who is it for?

The qualification is for you if you are:

- Wishing to work in fibre installation and testing, interpreting and analysing the results of tests carried out by themselves and others
- Someone who have recently completed a course in Fibre Installation and testing wishing to progress and extend their training
- Already working as fibre test engineers and network managers wishing to formalise their training and experience.

What does this qualification cover?

By the end of the qualification you will be able to:

- Understand the impact of signal dispersion on a digital communications system
- Understand the concept of light as an electromagnetic wave and the effects of the refractive index
- Understand the concept of chromatic dispersion
- Understand the principles of chromatic dispersion testing
- Understand the concept of polarisation mode dispersion
- Understand the principles of polarisation mode dispersion testing

What are the Entry Requirements?

This qualification is suitable for learners aged 18+

In order to access this qualification, you will need to have some basic experience in fibre optics, which could include the “Fibre Optics Introduction” and “Fibre Optics Installation and Testing”.

You will require English and Maths at Level 2 or equivalent.

As the course includes concepts from physics at Level 3, it may not be suitable for adaptation to those who do not have a strong foundation in numeracy and/or literacy.

As colour codes are used for identification of individual fibres in cables, this qualification may not be suitable for those with colour vision impairment.

What are the Assessment Methods?

You will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence. This will be made up of a variety of coursework and assessments set by your training provider.

Examples of assessment types include:

- Written evidence of knowledge
- Practical skills assessments (tasked based)
- Skills observation
- Verbal question and answer

What are the Progression Opportunities?

This qualification provides a route into employment opportunities and further learning and training in:

- Highways Fibre Optic Installations/Maintenance
- Umbilical Cables Installations/Maintenance
- Telecommunications Engineers/Installation/Maintenance
- Fibre Optic Installations
- Network Planning and Design

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification was developed in partnership with Lucid Optical Services Ltd and is supported by the Fibre Optics Industry Association.