

Creative Venue Technician and Live Event Technician draft apprenticeship standard for consultation

Occupational Profile

This occupation is found in a range of settings from entertainment venues and theatres, through to organisations that provide technical solutions for the setup of live and streamed events.

Technicians can be venue based (Creative Venue Technician (CVT)). Alternatively, they can be mobile and work in a variety of sites and environments (Live Event Technician (LET)).

CVTs play an active role in the technical set up and operation of a variety of established creative venues. For example, theatres, arts centres and broadcast studios.

LETs provide technical solutions for live performance and event projects of all sizes across the UK, Europe and worldwide. The events range from concerts, festivals and theatrical performances through to exhibitions, conferences, product launches and showcases.

The broad purpose of the occupation is to prepare, build, set up and operate functioning systems for live performance and events. These systems are likely to include sound, lighting and video.

Technicians can read, interpret and give appropriate technical information to colleagues and clients. They use a variety of tools to assemble, install and maintain technical and production systems.

They may be required to work flexible working hours and work weekends and evening.

They may be required to work at height.

A CVT provides technical support for the construction, rehearsal, presentation and removal of a live performance. They are multi-skilled across a wide range of technical disciplines. They possess a broad level of knowledge relevant to the venue in which they operate.

CVTs will be competent in lighting, audio, video, stage systems and building services related to live performance. They apply them to their resident premises and / or production.

They are skilled in stagecraft techniques such as operating stage machinery, performing scene changes and carpentry.

This allows them to set up, rig, operate, maintain and carry out basic repairs of technical equipment used in creative venues.

LETs set-up technical equipment for live events and usually specialise in sound, lighting or video.

They have knowledge of the equipment used in different environments and will have the ability to calibrate systems. They specify components to deliver high quality outputs across a range of different settings.

LETs are responsible for the control, servicing, repair and storage of complex technical equipment. Their specialist knowledge enables them to troubleshoot and repair components and systems at sub assembly level.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with a wide range of stakeholders.

LET's work with partners and collaborators such as: customers and Account Managers through to Production Managers and the end client. They may also interact with freelancers, touring and venue staff

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or performers, community groups and the general public.

CVT's work with a wide range of partners and collaborators. These may include but not be limited to: venue staff, freelancers, and touring staff, who will be technicians of all disciplines, production managers, performers and community groups, stage management, costume staff, designers and producers.

They will also interact with clients and presenters, front of house managers, audiences, members of the general public.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for the quality and accuracy of the work that they undertake. They carry out tasks both autonomously and as part of a team, taking ownership of the quality of their work.

Although technicians are required to work independently and may be required to support junior colleagues, they usually operate under the direction and supervision of a supervisor or manager.

They will be proactive in finding solutions to problems and identifying areas for improving processes.

In any context working safely and efficiently is paramount. Many projects are carried out in fast moving, dynamic workplaces.

This is a core and options standard. All apprentices will be required to complete the core criteria. The apprentice will follow either the live event technician or creative venue technician option and will be required to meet the criteria corresponding to that option.

Typical Job Titles:

Venue Technician, Theatre Technician, Stage Technician, Lighting Technician, Sound Technician, Video Technician, Automation Technician, Live Event Technician, Creative Venue Technician, Flys Technician, Site Technician, Production Technician, Site Engineers, Video Engineer, Sound Engineer

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Duties	Mapped KSBs
Core duties	
1. Interpret system specifications.	K12, K15, K17, S1, S2, S16, B9
2. Assemble and configure structures and systems to meet the specification requirements.	K7, K8, K10, K11, K16, K17, S3, S7, S13, B1, B2, B5, B7, B8, B10
3. Test, troubleshoot and maintain equipment and systems.	K13, K14, K16, K18, K19, S4, S6, S12, B6, B7, B8
4. Collaborate with stakeholders and supervise team members.	K2, K3, K4, S8, S9, S10, S16, B3, B4, B8
5. Operate and maintain technical equipment.	K5, K6, K8, K9, K16, S5, S15, S17, B7, B8
6. Dynamically risk assess the work environment and situation. Adapt working practices to ensure the safety of self and others.	K1, K9, K16, S11, S12, B4, B7, B8
7. Disassemble and store technical equipment safely and efficiently ensuring that the integrity of the components is maintained.	K8, K10, K16, S14, B7, B8, B10

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LET duties	
8. Repair complex systems and sub-assemblies at component level	K9, K20, K21, K23, S18, S19, S21, B1, B6, B7, B9
9. Utilise lifting and rigging equipment to set up event systems	K1, K5, K7, S25, B5, B7
10. Specify equipment and system requirements suitable for the operational environment.	K22, K24, S1, S2, S20, S22, B1, B9
11. Prepare and pack systems for local and international transportation.	K7, K11, K16, K25 S23, S24, B7, B8, B10,
CVT duties	
12. Monitor and operate building services	K27, S26, S32, B2, B7, B9
13. Construct scenery and staging systems to meet performance requirements	K12, K28, K29, S2, S27, S29, S30, B6, B7, B9
14. Carry out live scene changes and operate stage and suspension systems.	K26, K29, S5, S10, S17, S28, S29, B1, B2, B3, B7, B8
15. Inspect creative venue systems and carry out maintenance and basic repairs.	K13, K16, K30, K31, S1, S31, S32, B1, B7

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Knowledge skills and behaviours

