

Defining the commercial ID card work categories

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When it comes to looking for an engineer or business to undertake gas work, it is not often as easy as simply selecting the first business/engineer on a list and asking expecting them to be able to do the work you need.

Gas Safe Registration is required by law for anyone wishing to undertake gas work but there are a number of different 'types' of gas work that businesses may offer to do.

In simple terms, all engineers must undertake a general or 'core' safety element before expanding into other qualifications for different areas/types of work they wish to offer.

An example of this can be a mobile phone 'pay as you go' tariff. You must first have the 'core' knowledge (or tariff) to which you can then 'add on' additional features, or in the case of gas work, different appliances and/or larger scopes of work.

At this point it would be appropriate to explain and define some of the common terms used when it comes to types of gas work before specific 'types' of work are explained.

The most common types of gas work generally comprise of one or more of the following.

- install
- commission
- service
- safety check

Not every registered business/engineer will offer all of these services, despite being registered and competent to do so. Therefore it would be advisable to discuss your needs with any business you might employ to ensure they offer this particular service.

But what are these terms and what do they mean?

Term	Description
Install	In relation to gas appliances, permanently fixing, locating and connecting the appliance to the gas supply to meet the requirements of the Gas Regulations and the appliance installation instructions.
Commission gas supply	Operational checks normally undertaken immediately following appliance installation, which ensures the correct and gas safe operation of the newly installed gas appliance.
Service/Maintain	The keeping of an appliance in a condition in which it can perform its required function safely and efficiently. Undertaken in accordance with the appliance manufacturer's instructions.
Safety Check	Different to a service in that cleaning of the appliance is not carried out. A series of basic safety function and condition checks on the appliance to determine its safety at the time of the check. Much like an MOT on a motor vehicle.
Natural Gas (NG)	Gas supplied from the 'mains' in the street.
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	Propane or Butane gas supplied in cylinders or from a bulk storage vessel (tank).

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Work categories

Category	Definition
Wet Central Heating	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired commercial boilers for the purposes of heating & hot-water
Air Heating	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired commercial flued air convector heaters <i>* Heat Pumps are currently grouped into these units of competence</i>
Radiant Tube or Plaque heaters	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired commercial flued or flue-less radiant convector heaters/ single or groups of appliances.
Direct fired Air Heater	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired flue-less convector heaters/ single or groups of appliances.
Indirect gas fired heating appliances	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired forced convection air heaters & gas fired hot water boilers in single or groups of appliances
Gas Fired Engines	Competent in the Install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired engines.
Plant and Equipment	Competent in the assembly of commercial gas fired equipment, but is not connected to a gas supply.
Commercial Pipe work	Competent in the Install & removal of gas pipework greater than 35mm (1 ¼") in diameter.
Commercial Pipe work commissioning	Competent in the testing & purging of commercial pipe work
H P pipework	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas boosters.
Vessels	Competent in the connection, testing & commissioning of LPG pipework as supplied from a single or multiple gas storage vessel to the isolation valve at the building/s being supplied.
Commercial Laundry	Competent in the assembly, install commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired commercial flued or flueless laundry equipment
Commercial Catering*	Competent in the Install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired commercial flued or flueless gas catering appliances <i>* Numerous elements make up the full competency</i>
Meters	Installation & exchange of gas meters supplying more than 6m ³ /hr
Pool Boilers	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired flued or flueless Spa type boilers
Fire Simulators	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired Fire simulators as used by the Fire Brigade in training exercises.
Incinerators	Competent in the assembly, install, commission, disconnect, service & repair of gas fired hygienic type furnaces i.e. as found in some ladies cloakrooms