

European Chainsaw Standards

After a thorough screening of existing national chainsaw standards, common European Chainsaw Standards (ECS) have been developed, describing the minimum skills and knowledge level for chainsaw use at 4 competence levels:

ECS1: chainsaw maintenance and crosscutting

• ECS2: basic tree felling

ECS3: advanced tree felling

ECS4: felling windblown and damaged trees

The European Chainsaw Standards are freely available on www.europeanchainsaw.eu for all those interested, e.g. to model chainsaw training.

European Chainsaw Certificates

Based on the European Chainsaw Standards, an assessment procedure has been set out for all 4 levels to test chainsaw users' skills and knowledge in safe and efficient chainsaw use.

By passing an exam at an accredited assessment centre, chainsaw users can obtain their personal European Chainsaw Certificate.



EFESC

The European Forestry and Environmental Skills Council (EFESC) is a membership organisation of industry representatives and organisations involved in skills and competence assessment. FFESC has been established in 2009

The objectives of EFESC are to define minimum standards in forestry, landscaping, tree work and horticulture, which can be applied all over Europa. Through European standard setting, EFESC contributes to the improvement of health and safety and the mobility of workers.

The European Chainsaw Standards are the first minimum standards developed by EFESC.

National Agency

National Agencies (NA) are the national representatives of EFESC. NA's can be forestry training centres, professional enterprises, non-governmental or governmental organisations and are accredited by the EFESC executive board. They are entitled to issue European Chainsaw Certificates through assessment centres (or individual assessors) that comply with EFESC Standards.

The National Agencies audit the accredited assessment centres in their country and maintain the national certificate database.

Assessment centre

The Assessment Centres are organisations (e.g. training providers) that are accredited by the EFESC National Agency to offer and/ or perform assessments, after being audited. Assessment centres work with approved assessors and have a quality assurance system in place in order to guarantee the exam quality and objectivity.



If you are interested to assess according to European standards, please contact your National Agency for more information (or a neighbouring country if your country has no National Agency yet). They can provide detailed information on becoming an accredited assessment centre. Current national agencies are:

AUSTRIA

Bundesministerium für Landwirtschaft, Forsten und Umwelt Josef Stampfer • josef.stampfer@bfw.gv.at

BELGIUM

Inverde

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GERMANY

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ITALY

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ROMANIA

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SPAIN

Centro forestal de Catalunya Rosa Ricart - rosa.ricart@ctfc.es

THE NETHERLANDS

IPC Groene Ruimte
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UNITED KINGDOM

City & Guilds
Chris Hughes • chris@mwmac.co.uk

Why?

- Increased health and safety for chainsaw users
- Mobility of workers throughout Europe
- European harmonisation of chainsaw training and skills recognition
- Interchangeability of existing national chainsaw certificates
- Traceability of certificates
- Encouraged lifelong learning and continuous professional development







If you are interested in becoming the National Agency for your country, please contact the EFESC secretariat:

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WWW.EUROPEANCHAINSAW.EU





European Chainsaw Certificate



Many nations, one certificate