

TECHNICAL TRAINING SOLUTIONS FOR HAZARDOUS LOCATIONS

Attendee

Steven Rugg, Managing Director,
SR Electrical Limited

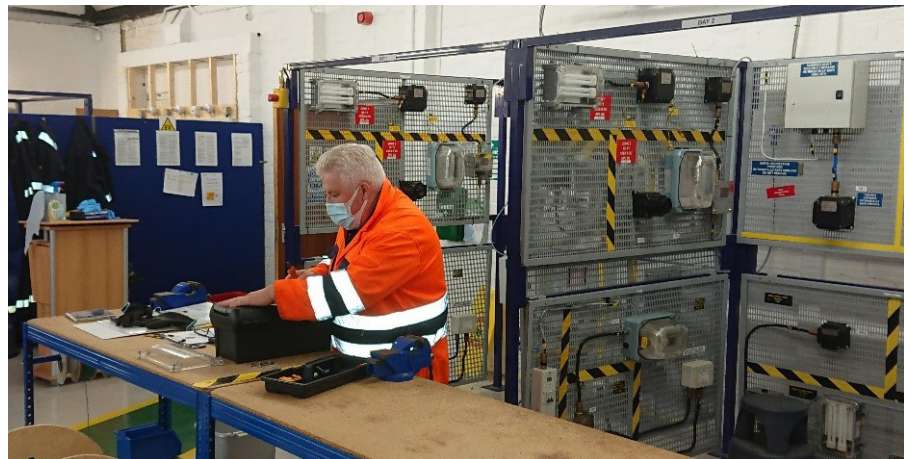
Intertek Solutions

Leading courses at licensed CompEx
center in Chester, United Kingdom

“My training experience with Intertek has been excellent and their staff provided great support throughout the course, whilst maintaining the necessary COVID-19 hygiene and social distancing requirements to allow us to train safely.”

**Steven Rugg, Managing Director at
SR Electrical**

Steven Rugg, Managing Director of SR Electrical needed to enhance his and his team’s capabilities and ensure they had up-to-date knowledge of hazards associated with explosive atmospheres. After attending an Ex 05-06 Combustible Dust course at an Intertek licensed CompEx centre, Steven enrolled onto the Ex14 Responsible Person course, designed for senior personnel directly responsible for the management of staff, processes and procedures relating to explosive atmospheres. Here, Steven shares his experience of training with Intertek.



The background

SR Electrical Services Limited is a family run business providing electrical and hazardous area services; covering electrical inspections, installations, control panel design and build, and planned preventative maintenance. SR Electrical supports numerous industries including petrochemicals and food manufacturing.

The challenge

With explosive dusts and hazardous chemicals being present at most of our client sites, it is crucial that myself and the team are safe and have the relevant knowledge and skills to safe to work in such environments. With health and safety paramount, SR Electrical are committed to ensuring their team has the appropriate training and qualifications to conduct their jobs safely. To support their training requirements, Steven Rugg partnered with Intertek to gain CompEx training for himself and his team. CompEx is an internationally recognized course and qualification in explosive atmospheres, providing competency-based assessment for personnel working in hazardous locations.

The solution: CompEx training

I first attended an Intertek CompEx course in January 2020 when I undertook the Ex 01-04 Gas & Vapours course at their licensed CompEx training Center in Chester. Whilst gaining an understanding of the general principles of explosion protection and types of protection, we were able to get hands-on and assemble equipment including example glands. I enjoyed the course and gained a deeper appreciation of equipment design factors which affect the protection concept.

I subsequently attended the CompEx Ex05-06 Combustible Dust at Intertek’s center to re certify my training and technical skills. SR Electrical work with many food manufacturing sites where substances such as flour, coffee and sugar pose a risk of creating a dust explosion. I originally undertook my first qualification in Ex05-06 with Intertek a number of years ago and attended the refresher course in July 2020, at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The course was a great reminder of best practice and latest scientific knowledge and delegates were provided with a useful information package that can be used for future reference when on-site.

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As SR Electrical's business continued to expand and my job role was increasingly becoming more focused on managing the team, I recognised I could benefit from the skills and knowledge taught on the Ex14 Responsible Persons course, which I attended in July 2020 at Intertek's Chester centre again. The course helped me fully understand my legal responsibilities and obligations and gave an insightful overview of the precautions and hazards I should be aware of to protect my colleagues at work.

The results

Intertek's support before, during and after the training helped us to maximise what we learnt from each course. The trainers and experts at Intertek's centre provided guidance and were very knowledgeable in supporting us with the practical elements of the course and answering any of our questions.

The training is crucial in providing a good foundation of knowledge and a holistic picture of the challenges hazardous locations can present, emphasising the importance of why we take the precautions and follow the procedures we do and the associated risks.

Intertek's training facilities and practical workshop are excellent, and the instructors are well experienced and created an open atmosphere to raise questions and go over some areas again if needed. In addition, in face of COVID-19 challenges and social distancing requirements in force when undertaking a number of courses at their Chester center, Intertek had implemented stringent procedures and measures to ensure the health, safety and hygiene of their delegates and staff. Colleagues provided gloves, masks and hand sanitisers, and the training areas were well spaced out in line with social distancing measures, creating a relaxed and reassuringly safe environment to focus on the training at hand.

Alongside my own valuable training experience with Intertek, a number of SR Electrical's apprentices have attended the Ex Foundation course and the Ex01-04 Gas & Vapours courses with Intertek. The Foundation course provides a comprehensive understanding of many of the fundamentals such as equipment protection levels (EPLs), what each component part of the equipment does and the principles of installation etc. providing a useful overview of the fundamentals.



Steven applying his practical skills in an assessment bay at Intertek's Chester centre

Another member of my team is booked to attend Intertek's CompEx Ex12 Application Design Engineers course later this year. This course will further enhance the company's capabilities in this area and allow us to support our clients in the design of their electrical systems, as well as their installation.

With the comprehensive supporting content, training and support from Intertek's instructors, I have found the team's knowledge and competence has increased, supporting SR Electrical's growth journey.

About Intertek

Intertek is a leading Total Quality Assurance provider to industries worldwide. Our network of more than 1,000 laboratories and offices and over 46,000 people in more than 100 countries, delivers innovative and bespoke Assurance, Testing, Inspection and Certification solutions for our customers' operations and supply chains. Intertek Total Quality Assurance expertise, delivered consistently with precision, pace and passion, enabling our customers to power ahead safely.

About SR Electrical

SR Electrical Services Limited has a pedigree of combined experience dating back through three generations of the Rugg family. Whilst keeping the family feel SR Electrical Services Limited work with the latest technology to the highest industry standards. This gives you the security that we have the capability to work on a national and international basis, which means a consistency of approach both at home and abroad.

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