

Information Bulletin IB17-007

May 30, 2017

INTERPRETATION
Power Engineers Regulation
Subsections 16.1(1)(b)(i),(ii); and 17.1(1)(b)(i),(ii)
Qualifying Experience for Power Engineers

Introduction

Subsections 16.1(1)(b)(i),(ii); and 17.1(1)(b)(i),(ii) of the *Power Engineers Regulation* establish (AR 85/2003), have options identified for satisfying the experience requirements for 1st and 2nd Class Power Engineer's Certificates of Competency. Because the options are related by the word "or", each option stands independent.

This Information Bulletin supersedes Information Bulletin IB11-001 which has been withdrawn.

Interpretation

Despite the implications of the word "or", it is acceptable to combine portions of the experience options in Sections 16.1(b)(i) and (ii) and 17.1(b)(i) and (ii) of the *Power Engineers Regulation* to obtain an equivalent combination of experience for certification at the First Class or Second Class level respectively.

Rationale

This combining of equivalent experience allows individuals to accept positions of greater responsibility without discounting experience that has already been earned.

Background

A couple of examples will illustrate this concept:

Under Section 16.1, the required experience can be satisfied by 30 months as described in **16.1(1)(b)(i)** **or** by 45 months as described in **16.1(1)(b)(ii)**. An equivalent combination could be 1/3 (10 months) of experience under section **16.1(1)(b)(i)** plus 2/3 (30 months) of experience under Section **16.1(1)(b)(ii)**. The logic is that 1/3 plus 2/3 is equivalent to the whole of either option.

Under Section 17.1, the required experience can be satisfied by 24 months as described in **17.1(1)(b)(i)** **or** by 36 months as described in **17.1(1)(b)(ii)**. An equivalent combination could be 1/2 (12 months) of experience under section **17.1(1)(b)(i)** plus 1/2

(18 months) of experience under Section **17.1(1)(b)(ii)**. Once again $\frac{1}{2}$ of one option plus $\frac{1}{2}$ of the other option is equivalent to the whole of either option.

Other possible combinations of this additive experience will be approved after the combination is assessed and accepted by ABSA as equivalent. In considering months of experience, only complete months of full time employment in the position, are used in the calculation for equivalency.

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