



ULTRA ACCESS NEBOSH vs IOSH

What they are, and what to choose as you transition away from “on the tools”

NEBOSH (National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health) and **IOSH** (Institution of Occupational Safety and Health) are the two most recognised names in workplace Health and Safety in Britain.

Though often compared, they serve different purposes, audiences, and career paths.

Understanding their distinctions is essential for anyone pursuing a role in Occupational Health and Safety (**OHS**), especially under the **Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974** (HASWA) and regulations like the **Work at Height Regulations 2005** (WAHR).

Whats the differences...?

NEBOSH is an independent examination board, not a training provider.

Founded in 1979, it designs and assesses vocational qualifications delivered through accredited learning partners.

It does not offer membership, as its focus is purely on certification and academic standards.

It does however have its own training qualifications, which are managed through institutions like IOSH, with them being highly coveted, like NEBOSH Level 6 Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety - a globally renowned safety diploma.

IOSH - on the other hand, established in 1945 and granted chartered status in 2003, is a professional membership body with roughly 50,000 members.

It provides training courses directly, like IOSH Managing Safely®, sets ethical standards, and offers membership grades (e.g., TechIOSH, GradIOSH, CMIOSH, etc) that require ongoing CPD (Continuing Professional Development) and yearly fees to display.

NOTE: Safety professionals, on platforms like **LinkedIn** also add their qualifications to their names, as a way to display their credentials.



If looking to transition from a scaffolder, into a more office based role, like for instance a safety advisor, then **ULTRA ACCESS** would recommend taking the route, via **IOSH** training and eventual membership of their organisation, before seeking to become fully **NEBOSH** qualified.

Why...?

Generally, **IOSH** qualifications are easier to obtain, quicker to pass and is (for the most part) seen as the stepping stone qualification to the more globally recognised **NEBOSH** certification

Either way, we urge you to do your own research and ultimately choose what's right for your own personal development...

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