



## **Policy Statement R2/1H**

Acceptable Work for Registration as a  
**Medical Equipment Maintainer (Reg.MEM)**

14/07/2011

# **E C S A**

## **ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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# **SECTION 1**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Engineering Council of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as ECSA) is responsible for, *inter alia*, the setting of standards for registration of Registered Medical Equipment Maintainers. The procedures described in this document should be carefully noted by:

- all applicants for registration as Registered Medical Equipment Maintainers who have met the assessment criterion set by ECSA; and
- all stakeholders with particular interest in the registration process.

### **1.1 Purpose of Policy Statement R2//H**

This purpose of this Policy Statement is to describe the education (knowledge areas), experience and continuous professional development required by the Council for registration as a Registered Medical Equipment Maintainer, as well as highlight the significance of registration.

### **1.2 Specified Category – Medical Equipment Maintainer**

Registered Medical Equipment Maintainers are registered in terms of Section 18(1)(c) of the Engineering Profession Act, 2000 (Act 46 of 2000), (the Act).

### **1.3 ECSA registration as a Medical Equipment Maintainer**

- (a) Registration is a commitment to subscribe to the standards set by ECSA and to work within the ECSA Code of Conduct.
- (b) Provides proof of competency in terms of the standards of a Registered Medical Equipment Maintainer, through peer judgment.
- (c) Registration with ECSA is subject to periodic review and renewal in terms of ECSA's requirements for Continuing Education and Training of registered persons. Such review and renewal takes place every five years in conjunction with the practitioner's training qualification renewal cycle and in terms of ECSA's Policy requirements.

These features contribute to the protection of the public with respect to the work of a Registered Medical Equipment Maintainer and lend confidence to the public in appointing such a person to carry out Medical Equipment inspections.

# **SECTION 2**

## **2. DEFINITIONS**

In this policy the word/phrases –

**“Registered Medical Equipment Maintainer”** refers to a person registered with ECSA.

## SECTION 3

### **3. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS AS A REGISTERED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT MAINTAINER**

ECSA will consider an applicant for registration as a Registered Medical Equipment Maintainer if the person:

- (a) Has five years experience in the medical equipment industry of which two years is in **medical equipment installation, commissioning, inspection and maintenance**.
- (b) Demonstrates evidence against the following outcomes:

#### **Qualifications**

(Stage 1 Standards)

Knowledge as described in the “**Certificate in Medical Equipment Maintenance NQF level 5**”

- Apply problem solving skills to maintain medical equipment;
- Maintain medical equipment;
- Apply scientific and engineering skills to maintain medical equipment;
- Communicate maintenance information for medical equipment;
- Comply with relevant legislation in maintaining medical equipment;
- Comply with accepted work ethics and good practice when maintaining medical equipment.

#### **Experience**

(Stage 2 Standards)

Registered Medical Equipment Maintainer experience requirements:

- Understand and judge the specifically-defined MEM activity:  
Identify and/or interpret the activity agreeing on a problem statement. Gather and evaluate information. Analyse information and express solution requirements.
- Design or develop a solution to solve the specifically-defined MEM problem:  
Synthesise alternative ways to do the activity. Apply underpinning Stage 1 knowledge to develop and evaluate the best approach seeking advice if necessary.
- Comprehend and apply underpinning specifically-defined MEM knowledge:  
Display mastery of Stage I development by applying underpinning knowledge in doing practical MEM work.
- Manage part or all of the specifically-defined MEM activity:  
Manage self, people, work priorities, work processes and resources and participate in teams during practical MEM activities.
- Communicate clearly with others during the specifically-defined MEM activity:  
Write clear, concise, effective, technically correct reports, read technical items, receive and interpret instructions. Issue clear instructions and present point of view effectively.
- Recognise social, cultural and environmental effects of the specifically-defined MEM activity: Identify interested and affected parties and environmental impacts of MEM activities. Propose mitigating measures and communicate with stakeholders.
- Comply with MEM legal, regulatory & health and safety requirements:  
Identify applicable legal, regulatory and health and safety requirements. Select safe and sustainable materials, components and systems. Apply risk management.
- Conduct specifically-defined MEM activities ethically:  
Conduct activities ethically at least complying with ECSA's Code of Conduct. Adopt a systematic approach in resolving ethical issues.

