



National Highways Sector Scheme for Quality Management in Highways Works

Scheme 18

For Landscape and the Environment, including Ecology



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National Highways Sector Schemes

- NHSS is an integrated management scheme within an ISO 9001:2000 framework.
- Developed by partnerships across all areas of the highways industry.
- Each specific sector scheme is managed by a separate technical advisory committee comprising representatives from the sector.

National Highways

Sector Scheme 18

The Sector Scheme Advisory Committee for the Environment and Landscape (SSACEL) covers:

- New landscape works
- Arboricultural works
- Landscape maintenance
- Vegetation management
- Environmental management of highways
- Ecology

National Highways Sector Scheme 18

- Setting national standards for the management of the road network
- Its vegetation and ecology
- Maintaining a safe environment for the road users



National Highways Sector Scheme 18

Developed by:

- Highways Agency England
- Scottish Executive
- Transport Wales
- Roads Service Northern Ireland
- BALI, Arboricultural Association, NAAC

National Highways Sector Schemes

- Benchmark scheme for the industry
- Focus on quality
- Provide and maintain a properly trained and competent workforce
- Involves all parts of the industry in partnership
- Provides a basis for continuous improvement

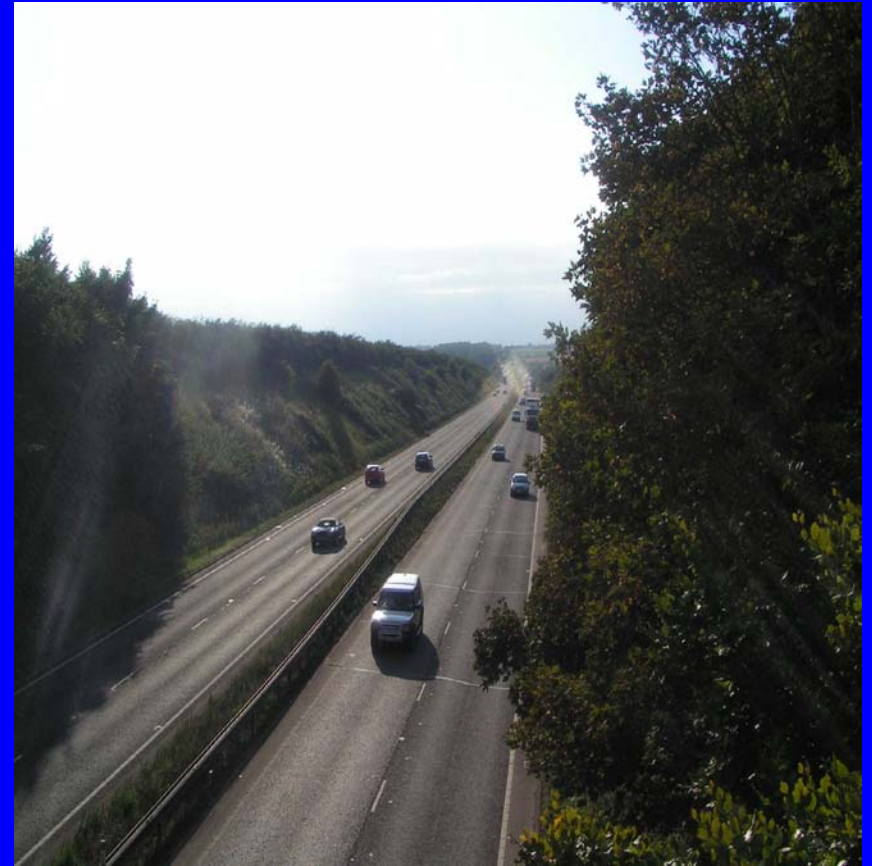
National Highways Sector Schemes

Sector Schemes cover:

- New development planning and contract specification
- Health and Safety risk assessment and method statements
- Control of material sourcing
- Standards of qualifications of all levels of the human resource

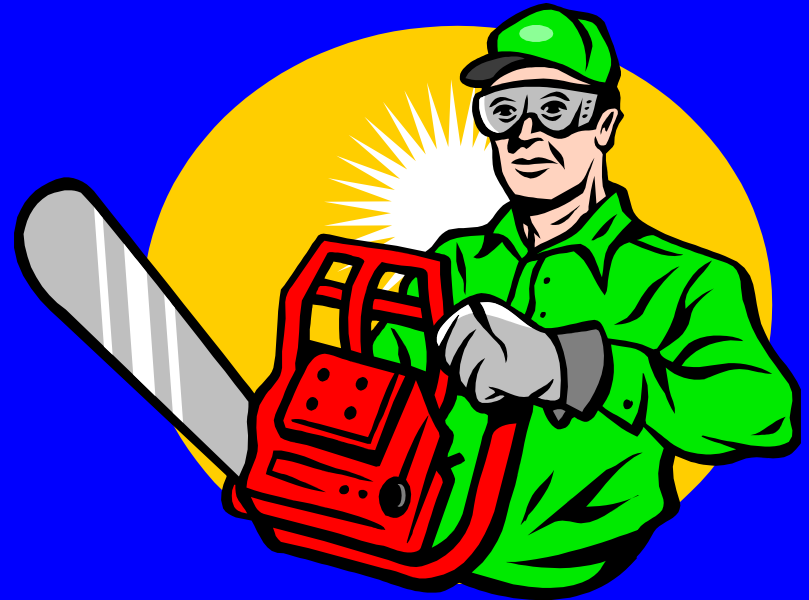
National Highways Sector Scheme 18

“Most people experience the countryside from the window of a car so the Highways Agency is duty bound to sensitively maintain the immediate landscape.”



