

The Steeplejack and Lightning Protection Training Group

Becoming a Steeplejack or Lightning Conductor Engineer



Steeplejacks

Steeplejacks work at heights on tall structures carrying out a variety of building, repair and maintenance jobs. Much of the work involves renovation, e.g. on power station chimneys, cooling towers, oil refineries, tower blocks, bridges, church spires or even castles. Steeplejacks also fit aircraft warning lights on tall structures, replace roof glass, repair masonry, paint structures such as bridges, dismantle or demolish tall chimneys or buildings and inspect structures for damage.

For more information regarding the skills needed to become a Steeplejack, and to view a video of Elliot, an apprentice steeplejack with SLPTG member, Rafferty Chimneys visit www.bconstructive.co.uk/en/careers/search-job-types-steeplejack and to see a video of Proteq (Northern)'s apprentice Tom visit www.bconstructive.co.uk/en/careers/people/tom.

During your apprenticeship, you may undertake a number of different qualifications with your employer and whilst at College.

A number of progression routes are open to apprentices once they complete their S/NVQ Level 2, and further information regarding the career progression open to you once you complete your apprenticeship is available at www.slptraininggroup.org.uk.



Lightning Conductor Engineers



Lightning Conductor Engineers fit lightning protection systems and work on industrial chimneys, power station cooling towers, churches and heritage buildings, high-rise buildings and bridges. They also commission and test lightning protection systems.

During your apprenticeship, you may undertake a number of different qualifications through your employer and whilst at college.

A number of progression routes are open to apprentices once they complete their S/NVQ Level 2, and further information regarding the career progression open to you once you complete your apprenticeship is available at www.slptraininggroup.org.uk.

Qualifications

There are no specific entry qualifications for becoming a steeplejack or lightning protection engineer, but GCSEs /S grades (A-E/1-5) in maths, English, science subjects and CDT are useful. Lightning Conductor Engineers particularly need knowledge of maths to help them learn basic electrical theory.

Trainees are sponsored by an employer and spend about six months, spread over two years at the National Construction College in Bircham Newton, Norfolk. They work towards **S/NVQs in Steeplejacking or Lightning Conductor Engineering**.

Whilst at College, Apprentices will be able to undertake additional qualifications including:

Abrasive Wheels
Industrial Rope Access
Mobile Towers
First Aid Certificate
Fire Fighting
Health and Safety Test
Ladder Safety
Manual Handling
Working at Heights for Operatives.



Adult Entry

People of any age can start work with a Lightning Conductor Engineering or Steeplejack company and receive training and gain recognition of their skills through working towards S/NVQs.

How to Apply

To apply for an apprenticeship in either Steeplejacking or Lightning Conductor Engineering, please apply at www.bconstructive.co.uk. Once you have applied, you will be matched with a suitable employer in your area.

The application process will include a Skills Learning Exercise Test (SLE) which you can complete online or in a classroom if you have special learning needs. The test is used to ensure that you are provided with any support which you may need to complete your apprenticeship.

Training at college begins in January each year, and applications should be received before the end of October. If you have any queries regarding becoming an apprentice within the sector, please contact Lucy Blyth via email lucy.blyth@citb.co.uk.

The Steeplejack and Lightning Protection Training Group (SLPTG)

Registered address: 10 Queen Street Place, London, EC4R 1BE

AIMS Administration Centre: 7 Newton Place, Glasgow, G3 7PR

Tel: 0330 555 2023

Email: info@slptraininggroup.org.uk Website: www.slptraininggroup.org.uk

Company No: 05025611 Registered in England VAT No: 690 1700 50