At Skills Training UK we go further in fully understanding what it is that our employer clients want to achieve from their training. We work as their partner in delivering on that vision, developing stronger employees who work well as individuals and as part of a team.

This apprenticeship is for an NDT Operator who will usually work as part of an inspection team or department performing NDT inspections to pre-defined NDT Work Instructions and reporting his/her findings through the employer’s Quality Management System processes. Their findings will be subject to review and authorisation by suitably qualified and experienced supervisory staff, such as NDT Engineering Technicians, to ensure that the results are accurate and reliable.

The skillset and depth of proficiency retained by the NDT Operator, whilst singularly focused on one NDT method, are nevertheless transferable across all engineering sectors.

This apprenticeship will provide resources to meet future engineering requirements, such as, nuclear new build, power generation, transport, oil and gas and defence.

**Employer Commitment**

An employer must be prepared to provide the learner with the opportunity to carry out work and be part of projects which will enable the learner to produce substantial evidence towards their qualification.

In order to ensure the successful progression of the learner we request that employers participate in joint reviews of the learner’s progress at regular intervals throughout the apprenticeship. This ensures continued and positive progress through the apprenticeship. It will also provide the opportunity to discuss and agree how any issues are to be resolved and how additional stretching and challenging activities can be built in.

**Duration**

The duration of this apprenticeship is typically 18 months and an independent End Point Assessment must be completed at the end in order to pass. See over.

**Training and Support from Skills Training UK**

Skills Training UK will work with the employer to develop a training plan for the apprentice and our trainer-assessor will visit the apprentice within the work place at least once per month in order to support their learning and development. They will also be supported between visits by off-site information, advice, guidance, academic progress and technical competence support. We will ensure that all learning needs are being met in order to ensure successful progression against all elements of the apprenticeship.
Eligibility

There are no formal entry requirements, however apprentices without Level 1 English and maths will need to achieve this level and take tests for Level 2 English and maths prior to taking the End Point Assessment. There is also a requirement to have good aided or unaided eyesight to satisfy the mandatory NDT eyesight test and have appropriate physical fitness.

Requirements: Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours

Below is a summary of the required knowledge, skills and behaviours for a Level 2 NDT Operator:

Knowledge and understanding of:
- In-depth knowledge of one NDT method and an awareness of others
- The knowledge required for the assessment of defects against acceptance/rejection criteria (required by standards)
- Relevant sector specific knowledge e.g. inductions, confidentiality
- Material and product technology
- The consequences of failure and the risks to life

Skills and Ability:
- Demonstrate health and safety competencies pertinent to the NDT method e.g. working at heights, in confined spaces or in restricted zones
- NDT in one method, from the list of methods below:
  - Ultrasonic Testing
  - Radiographic Testing
  - Eddy Current Testing
  - Infrared Thermography Testing
  - Magnetic Particle Testing
  - Penetrant Testing
  - Visual Testing
- Carry out inspections using one NDT method, for example:
  - Revealing defects present on the external surface of the test item/component
  - Using minimum levels of interpretation, usually by visual assessment only
  - Safe operation of the equipment within its capabilities and limitations

Behaviour

- Communication – communicate effectively with senior NDT staff
- Teamwork – to work effectively in a team and to support others
- Delivery – to consistently see things through to timely completion
- Common sense – to consistently apply knowledge and experience with balance
- Influence – have a positive impact without relying on others
- Ethics – to act with maturity, honesty, integrity and responsibility

Independent End Point Assessment

To successfully complete the apprenticeship, the learner needs to pass an End Point Assessment. This is an independent assessment which has several stages:

- A Portfolio of Evidence and Achievements – for example certificates of competence, letters of approval, training attendance certificates, log book of on-the-job training (experience) and employer reports.
- Product Showcase – a presentation of the NDT project to demonstrate that the required knowledge and skills have been achieved.
- Observational Interview – the interview panel will include two people who are knowledgeable in engineering and NDT and who are appointed by the independent assessment organisation. The interview will enable the apprentice to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and behaviours demonstrated in the Standard.

Qualifications / NDT Certification

In the NDT Testing Sector, apprentices are required to achieve NDT Level 2 certification in one method in accordance with national and international standards.