

## Background

The British Technical Council of the Motor and Petroleum Industries, known as the BTC, was formed in 1963 as an association of member companies representing the vehicle, engine, and component manufacturers, test equipment and reference fuels suppliers, oil and additive companies, coolant manufacturers, and independent test laboratories. In July 2001 the BTC registered in the UK as a company limited by guarantee. In July 2005 BTC changed its name to BTC Testing Advisory Group, to reflect its main interests and area of operation. Further details of the history and background can be obtained from the BTC web-site [www.btctag.org](http://www.btctag.org)

The main roles of the BTC are to be a permanent body for technical consultation between the industries mentioned above, and to enable joint research, testing, and technical cooperation between the member companies. Through a hierarchy of groups and sub-groups, representatives of the BTC member companies address numerous, specific technical areas, and one such area is technician training.

The Technician Training Initiative, known as the TTI, is a permanent sub-group of the Testing Advisory Group central committee, and focuses on maintaining, developing, and recognising the competence of technicians working in the industry. The BTC TTI achieves this goal by initially developing the standards for technician performance and knowledge, and subsequently accrediting technicians who can show they have the appropriate training and experience to meet the standards. It is important to appreciate that the BTC TTI develops the standards and provides accreditation, but it is the responsibility of the member companies or the individuals concerned to provide training and/or further experience where the standards have not yet been met. The BTC TTI can however, use the experience it has within its member company representatives to suggest suitable training courses. Please refer to your Assessor, or to the BTC Secretariat (contactable via the BTC Web Site at [www.btctag.org](http://www.btctag.org))