

Information and Communications Technology Technician (ICTTech) Standard 2nd edition 2014: Summary of key changes from the previous edition

During 2013, the Engineering Council undertook a five yearly review of the ICTTech Standard with the close involvement of IET, ITP, employers and registrants. All their feedback was carefully considered. An aim of this review was to make the document and its language more accessible to a wider range of potential registrants, and enhance the alignment with SFIA¹. Most of the revisions relate to the layout of the document, the general sections and the significantly extended list of exemplar activities.

This overview of the key revisions is intended to assist institutions when briefing their volunteers who are supporting ICTTech candidates and registrants, and when developing their own revised sector/discipline-specific guidance.

The 2nd edition was published on 31 January 2014 and is available on the Engineering Council's website at <http://www.engc.org.uk/standards-guidance/standards/icttech-standard/> Hard copies can be obtained from info@engc.org.uk

The Engineering Council's Board of Trustees approved a two year transition period, thus by 1 February 2016, all professional reviews should be conducted according to the Standard set out in this edition.

Layout

This is broadly the same although the general sections have been significantly re-worked.

General sections

The revised Foreword is more exciting and upbeat, and includes a 'definition' of an ICT Technician and where an ICT Technician may be working. There is closer alignment with UK-SPEC:

- Reference to the 'commitment' element of the competence and commitment requirements for registration is included
- 'Competence' and 'commitment' have been explained.
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and the Code for Registrants have been included.

The opportunities for progression are specifically mentioned.

The A – E Standards

The A-E Standards of competence have been retained as these were felt to be broadly appropriate and relevant.

The fact that the list of exemplar activities (right hand column) is not intended to be exhaustive has been stressed.

Additional exciting, clear and relevant exemplars that registrants can relate to have been provided. This is intended to make the document more inclusive to all ICT disciplines (from software design technician to hardware installation/maintenance technician), and to make the document more contemporary and future proof.

In line with the revisions to UK-SPEC:

References to security have been strengthened (B4)

Personal responsibility and for others has been added (C2 and C3)

Awareness of/involvement in continuous quality improvement has been added (C4)

Diversity and equality considerations have been included (D2)

E2 (safe systems of work) has been re-drafted to align with that for EngTech

E3 (environmental and sustainability considerations) has been re-drafted to align with that for EngTech

There is one new Standard (E5) which is identical for all four of the titles awarded by the Engineering Council: 'Exercise responsibilities in an ethical manner'.

Professional and Ethical Behaviour

This final section which includes the CPD Policy Statement and reference to other Engineering Council documentation such as guidance material. It is the same as that published in UK-SPEC.

Annexes

Annex A is new: a glossary of terms.

¹ SFIA: Skills Framework for the Information Age