

CIBSE Higher-Risk Building Registration



Introductions

- **Julia Savage – Head of Membership & Registration**
- **Paul Naish – Vice Chair CIBSE Members & Registration Panel**

Agenda and Purpose

- **Understanding the HRB Registration Processes.**
- **Clarify application components and expectations.**
- **Provide guidance on demonstrating the competences.**
- **Interview requirements.**



Applications and Routes

- Members and non-members can apply.
- CEng and those without CEng can apply.
- Can obtain MCIBSE CEng with application however it is not like for like.
- HRB competences are specific.



Higher-Risk Building Registration - Chartered HRB Engineer

Purpose

This guidance note provides an insight into the knowledge, skills, experience and behaviours expected. These will need to be evidenced in an application and interview to become a Chartered HRB Engineer. Registration will be reviewed in revalidation every five years.

Qualities and Competencies of an HRB Registered Engineer

A Chartered HRB Engineer is a highly knowledgeable and skilled professional dedicated to ensuring the safety and compliance of HRB's throughout the life of the building. The qualities and competences expected encompass a deep understanding of building design and construction, fire science, regulatory standards, team competences and management, ability to navigate the approvals process and a robust track record of relevant project experience and continuous professional development specific to HRBs.

Applicants for the Chartered HRB Engineer standard should have a portfolio of significant HRB projects completed under their direction. Applicants are likely to be senior designers with a minimum of 5 years' experience working on Higher Risk Buildings.

Am I eligible for the Chartered Engineer Standard?

You should refer to the [Engineering Council's UK-SPEC HRB](#) to check the required criteria for registration. You need to demonstrate your **specific HRB knowledge** for each criteria from AA-EE.

Building Services Engineers should refer to the [Building Services Annex](#) for the criteria for AA

1. An HRB Applicant – the initial assessment

- Applicants for the Chartered HRB Engineer standard should have a portfolio of significant HRB projects completed under their direction. Applicants are likely to be senior designers with a minimum of 5 years' experience working on Higher Risk Buildings.
- Submit your CV and Summary of HRB Projects worked on.
- This will be assessed and you will be approved to proceed with your application.

2. The Competency Templates

HRB Competences AA-EE

- **21 HRB specific criteria to be demonstrated. Clear, concise, evidence-based examples.**

 AA HRB Competences Template - CEng 2026.docx

 BB HRB Competences Template - CEng 2026.docx

 CC HRB Competences Template - CEng 2026.docx

 DD HRB Competences Template - CEng 2026.docx

 EE HRB Competences Template - CEng 2026.docx



UK SPEC HRB – CEng

Candidate Full Name:

AA Knowledge and understanding - Describe your experience as it relates to:

AA1 - To the extent that it is relevant to their role, the applicant shall demonstrate that they:

Maintain, extend and develop a sound theoretical approach to application of relevant fire, structural and building life principles and practices throughout the building life cycle of HRBs.

Fire science and the principles of fire propagation and control

Insert your evidence here

The effects of fire/emergencies within buildings on human behaviours

Maintain, extend and develop a theoretical approach to the design concepts of appropriate fire detection and protection systems

Competences AA-BB

- CIBSE Guidance
Evidence requirement
For AA-BB

Evidence to be demonstrated for AA-BB - Building Services Annex

The competences and behaviours for a Chartered HRB Engineer are defined by UK SPEC- HRB and this must be considered the primary source for compliance with the scope, specific criteria and examples of evidence to demonstrate competence. To assist the candidate CIBSE have interpreted the requirements and provided further guidance on the specific competences expected of a Building Services Engineer.

Engineers will be expected to understand all aspects of the building structure, fabric and engineering systems in so far as they form a wholistic system which are inter-dependant and integrated with each other.

