Quick Guide to...

Optimum Standards

Each of the activities under the competencies must be signed-off to a specific standard, indicated by the grades A, K, E or B. The definitions of these are given below:

A — Appreciation
A general appreciation and awareness of the activity or subject is required. This could be acquired by reading a magazine article or attending a CPD event.

K — Knowledge
This standard requires a more detailed level of understanding of the activity. This could be acquired by undertaking a training course or other type of study but not necessarily have been put into practice. For example, a subject area on a degree course.

E — Experience
To reach this standard the activity must have been performed independently or under supervision. This may be achieved by undertaking the activity in a work context over a period of time. Experience of the activity or subject should follow on and be additional to appreciation and knowledge in that subject area.

B — Ability
To be able, without supervision, to perform relevant functions and be able to supervise other less experienced staff. This may be evidenced by the undertaking of management roles or experience gained over a period of time.

Technical Membership
At Technical Member level the applicant must achieve five of the activity standards at grade A, and five at grade E. All other activities must be at least at grade K. This applies to both the core and specialist competencies. There are no restrictions within this as to the particular choice of activities.

Membership
At Member level, the optimum standard is given against each activity statement.