National Highways Sector Scheme 18

- Scheme will eliminate the practice of contracts being let to the cheapest but not necessarily the best contractor.



National Highways Sector Scheme 18

- Only qualifying companies will be on a tender list, which is available to the main contractors
- Eliminating main contractors from employing non-qualified companies



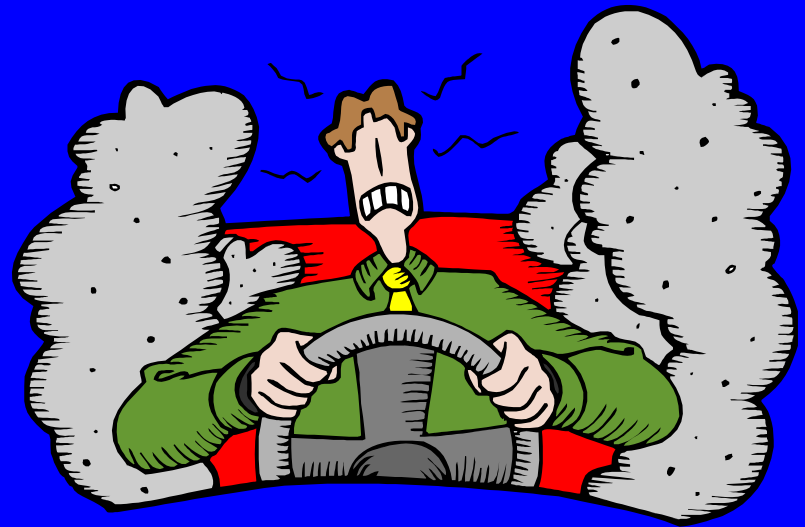
National Highways Sector Schemes

- Health and Safety is the priority for employees, employers and members of the public.
- Standards for road works signage, PPE and zones of activity.



National Highways Sector Scheme 18

- Achieving the highest standards of maintenance of the landscape and environment of the roads network is a priority for all sides.
- As is the avoidance of disruption to traffic flow and inconvenience to road users.



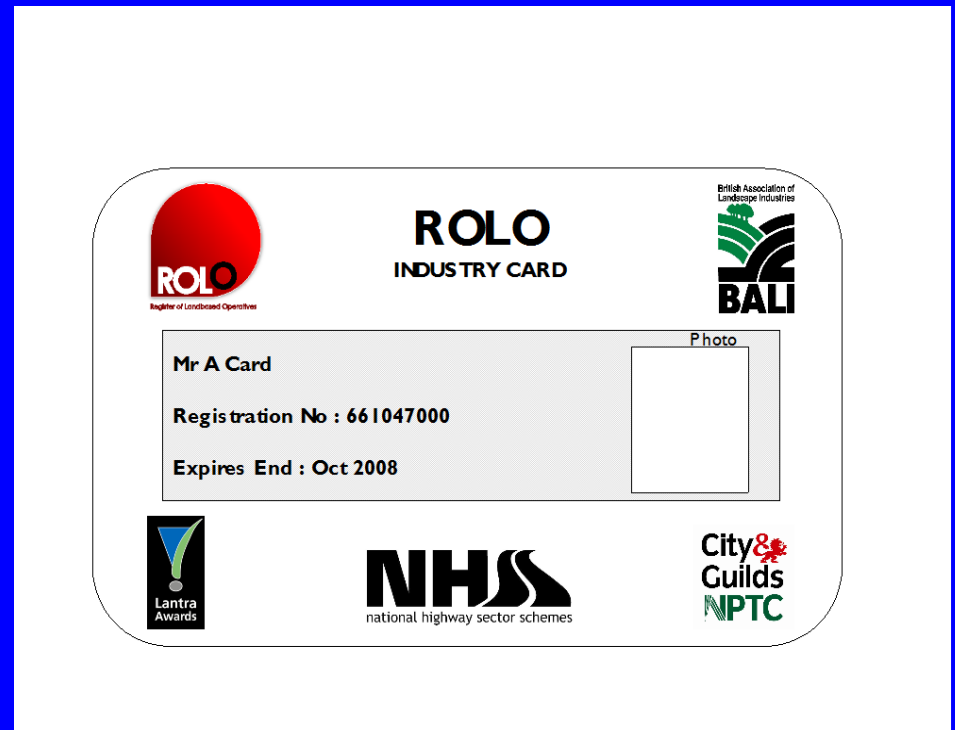
How can we join the Scheme?

- Companies who apply go through an assessment procedure, as for ISO 9001 registration
- Requiring processes for quality control and auditing, specifically for landscape and arboricultural works
- Emphasis is placed on properly trained and qualified staff

- Companies who successfully apply for inclusion in the scheme will receive a certificate of registration
- Registration will be reviewed on a periodic basis, either annually or 5 yearly
- A robust complaints procedure is part of the scheme

National Highways Sector Scheme 18 - Industry Skills Card

- The card contains a record of the holder's training and qualifications
- All holders will have to undertake a nationally recognised Health and Safety course and test



National Highways Sector Scheme 18

- Mini/micro enterprises that are too small for ISO can register for the scheme under the BALI QA vetting procedure adapted for NHSS 18
- This will be available to both BALI members and non members
- Assistance will be provided during this process

National Highways Sector Scheme 18

The full Sector Scheme document can be downloaded
from the UKAS website at:

<http://www.ukas.com>

Details of the NHSS 18 Industry Skills Card are
available from BALI on 02476 690333 or visit:

<http://www.bali.org.uk>



Thank you any questions?

Neil Huck

