

nebosh

# NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

October – December 2022

# NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

Welcome to NEBOSH's Ethical Practice Report which publishes information about our approach to ethical practice and the outcomes of our activities in October - December 2022.

These quarterly reports outline our proactive approach to detecting and investigating malpractice, and the outcomes of our activities.

*Cheats do not have a place in the health and safety profession.*

## At a glance: October – December 2022

**1,345** investigations concluded



**1,304** learners identified as engaged in malpractice

**1,828** penalties



**9** LIFETIME BANS

**524** BANS

**724** cases of fraudulent activity on social media removed

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## Investigations

NEBOSH employs a team of Ethical Practice experts who review assessments, collect evidence and conduct thorough investigations into potential incidences of malpractice. Some investigations are more complex than others and may take many months of work whilst we use a range of tools and techniques to gather evidence. Where it has been found that malpractice has taken place, we apply appropriate penalties to any person or organisation involved.

During October - December 2022 we completed 1,345 investigations and opened 1,557 new investigations

## Penalties and sanctions

The penalties will depend on the severity of the offence and the strength of the evidence collected during the investigation process. Sanctions can range from results being voided to lifetime bans. The number of penalties is greater than the number of learners punished, as one learner can receive multiple penalties. For example, if a learner has two units voided and receives a ban, that equates to three penalties.

Our completed investigations resulted in 1,828 penalties being issued to 1,304 learners in this reporting period. They included:

- 9 lifetime bans
- 10 five-year bans
- 187 three-year bans
- 116 two-year bans
- 202 one-year bans

NEBOSH monitors online posts and groups for potential cheats, and people selling or purchasing fraudulent services. One activity we do is to buy the answers to our assessments from fraudulent sellers – we purchase the answers and input them into our plagiarism checking software. This will alert us to anyone else who has purchased answers to their assessment from the same seller. In one case 99 learner's assessments were found to contain content that matched a purchased assessment, and they all received penalties.

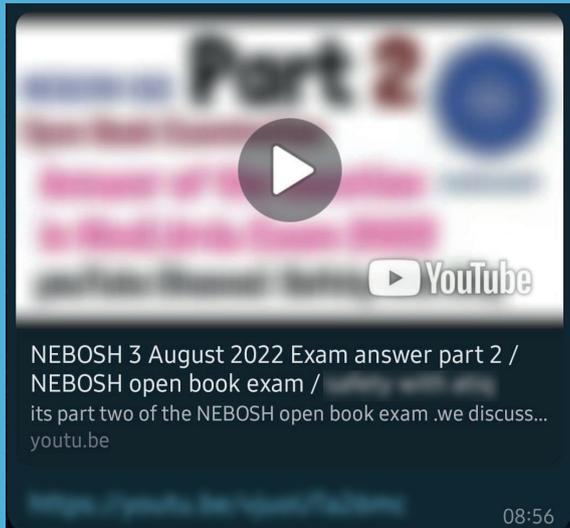
In another case, one learner approached a third party online, asking them to write their construction assessment in return for payment. The third party contacted NEBOSH to report the learner and provide us with evidence. The learner subsequently received a ban from NEBOSH assessments. You can also report any evidence to us at [postassessment@nebosh.org.uk](mailto:postassessment@nebosh.org.uk).

The expertise of our Learning Partners and Examiners also help us to catch people engaged in malpractice. One Examiner reported fifteen learners for similarities in their answers. Following further analysis a clear pattern of similarities emerged – even as far as the same spelling mistakes. All of the learners received a penalty.

# NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

## Qualifications revoked

In the first example of its kind, NEBOSH has revoked the qualifications of a person who posted videos online that were intended to help people complete a 'live' NEBOSH assessment.



NEBOSH were notified of the YouTube channel by an Examiner. Through intelligence gathering, ethical practice investigators were able to establish the identity of the person who created the channel. Further research confirmed that they were a NEBOSH qualification holder.

A thorough investigation was carried out and the evidence was presented to a Malpractice Review Panel. The Panel agreed that, due to the seriousness of the malpractice, the learner's previously awarded qualifications should be revoked and they should be permanently banned from NEBOSH qualifications.

## Upholding high standards in our Learning Partners

Our network of accredited Learning Partners are expected to uphold the high standards and rigour on which NEBOSH prides itself. Where Learning Partners do not conduct themselves in this way, or in a way that contravenes their Learning Partner agreement, NEBOSH will impose sanctions or terminate their agreement. During October – December 2022 we removed accreditation from six organisations:

- In India – offering improper exam assistance to learners and working with unapproved agents
- In Egypt – working with unapproved agents
- In United Arab Emirates – failing to cooperate with an investigation
- In Qatar – offering an 'assessment only' service
- In India – working with banned agents
- In India – offering an 'assessment only' service

# NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

## Removing fraudulent online content

Our in-house experts monitor websites, blogs and social media daily to identify any content that could jeopardise NEBOSH's reputation or the integrity of our qualifications. This includes content that:

- Falsely promotes an association with NEBOSH
- Sells fake NEBOSH certificates
- Sells training from an unaccredited organisation
- Helps learners to answer a live assessment
- Sells or distributes pre-written answers

We work with specialist solicitors and social media platforms to contact content owners/publishers and have this type of content removed.

From October - December 2022 we worked to remove 724 social media posts. Our work also resulted in one website being taken down for selling fraudulent certificates.

The intelligence from our IPR work also informs malpractice investigations; we are able to find learners who have engaged with these channels and potentially cheated in their assessments.

Both of the examples below were successfully removed from the internet.



### Buy Genuine NEBOSH Certificate Online

We are group of Teachers and Examiners specialized in the Acquisition of NEBOSH Igc/NIOSH certificates without taking the exams. We can provide original NEBOSH Igc/NIOSH certificates for those of you who for one reason or the other are unable to take the test or obtain the required score demanded by their institution, employers or embassy. Buy Original Nebosh Certificate online Buy real Nebosh Certificate without exam

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## Help us to eliminate cheats

### Malpractice concerns

If you have any evidence about possible malpractice, please report it to us at [postassessment@nebosh.org.uk](mailto:postassessment@nebosh.org.uk).

Together we can stamp out malpractice and protect the integrity of the health and safety profession.

We review every piece of information and intelligence that is sent to us however, for privacy reasons, we cannot provide an update on individual cases or investigations to you.

### Fraudulent online content

We have dedicated Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) experts and lawyers who find and remove fraudulent activity such as fake certificates, assessment writing services, guarantees of 100% pass rates or claiming to have access to NEBOSH's systems to change grades. Although it only takes minutes to post something online it can take days or weeks for NEBOSH to have it removed by the relevant platform. If you see a fraudulent social media post or website you can help by:

- Reporting it to us at [ipr@nebosh.org.uk](mailto:ipr@nebosh.org.uk); and
- Reporting posts to the relevant social media platform.

### Our free verification service

You can verify any NEBOSH qualification and we highly recommend that employers use our verification services in the recruitment of potential health and safety employees. NEBOSH has two free services that are available:

- If you have a certificate, you can use our online platform to check the authenticity of any NEBOSH qualification: <https://www.nebosh.org.uk/online-verifications>.
- To validate the information on a results document please contact NEBOSH via our Verification Request Form <https://www.nebosh.org.uk/policies-and-procedures/verifications/>.

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