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Knowledge Innovation



SPECIALIST TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS AWARDS

# Recognition of Assessor Competence Award (RACA)

Unlock the potential of your workforce with a bespoke qualification designed to train and certify assessors evaluating the STLA RoadSURE Pro™ qualification.

## Drive Competence. Deliver Safety.



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**RoadSURE Pro**



SPECIALIST TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS AWARDS

**MixerSURE**



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**TipperSURE**



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**WasteSURE**



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## What Is the RACA?

The Recognition of Assessor Competence Award (RACA) is a formal assessment of competence designed specifically for individuals operating in assessor roles within industry schemes and vocational qualifications.

It is centred on the **Specialist Transport & Logistics Awards (STLA) RoadSURE Pro™** qualification, and provides a structured pathway for assessors to demonstrate their capability against nationally recognised benchmarks.

The award is firmly rooted in the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for assessing learner achievement, providing a robust and universally recognised framework that underpins every element of the programme. Rather than offering a purely academic qualification, RACA takes a holistic approach by incorporating both a knowledge assessment and a performance assessment, ensuring that candidates can demonstrate competence in theory and practice alike.

This dual-layer assessment model means that upon completion, a RACA-certified assessor has not simply passed a written examination — they have proven, in real-world conditions, that they are capable of conducting fair, objective, and technically sound assessments of mixer truck drivers operating within industry environments.

It is a qualification built for professionals, by professionals, and reflects the exacting standards expected across the vocational transport and construction sectors.

### **Assessment of Knowledge**

Demonstrates theoretical understanding of assessment principles, NOS frameworks, and vehicle-specific competence criteria.

### **Assessment of Performance**

Validates real-world assessor capability through observed, on- the-job evaluation against nationally recognised standards.

## Why Is RACA Needed?

The principle underpinning RACA is both simple and compelling: to make a valid judgement about somebody else's competence, you must first be demonstrably competent yourself.

In the context of vocational assessments for specialist vehicles, this is not merely best practice — it is a fundamental obligation.

An assessor who lacks the requisite knowledge, skills, and occupational understanding cannot be relied upon to make objective or defensible assessment decisions.

The RACA addresses this challenge head-on by providing a structured, evidence-based route through which assessors can formally demonstrate their fitness to assess.

Without this qualification, assessors working within industry schemes risk undermining the integrity of the assessment process — potentially certifying drivers who do not meet the required standards, or conversely, failing those who are genuinely competent.

Either outcome carries significant implications for workplace safety, operational efficiency, and organisational reputation.

From the perspective of training managers and employer stakeholders, ensuring that all assessors hold the RACA is a mark of institutional confidence. It signals a commitment to rigour, consistency, and the highest standards of professional practice. In an industry where safety is paramount and the consequences of errors are severe, the value of a formally competent assessor workforce cannot be overstated.

RACA exists to close the gap between informal experience and verified, standardised assessor competence.

### **Integrity of Assessment**

Ensures every assessor decision is grounded in verified competence, protecting the credibility of the entire RoadSURE Pro™ qualification framework.

### **Workplace Safety**

Competent assessors identify risk accurately, ensuring only qualified drivers specialist vehicles in demanding site environments.

### **Employer Confidence**

Provides training managers and stakeholders with auditable evidence that their assessor workforce meets national occupational standards.

## Who Is The RACA For?

The EMPI Awards Recognition of Assessor Competence Award is designed for a clearly defined audience: any commercial or employed industry assessor involved in delivering the Specialist Transport & Logistics Awards (STLA) RoadSURE Pro™ qualification— whether that assessment is conducted on-road or off-road.

This encompasses a broad range of professionals, from in-house training assessors employed directly by haulage and transport firms, to independent commercial assessors operating across multiple client organisations.

Eligibility for the RACA is not restricted by prior formal qualifications, but candidates are expected to bring substantial occupational experience to the table. Specifically, assessors must be able to demonstrate the requisite occupational competence in the area in which they intend to assess.

For example, mixer truck assessments, this means candidates should have a thorough, hands-on understanding of mixer truck operations, site procedures, and the associated safety standards — the kind of expertise that comes only from genuine experience in the field.

This requirement ensures that RACA remains a qualification of real professional substance. It is not a theoretical exercise designed for those unfamiliar with the industry; rather, it is a formalisation and validation of the skills that experienced operators and trainers already possess.

