



SIA Approved Contractor Scheme

Security Industry Authority (SIA) Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS)

The Private Security Industry Act 2001 requires the SIA to establish a "system of inspection for providers of security services, under which those organisations who satisfactorily meet the agreed standards may be registered as approved, and may advertise themselves as such".

The objective of the SIA's Approved Contractor scheme is to raise performance standards and to assist the private security industry in developing new opportunities. The scheme is voluntary and was developed in consultation with representatives from across the industry; it only covers those parts of the industry that are regulated by the SIA and the Private Security Industry Act.

The activities defined as licensable by the Act are:

- Manned guarding, which includes:
 - Cash and Valuables in Transit
 - Close Protection
 - Door Supervision
 - Public Space Surveillance (CCTV)
 - Security Guard
- Immobilisation, restriction and removal of vehicles
- Key Holding

The Private Security Industry Act 2001 (as amended) allows for SIA licensing of private investigation activities, security consultants and precognition agents.



Companies applying for the ACS must show that they are committed to delivering a quality service to its customer's that is based on established high standards or a 'code of practice'.

Where a British Standard Code of Practice exists for a particular industry sector (as determined by the SIA) organisations seeking approval for the sector should work to it.

- BS7960 Door Supervision
- BS7958 Public Space Surveillance (CCTV)
- BS7499 Security Guarding and mobile patrols
- BS7984 Key Holding
- BS7872 Cash In transit - collection and delivery
- BS8406 Event stewarding and crowd control
- BS8507-1 Close protection within the UK
- BS8507-2 Close protection outside of the UK
- BS8517-1 General purpose security dogs
- BS8517-2 Use of detection dogs
- BS8523 Security wardens
- BS8549 Security consultants
- SSAIB Passport Certificate Scheme

SSAIB also offer:

- ISO9001 Quality management system
- ISO14001 Environmental management system
- ISO18001 Health and safety management system

You are not required to hold other certifications (such as BS EN ISO9001 and/or product certification such as BS7499 and BS7858) to become an Approved Contractor.

Currently there are no Codes of Practice for the following, therefore alternative guidance is available:

- Immobilisation, restriction and removal of vehicles
- Private Investigators

SSAIB can give guidance on the SIA ACS process.

SSAIB also offers a Passport route to ACS approval, for information about the SSAIB Passport Certificate Scheme (PCS) please request and view the PCS datasheet.

For additional information about each sector listed above please contact the Scheme Manager, Manned Services on 07870 336029 or 0191 296 3242 and request the relevant datasheet.

More information about the ACS process can be found on www.ssaib.org



SSAIB is an Approved Assessing Body for the SIA ACS

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