AA. Knowledge and Understanding	UK SPEC - HRB Specific criteria	Evidence Required
AA1 - To the extent that it is relevant to their role, the applicant shall demonstrate that they: Maintain, extend and	Applicants shall demonstrate underpinning knowledge and understanding of: – The building as a system and how the	Demonstrate your understanding and experience of the following: – Fire science and the principles of fire

Competences AA-BB

- Discipline Annex – AA-BB



Building Services Discipline Annex

to the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment
Contextualised for Higher-Risk Buildings (UK-SPEC HRB)

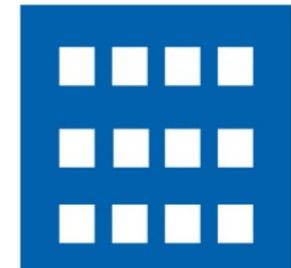


AA-EE – 21 competences in relation to HRBs

- AA Knowledge and Understanding
- BB Design, development and solving engineering problems.
- CC Responsibility, management and leadership.
- DD Communication and interpersonal skills
- EE Personal and professional commitment



**The UK Standard
for Professional
Engineering Competence
and Commitment
Contextualised for
Higher-Risk Buildings
(UK-SPEC HRB)**



Your Competency Evidence

Refer to UK SPEC HRB

Refer to CIBSE's application guidance

- Use evidence-based writing and examples
- Fire science, propagation & control
- Applicable standards (e.g., BSAct, BuildingRegs)
- Responsibilities & behaviours
- Team competency & collaboration
- Interaction of other systems and disciplines and their impact.
- Gateway approval processes & challenges specific to HRBs

The Case Study Presentation

- Reference the AA-EE Competences.
- Read through our Case Study Guidance.
- Your Case Study will be presented at interview.
- Submit your presentation and transcript.

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Higher-Risk Building Registration - Case Study Presentation

Purpose

This guidance should be read alongside the Applicant Guidance for Chartered HRB Engineer and the [UK-SPEC HRB](#)

The Case Study Presentation is an in-depth practical demonstration of how you meet the HRB Competences AA-EE. Your Case Study should be of an actual project(s) that you have worked on and must be of suitable complexity to demonstrate your understanding, application and implementation of the skills, behaviours and processes required to design, construct or maintain HRB buildings.

Your case study will typically explain how you developed and executed your design, progressed your project through construction and / or operation.

You are required to submit your presentation and transcript prior to interview.

Case Study Projects

The presentation can be made up of 3 or 4 projects or aspects of projects that illustrate the competences at a deep level looking at specific events/episodes in your career.

These can be HRB projects or projects that would be classified as an HRB today. If you have a project you would like to use as an example that is not an HRB you can use that example in the context of 'were this an HRB project, this is what I would do.'

The Case Study Presentation

- Real-world project that demonstrates how you meet the HRB competences in depth.
- Demonstrates thought processes – set out the reasoning why decisions were made.
- Focus on leadership, integration and fire safety.
- Technical and multidisciplinary coordination
- Innovation: new products, materials and lifecycle thinking
- Interfaces: life safety systems
- Collaboration and approvals
- Golden Thread documentation

AA. Knowledge and Understanding

- What codes, guidance, and standards did you use?
- How did you interpret them in the context of this HRB?
- What knowledge gaps existed and how were they addressed?
- How did your knowledge of current and emerging technology affect your decisions?

BB. Design, Development and Solving Engineering Problems

- Did you have knowledge of who had which role on the project? Eg Principal designer, architect? Did you understand each role's responsibilities?
- What problems did you face?
- What solutions did you design or contribute to?
- Any trade-offs? Were innovative solutions needed?
- How did your understanding of human behaviours affect design decisions?
- What was the evidence and reasoning behind your decisions?

3. Professional Review Interview

Approx 2 hour Competency-based panel interview.

Submit your presentation and transcript prior.

Present on your Case Study at interview.

Be specific, confident and reflect on lessons learned.



Next steps - cibse.org/hrb

- Review Applicant and Case Study Guidance.
- Review UK SPEC HRB – can you confidently demonstrate all the competences.
- Apply for your initial assessment.

Any Questions?



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