By targeting this audience, EMPI Awards ensures that the RACA adds meaningful value to those who undertake it, and that the resulting assessors bring genuine authority and credibility to their role.

### **In-House Assessors**

Employed directly by haulage, construction logistics, or ready-mix concrete firms to assess their own workforce against RoadSURE Pro™ standards.

### **Commercial Assessors**

Independent professionals operating across multiple client organisations, delivering RoadSURE Pro™ assessments on a contracted basis.

### **Experienced Operators**

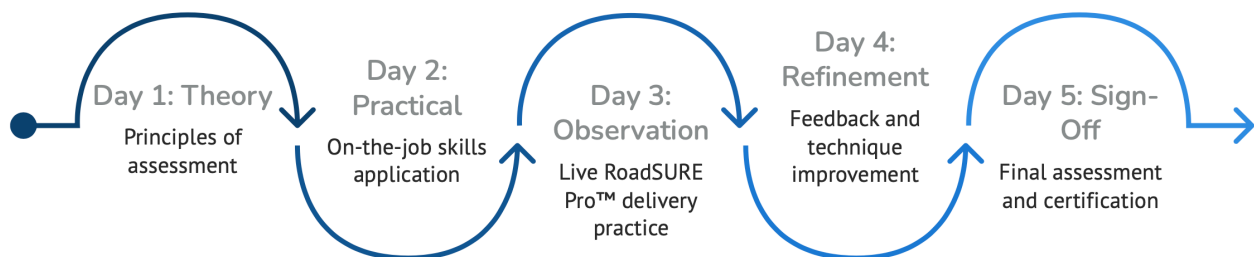
Drivers with significant practical experience seeking to formalise and validate their occupational expertise in an assessor capacity.

## Qualification Structure

The RACA programme is structured across five intensive days, carefully sequenced to build knowledge systematically before translating it into practical assessor capability.

The first day grounds candidates in the theoretical and principled foundations of assessment, whilst Days 2 through 5 shift the focus entirely to the field – placing candidates in real-world assessment environments where they can apply, refine, and demonstrate their developing competence.

This blended learning approach reflects the best of modern vocational training design.



Each stage of the programme is purposefully designed to build upon the last.

The transition from classroom to construction site is not abrupt but carefully scaffolded, ensuring that candidates arrive on Day 2 with the conceptual grounding needed to make the most of their hands-on experience.

By the close of Day 5, successful candidates will have demonstrated competence across all assessed elements and will be eligible for official EMPI Awards sign-off.

# Theory & Principles of Assessment

The opening day of the RACA programme takes place in a structured, classroom-based setting and serves as the essential intellectual foundation for everything that follows.

Candidates are introduced to the core principles and frameworks that define high-quality vocational assessment, drawing directly from the National Occupational Standards for assessing learner achievement.

This is not a passive, lecture-style experience — it is an active, discussion-led exploration of what good assessment looks like and why it matters.

Learning modules on Day 1 cover the full landscape of assessment methods and principles, examining different approaches to gathering and evaluating evidence, understanding the concept of validity and reliability in assessment decisions, and exploring how to plan and structure an effective assessment.

Candidates are encouraged to bring their own experience to the discussion, contextualising abstract principles within the very real world of specialist vehicle operations and site-based vehicle assessments.

By the end of the first day, candidates will have a clear and coherent understanding of the theoretical framework that underpins the RoadSURE Pro™ qualification, a grasp of the assessment cycle, and the confidence to begin applying these principles in practical settings.

This theoretical grounding is not merely a prerequisite for the days that follow — it is a fundamental component of assessor competence in its own right, and one that is formally assessed as part of the RACA qualification.

## **Assessment Methods**

Introduction to the range of methods available for gathering performance evidence in vocational settings.

## **Principles of Assessment**

Validity, reliability, fairness, and sufficiency — the pillars of defensible, professional assessment practice.

## **Planning & Structuring**

How to design and organise an assessment that is logical, comprehensive, and meets NOS requirements.

## **Assessment Cycle**

Understanding the full lifecycle of a learner assessment, from initial planning through to feedback and sign-off.

# On-the-Job Training

The four days of on-the-job training represent the operational heart of the RACA programme.

