

IS YOUR LEV ENGINEER COMPETENT?

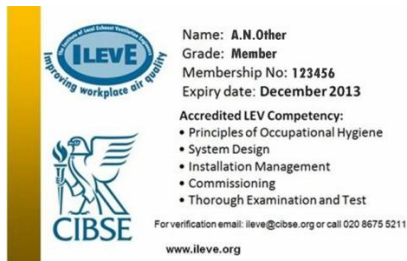
For proof of a LEV system supplier's competence ask to see their ILEVE card.

When you are considering a Local Exhaust Ventilation proposal you need to be aware of the competence of the person offering the proposal. The ILEVE Competency Card informs you of their proven abilities.

The Institute of Local Exhaust Ventilation Engineers was formed in 2010, to bring about a significant improvement in the effectiveness of the equipment and services provided by the LEV Industry.

ILEVE members are assessed in five LEV related disciplines, Occupational Hygiene, Design, Installation Management, Commissioning and Thorough Examination & Testing. A pass in any category is only achieved with appropriate Experience, Technical knowledge, Qualification and Submitted evidence.

A Competency card awarded together with a member grade and designatory letters. i.e. pass in 5 disciplines and a minimum of 5 years' experience would be awarded Full Membership, 3 years and 3 disciplines for Associate Member and 1 year and 1 discipline for Licentiate Member.



Each card is issued annually to ensure current knowledge and CPD will be a requirement to maintain status. So when assessing LEV proposals ask to see the supplier's ILEVE Competency card as proof of their abilities.

The Institute of Local Exhaust Ventilation Engineers - Helping to protect your workforce

The HSE statistics show a staggering 12,000 preventable deaths occur annually from Occupational Respiratory Diseases, 130,000 people have breathing or lung problems caused by their work and the current estimate is 13,000 new cases per year. Lung disorders may take many years to manifest themselves and are usually irreversible. Managers and workers are usually unaware of the dangers until it is too late.

Many millions of pounds are spent annually on Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV), commonly referred to as Dust and Fume Extraction, which is one of the most common control measures employed to prevent exposure in the workplace. But how can you be sure that an LEV system is appropriate and effective and that the correct effectiveness checking, maintenance, training and ongoing testing procedures are adopted?

ILEVE is an Engineering Institute for individuals to develop their professional career and have their competencies assessed and rewarded. ILEVE is part of The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE).

There have been no previous criteria for competency in the LEV industry and those managers wishing to assess suppliers have had to rely on their own 'gut feeling assessment' or at best the proposer's certificate from a short training course which takes no account of experience.

ILEVE is supported by the Health and Safety Executive. Speaking ahead of the launch of the ILEVE in May 2011, Judith Hackett, Chair of the HSE, said: "The formation of ILEVE is the first step to achieving the goal of improved competence for the LEV industry."