



Five Minute Meeting:

Topic: Deactivation of OQ OQ-0606 “Hot Tap/Branch Connection”

Date: 01/27/2021

Audience: Gas employees and contractors who perform lateral Hot Tapping and Plugging operations on split fittings (3/4” to 8”).

The key thing you need to know

OQ-0606 is being deactivated and the covered tasks will now be encompassed in the newly developed written tests for OQ-0603 and OQ-0604 starting February 2021.

Individuals already qualified on OQ-0606 will remain qualified for those tasks until their OQ-0603 and or OQ-0604 assessment is first attempted in 2021.

Why it matters to you

This communication is intended to clarify OQ options for individuals currently in possession of OQ-0606. There will be NO adverse effects to your qualifications and/or ability to perform these daily work tasks. Starting 2021, you will be required to successfully complete OQ-0603 and/or OQ-0604 (depending on the scope of work performed) for renewal or initial qualification.

Key discussion points

- OQ-0606 is being deactivated
- OQ-0603 is replacing and encompassing tasks performed under OQ-0606 for fittings under 2” and below.
- OQ-0604 is replacing and encompassing tasks performed under OQ-0606 for fittings 3” to 8”.
- No immediate changes required by those currently qualified with OQ-0606.
- If previously profiled for OQ-0606, the profile will now be updated to OQ-0603 and/or OQ-0604.

Questions to ask for understanding

- **Question:** If an individual possesses OQ-0606, will they be able to tap and plug lateral split fittings after their OQ-0606 expires/lapses?
- ✓ **Answer:** No, an individual must possess OQ-0603 and/or OQ-0604 (depending on the scope of work performed) to perform lateral split fitting tapping and plugging operations once their OQ-0606 has expired.

- **Question:** If an individual possesses OQ-0606 and is unsuccessful with their first attempt of OQ-0603 and/or OQ-0604, are they still qualified to perform work under OQ-0606?

Answer: No, an individual must possess OQ-0603 and/or OQ-0604 (depending on the scope of work performed). They would be required to pass the assessment(s) of the OQ(s) they were unsuccessful with prior to being qualified.

Questions to ask for understanding (continued)

- **Question:** Why is OQ-0606 being deactivated?
- ✓ **Answer:** Lateral tapping of “split” fittings is a trained task. It was determined the work performed was already “covered” within OQ-0603 and OQ-0604 (depending on the fitting(s) being tapped and/or plugged). Additionally, this action will streamline the OQ process, create less confusion and provide reduced frustration regarding the number of OQ tasks individuals possess.

Who do I contact with questions?

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