Moving from the classroom to the real-world working environment, candidates immerse themselves in the practical realities of assessing drivers against the RoadSURE Pro™ framework.

Under the supervision of experienced trainers, candidates observe, participate in, and ultimately lead assessment activities – building their confidence and competence with every session.

This phase of the programme is deliberately varied and comprehensive, covering the full breadth of vehicle types, operational scenarios, and assessment situations that a qualified RACA assessor may encounter in practice.

The emphasis throughout is on developing a practitioner's eye – the ability to observe a candidate's performance, gather meaningful evidence, and arrive at well-reasoned, justifiable assessment decisions.

The on-the-job training phase culminates in the delivery of a live STLA RoadSURE Pro™, providing candidates with the opportunity to demonstrate their newly acquired assessor competence in a real assessment context.

Successful delivery and sign-off at this stage marks the formal conclusion of the RACA programme, certifying the candidate as a RoadSURE Pro™ qualified assessor and opening the door to their new professional role.

## What You Will Cover

- 1. Assessment Process Familiarisation:** Introduction to the STLA RoadSURE Pro™ framework, documentation requirements, and the responsibilities of a qualified assessor.
- 2. Vehicle-Specific Modules:** In-depth coverage of truck chassis and mounted equipment, including drum and volumetric mixers, ensuring assessors understand the machinery they are evaluating.
- 3. Materials Handling & Site Procedures:**
4. Hands-on experience in transferring materials, navigating site access and egress, and adhering to site-specific safety protocols.
- 5. Safe Discharge & Tipping:** Detailed training in the safe and correct procedures for concrete discharge and tipping operations, a critical safety-focused competence area.
- 6. Product Knowledge & GAP Analysis:** A deep dive into product-specific knowledge, including GAP Analysis techniques and discharge application assessment criteria.
- 7. Assessment Principles in Practice:** Applied training in assessment planning, evidence gathering, decision-making, and the provision of constructive candidate feedback.
- 8. RoadSURE Pro™ Delivery & Sign-Off:** The final module: candidates independently deliver a STLA RoadSURE Pro™ and receive official sign-off upon successful completion.

## Why Choose RACA?

In a competitive landscape where many training programmes offer generic assessor qualifications, the EMPI Awards RACA stands apart by virtue of its focus, depth, and industry relevance. Every aspect of the programme has been crafted in direct response to the specific demands of assessing specialist vehicle drivers – making it the most pertinent and practically useful qualification available to assessors working in this specialism.

**Tailored Curriculum:** The programme is meticulously designed to address the unique challenges of assessing, ensuring every module is directly relevant to the assessor's day- to-day practice. There is no unnecessary content – every hour of training has a clear and demonstrable purpose.

**Expert Led Training:** Benefit from of industry professionals with years of hands-on experience in both driving and assessing. Their insights, mentorship, and real-world perspective elevate the learning experience beyond what any textbook could provide.

**Blended Learning Approach:** By combining rigorous theoretical instruction with intensive practical experience, RACA maximises knowledge retention and skill acquisition. Candidates leave the programme not just knowing how to assess – but demonstrably able to do so to a professional standard.

**Industry Recognised Certification:** Upon successful completion, candidates receive formal certification from EMPI Awards – a mark of distinction recognised by employers, training managers, and industry stakeholders across the vocational transport and construction logistics sectors.

The EMPI Awards RACA represents a genuine investment in professional excellence – for individual assessors, for training departments, and for the organisations that depend on rigorous, credible assessment to uphold their safety standards. If your workforce includes individuals in assessor roles, or if you are looking to formalise your own assessor competence, the RACA is the qualification that will set you apart.

Do not miss the opportunity to elevate your assessor capability, strengthen your assessment processes, and align your practice with the National Occupational Standards that underpin vocational excellence in the UK.

Whether you represent a large haulage firm, a ready-mix concrete supplier, or an independent training provider, EMPI Awards can work with you to ensure that your assessors are equipped, certified, and confident.

Contact the EMPI Awards team today to discuss your requirements, explore programme dates, and take the first step on your journey towards assessor excellence. Our team is ready to guide you through the enrolment process and answer any questions you may have about the RACA programme.

Enquiries are welcomed from both individual candidates and organisations wishing to enrol multiple assessor – please contact us to discuss your needs.

# Drive Competence. Deliver Safety.

## Get In Touch

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