- Exercise sound judgement carrying out specifically-defined MEM activities: Consider applicable factors & their relation. Foresee consequences of actions & evaluate the situation in absence of full evidence. Draw on experience & underpinning knowledge.
- Be responsible for decision making during specifically-defined MEM activities: Demonstrate a professional approach showing due regard for the effect of the MEM activity. Seek advice from a responsible authority and take responsibility for own work.
- Undertake MEM learning activities to extend competence: Plan own development strategy & select appropriate development activities. Keep record of development and complete development activities. Display independent learning ability

## **SECTION 4**

### **4. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)**

CPD can be defined as “the systematic maintenance, improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills, and the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout an engineer’s career”.

The principle to undertake CPD is included in the Engineering Profession Act, 2000 (Act 46 of 2000). At the time of registration, Registered Fire Protection Systems Installers, Commissioners and Maintainers will be assessed as having the necessary competence to enable him/her to practice safely and effectively in their discipline of engineering. At set intervals the Registered Fire Protection Systems Installer, Commissioner and Maintainer will be required to provide evidence of CPD undertaken during their period of post registration and indicate how they intend to meet their obligations to CPD during their careers.

Engineering practitioners are obliged by the Code of Professional Conduct to undertake CPD, the nature, range and extend of what is required varies with the work to be undertaken. Registered engineering practitioners are required, at all times, to take all reasonable steps to maintain and develop their competence and knowledge in their field of activity. Moreover, they must not under any circumstances accept or undertake work which they do not have sufficient competence, time or authority to perform, unless the necessary advice, assistance or authority is obtained.

Any combination of the activities listed below will constitute CPD:

- (i) Attending courses, seminars, congresses and technical meetings organised by Engineering Institutions/Institutes, universities, other professional bodies and course providers.
- (ii) Actively participating in conferences, serving on technical or professional committees and working groups.
- (iii) Undertaking structured self-study (i.e. using textbooks with examples).
- (iv) Studying technical literature (e.g. journals, magazines).
- (v) Taking correspondence courses and studying other supervised study packages.
- (vi) Taking in-house courses provided by employers.
- (vii) Enrolling for formal post-graduate studies (limited credits).
- (viii) Writing technical papers or presenting lectures at an organised event.

## **SECTION 5**

### **5. SIGNIFICANCE OF REGISTRATION AS A REGISTERED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT MAINTAINER**

Registration as a Medical Equipment Maintainer has the following significance:

- (a) Gives recognition by peers (Registered Medical Equipment Maintainers) of an applicant's competence in the medical equipment maintaining industry, under the necessary supervision.
- (b) Acknowledges the applicant's intention to conduct medical equipment maintaining work in accordance with legislation.
- (c) Confirms an applicant's undertaking to subscribe to the ECSA Code of Conduct.
- (d) Contributes to the protection of the public with respect to the work in clinical engineering and the assurance of availability of competent Medical Equipment Maintainers.

## **SECTION 6**

### **6. APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION**

Applications for registration must be made using the application form as prescribed by Council.

**Application forms must be completed and a record of learning submitted in accordance with the instructions provided in the forms. An adequately compiled record of learning, kept up to date with ones learning, contains the evidence necessary to submit an application for registration when the required standard is reached.**

Failure to comply with the instructions is likely to result in a deficient application and may prejudice the success of the application. It may also result in a delay in processing the application because an application will not be considered unless complete.

**The following should be included in the record of learning to demonstrate that the outcomes in section 3 are achieved:**

- Certified copies of qualifications or courses (Initial professional development)
- Work Schedule report
- Experience Reports
- Inspection and Test Report
- Referee Report

***Application Forms are available from [www.ecsa.co.za](http://www.ecsa.co.za)***