Knowledge

1. Core. Health and safety standards including:
 - manual handling
 - work at height provision and use of work equipment
 - construction (design and management)
 - noise
 - first aid
 - working hours
 - electricity at work
 - fire and emergency procedures
 - accident reporting
 - HSE guidance on running events safely
2. Core. Typical management structures within the performance and events work environment, etiquette and culture, including communication and interdependencies between departments.
3. Core. The sectors within the live performance and events industry.
4. Core. Relevant industry bodies and their roles e.g. Production Services Association (PSA), Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT), Live Events Network Charter (BECTU), Professional Lighting and Sound Association (PLASA).
5. Core. Lifting operations; theory and practice.
6. Core. Security and control of equipment protocols.
7. Core. Planning processes required to deliver a live performance and event and the importance of eliminating errors.
8. Core. How to select the correct tools and equipment for tasks.
9. Core. Electricity and Temporary Electrical Supplies; theory, practice and safety.
10. Core. Working knowledge of stock control, storage, logistics and transportation.
11. Core. How to control environmental impact and contribute to sustainable management.
12. Core. The use of computer-aided design to view, extract information and realise specifications from system designs.
13. Core. How to be systematic and methodical when problem solving.
14. Core. How to identify potential improvements to systems and procedures.
15. Core. The properties of mechanical and electro-mechanical systems.
16. Core. The importance of keeping work and storage areas clean, tidy and free from the build-up of waste materials.
17. Core. Principles and terminology relating to the set-up of lighting, sound or video systems for live performance and events.
18. Core. How to prepare, test and maintain lighting, sound or video equipment and systems.
19. Core. How to troubleshoot and carry out basic repairs to lighting, sound or video equipment and systems.

LET

20. LET. How to trouble shoot, fault find and repair complex issues at sub assembly and component level.
21. LET. How to calibrate equipment and systems and understand the impact this has on the final production.
22. LET. Venue specific considerations and application of products in different environments.
23. LET. How to identify and undertake service requirements.

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24. LET. Network interface and compatibility requirements across live event systems.
25. LET. How to Identify required packing space for equipment and for truck packs. How to prepare carnets and manifests for shows travelling across customs borders.

CVT

26. CVT. Principles of stage and production management.
27. CVT. The purpose, operational effect and statutory requirements for creative venue systems and production systems.
28. CVT. The history, styles, architecture, terminology and acoustics of creative venues.
29. CVT. Appreciation of other departmental requirements and production design elements – scenic, lighting, audio and visual.
30. CVT. How to trouble shoot, fault find and carry out basic repairs to Creative venue systems.
31. CVT. How to inspect, test and maintain Creative venue systems.

Skills

1. Core. Prepare and interpret system specifications and drawings.
2. Core. Use specialist software systems such as computer aided design and asset management to extract information and input basic information.
3. Core. Assemble systems from component parts using correct tools.
4. Core. Core. Troubleshoot and fault find issues in discrete pieces of equipment.
5. Core. Operate specialised technical equipment and tools.
6. Core. Prepare, test, repair and maintain lighting, sound or video equipment and systems.
7. Core. Program and operate production control consoles.
8. Core. Collaborate with stakeholders and adapt communication appropriately to suit the audience.
9. Core. Use digital collaboration tools to collaborate with colleagues and stakeholders.
10. Core. Supervise team members taking into consideration their level of experience.
11. Core. Interpret and apply method statements in response to dynamic risk assessment to help ensure safe planning and delivery of work processes.
12. Core. Use safety and access equipment correctly.
13. Core. Assemble and configure structures and systems from component parts to production specification.
14. Core. Disassemble structures and systems, store component parts and equipment effectively and safely.
15. Core. Deploy, operate and maintain technical equipment under direction.
16. Core. Prepare written information and reports.
17. Core. Undertake cueing and operation during the live performance or event.

LET

18. LET. Trouble shoot, fault find and repair at sub assembly and component level.
19. LET. Calibrate equipment and systems to meet production requirements.
20. LET. Identify, specify and use components, systems and products applicable for the environment.
21. LET. Identify and undertake service requirements.
22. LET. Achieve effective network connectivity across live event systems.
23. LET. Identify required packing space for equipment and for truck packs.
24. LET. Prepare carnets and manifests for shows travelling across customs borders.
25. LET. Prepare and operate lifting and ground Rigging equipment correctly.

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CVT

26. CVT. Monitor and operate building services effectively.
27. CVT. Comply with creative venue budgetary and financial management protocols.
28. CVT. Undertake set and change scenes in live performance – setting and striking scenic elements under ‘show conditions’.
29. CVT. Operate suspension systems correctly.
30. CVT. Undertake stage crafts such as scenic construction, carpentry, metalwork, stage machinery, props, scene changes, knots and terminations.
31. CVT. Trouble shoot, fault find and carry out basic repairs to Creative venue and production systems.
32. CVT. As directed, inspect, test and maintain Creative venue systems and production systems.

Behaviours

1. Core. Adopts a flexible approach and is adaptable to change.
2. Core. Willing to work unsociable hours in a variety of circumstances/ locations for extended periods.
3. Core. Punctual, reliable and personally responsible.
4. Core. Team-focused, respectful of others and works and communicates effectively with stakeholders.
5. Core. Self-motivated with a positive and disciplined approach to work. Takes ownership of work and personal responsibility for timely delivery.
6. Core. Committed to achieving clear goals and ambitions and to continuously improve and develop.
7. Core. Puts safety first for themselves and others.
8. Core. Remains calm and safe when exposed to time pressures or deadlines.
9. Core. Proactively identifies solutions and keeps up to date with industry best practice.
10. Core. Takes personal responsibility for sustainable outcomes in how they carry out the duties of their role by reference to environmental good practice.

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Other details

Typical duration: 24 months

Typical Entry Point:

There are no set entry requirements. Employers may typically require an individual to be physically capable and comfortable working at heights.