



Certification Engineer

Department:
Operations

Section:
International Operations

Location:
Bristol or Nuneaton

Band:
HEO

Line Manager:
Principal Engineer

Security Clearance:
Basic Check



Vehicle Certification Agency

Role Profile

Job Description

Job Summary

The role of the Certification Engineer is to liaise with the vehicle manufacturer to obtain the technical specification of the type to be approved, to support testing and review technical information to compile a technical report and a draft approval certificate. Engineers may be required to assist the Principal Engineers with management and planning of approval programs and test programs to meet the Homologation targets.

Each engineer is expected to gain a broad knowledge of Type Approval legislation, current and new vehicle technology, test methods and equipment, and an awareness of Conformity of Production requirements. Testing is witnessed at manufacturer's site, testing facilities and/or proving grounds, so travelling is often necessary and is a central part of the role. Alternatively, some tests are carried out directly by VCA at our own facilities.

A typical week would involve overseeing type approval testing and processing applications so that the certificates can be issued, all while liaising with the manufacturer so that they are informed of progress. The key task when testing is to complete the test reports that provides evidence of how the vehicle, system or component complies with the necessary legislation.

A good technical understanding of motor vehicle technology and excellent interpersonal skills including excellent organisational skills and attention to detail are required as this job involves handling large amounts of data. Engineers tend to specialise in a technical area that is based on their technical background and experience as well as their interest. Technical areas include vehicle noise, emissions, dynamic testing, vehicle structures, static inspection, lighting, vision. There are also opportunities to get involved in the development of the latest technology with topics including Advanced Driver Assistance Systems and Cyber Security and Software Updating.

There is also an expectation to have regular week-based travel in the UK and be able to travel overseas, including stays of up to 4 weeks several times per year if required.

Where the Job Sits in the Agency

The Vehicle Certification Agency is the designated UK Vehicle Type Approval Authority and is an Executive agency of the Department for Transport with over 40 years' experience supporting industry by providing internationally recognised testing and certification for vehicles, their systems, and components. The Agency headquarters are located in Bristol with further UK offices on the HORIBA MIRA proving ground in the Midlands, and on the UTAC-Millbrook Proving Ground in Bedfordshire.

This role is within the Operations function, the Technical Service side of the Agency. Operations carry out or witness tests and process the documentation for a range of systems and component approvals that can then be used to create Whole Vehicle Type

Approvals. They work with all areas of transport including, car, truck, bus, motorcycle and agricultural manufacturers, witnessing and performing tests to a range of internationally recognised standards. The work entails testing to national and international standards, ensuring that vehicles and components meet the safety and environmental standards that the United Kingdom and wider international markets expect. The work is both demanding and exciting and engineers will work with some of the most advanced manufacturers in the automotive sector worldwide.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Carry out or witness tests and component/vehicle specification inspections to the requirements of EU, UNECE, National Type Approval (GB) and other technical standards.
- Carry out engineering assessments in lieu of tests as necessary
- Manage and complete approval documentation for each test or assessment and to enter necessary data onto computer job records, including preparation of test reports and draft approval certificates.
- Attend worst case meetings and variant selection meetings with manufacturers and to record the outcomes.
- Complete and assist with Facility Appraisals, where applicable.
- Develop and maintain expert technical knowledge in vehicle systems, components and associated technology.
- Assist the Regulatory & Technology Group (RTG) with technical knowledge.
- Develop and improve VCA procedures for specific customers, in agreement with VCA customer client manager.
- Answer queries from manufacturers, agencies, and others.
- Follow VCA procedures and quality requirements.

Development Opportunities

If you fit the person profile and are interested in a new challenge, VCA would love the opportunity to develop you to become a vital part of our team. We could do this through:

- Training opportunities to develop knowledge on:
 - Vehicle type approval and automotive legislation.
 - Technical automotive subjects relevant to type approval.
 - Automotive management systems
 - Personal skills, such as people management
- Colleague knowledge sharing.
- Access to a broad network of eLearning through the Civil Service
- Attending external training courses to develop knowledge if candidate can demonstrate the value created to the agency in doing so

Person Specification

Experience

Experience Indicators

Please find below a list of experience relevant to the role, candidates will be expected to demonstrate their suitability against these in their CV and Personal Statement:

- Working in an engineering capacity, following procedures and understanding regulations or standards.
- Analysing data or documents and reporting on findings.
- Delivering outcomes on time and to a high standard.

More information about [Success Profiles Experience](#).

Behaviours

Please find below a list of behaviours required to operate effectively in the role, candidates will be expected to demonstrate their suitability against these during the assessment:

- **Making effective decisions.** Understand own level of responsibility and empower others to make decisions where appropriate. Analyse and use a range of relevant, credible information from internal and external sources to support decisions. Display confidence when making difficult decisions, even if they prove to be unpopular. Consult with others to ensure the potential impacts on end users have been considered.
- **Delivering at Pace.** Show a positive approach to keeping the whole team's efforts focused on the top priorities. Promote a culture of following the appropriate procedures to ensure results are achieved on time whilst still enabling innovation. Regularly monitor your own and team's work against milestones ensuring individual needs are considered when setting tasks. Act promptly to reassess workloads and priorities when there are conflicting demands to maintain performance.
- **Working together.** Encourage joined up team work within own team and across other groups. Establish professional relationships with a range of stakeholders. Collaborate with these to share information, resources and support.

More information about [Success Profiles Behaviours](#).

Technical

Essential criteria

Candidates will also be expected to demonstrate their technical capability against the [Government Science and Engineering Career Framework](#) during the assessment:

- **Building and applying knowledge (Applying Technical Knowledge).** Understand underpinning technical principles relevant to vehicle systems and their associated technology, according to their engineering discipline. Gathers and analyses data, test results and documentation. Objectively applies engineering knowledge in the assessment of vehicle, system, component, or process compliance.
- **Building and applying knowledge (Developing / maintaining expertise).** Undertakes continued professional development relevant to role. Seeks learning and development opportunities to increase knowledge and experience relevant to role.

More information about [Success Profiles Technical](#).

Qualifications

- Qualification in an engineering or technical discipline equivalent to Bachelor's degree, including Honours and Foundation degree and Diplomas of Higher Education. NQF level 5 and 6; or equivalent experience
- Full UK Driving Licence.