

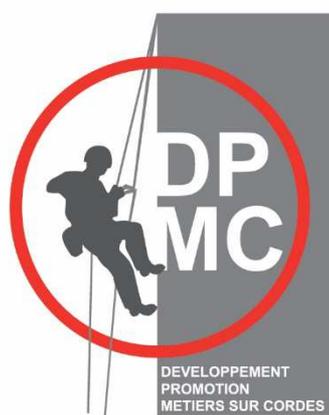


**Professional Qualification Certificate (CQP)  
ROPE ACCESS WORKER  
(LEVEL 1)**

**TECHNICAL FILE**

**REFERENCE DOCUMENT FOR ACTIVITIES AND  
SKILLS**

**SKILLS EVALUATION METHODS**



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# PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE (CQP) ROPE ACCESS WORKER (LEVEL 1)

## **Has certification from SFETH (Syndicat français des entreprises de travail en hauteur [French union of work-at-height companies])**

Certification applicable to any person performing rope access, permanently or occasionally. All company sizes, from a personal business to the largest companies.

### **General job description**

A rope access worker works at sites where work at height is carried out in difficult access locations where the work can only be safely performed using ropes, as determined by a preliminary risk analysis.

This worker works mainly in construction, industry, and public works.

### **Category of the level 1 rope access worker CQP qualification**

Worker classification in the National Collective Bargaining Agreement (CCN): CCN Construction Work Level I Position 2 Coefficient 170 / CCN Public Works Level I Position 2 Coefficient 110

### **Concerned occupation, function, or job**

#### **ROPE ACCESS WORKER**

Closest ROME (operational list of French occupations and jobs) sheet: I1501 - Work at considerable height

The CQP1 rope access worker is part of a team of certified level 2 rope access technicians. Within the limits of his (or her) prerogatives, he is independent in his movements and in the execution of his assigned tasks, but is not independent in decision-making related to the technical choices to secure rope access or the work station. As a result, he is accompanied on each of his at-height operations by at least one CQP2 rope access technician, who provides the necessary instructions for proper and safe execution of the worksite task.

### **Regulations**

French Decree 2004/924 of 1st September 2004 on the use of work equipment provided for temporary work at height (implementation circular 2005-08) / European directive 2001/45/CE of 27th June 2001.

SST (workplace first-aider)

## **INTERFACE WITH OTHER CERTIFICATIONS**

*Characteristics specific to the CQP and complementarity with other existing certifications.*

- Prerequisite: SST (workplace first-aider) certification
- The Level 1 Rope Access worker CQP is not equivalent, even partially, with other certifications
- The Level 2 Rope Access Technician (Skilled Worker) CQP is the higher-level certification in the same professional field as the Level 1 Rope Access worker CQP
- CQP1 is a prerequisite for CQP2

### **Comparable foreign certifications:**

- There are informal agreements between certain European countries within ECRA (European Committee for Rope Access). This organisation established comparative information for the national certifications in Germany / Norway / Spain / France. There is no formal agreement for the moment, but a comparative chart and matrix have been drawn up. The relevant certifications are: ANETVA level 2; FISAT level 2; Soft level 2.
- Concerning the British IRATA system, the prerogatives of their level 2 and its technical content are similar to CQP1.



# CPNE CQP1 ID SHEET

**C.P.N.E**

ID sheet

Commissions Paritaires Nationales de l'Emploi : national employment  
commissions for construction and public works

CQP No. 035-2002 09 24

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE (CQP)

### Rope Access Worker - Level 1

CQP number	035-2002 09 24
Expiration date	December 2021
Created by the CPNE on	24 September 2002

Authority responsible for the certification:	CPNE Commissions Paritaires Nationales de l'Emploi conjointes du Bâtiment et des Travaux Publics 33 avenue Kléber 75784 Paris Cedex
Manager:	François Falise +33 (0)1 40 69 53 41 falisef@national.ffbatiment.fr

File support:	FNTP – FÉDÉRATION NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS (FRENCH NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PUBLIC WORKS) FFB – FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE DU BÂTIMENT (FRENCH CONSTRUCTION FEDERATION)	
Responsible entity:	SFETH – Syndicat Français des Entreprises de Travaux en Hauteur (French union of work-at-height companies)	9 rue de Berri 75008 PARIS Tel: +33 (0)1.44.13.31.44/+33 (0)4 90 79 50 69

Business sector:	CONSTRUCTION AND PUBLIC WORKS
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Job description:	<p>A rope access worker is a skilled worker at sites where work at height is carried out in difficult access locations. The work can only be safely performed using ropes. He or she works mainly in construction, industry, and public works.</p> <p>He or she has attained the first level in training for rope access techniques and for worksite safety in the field of construction and public works. This corresponds to the minimum knowledge and skills required for safe working conditions.</p>
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Qualification name:	Rope Access worker - Level 1
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Worker classification:	Level 2 - CNN (National Collective Bargaining Agreement), construction work Level 2 - Position 1 - CNN, public works <i>Employees whose earlier positioning is greater than the minimums above benefit from a 6-point increase for the coefficient.</i>
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## OPPORTUNITY - CONTEXT OF CQP CREATION

### Rope access technician, a profession

A rope access technician is doubly skilled, able to perform a task at height with the support of ropes. This requires technical skills for using ropes to set up an ergonomic work station in a difficult access location, so that the necessary equipment and materials for performing the task can be put in place. This activity is framed by the company's risk assessment.

It is based on a corpus of knowledge and skills acquired through training and/or professional experience, but also on the rules of the profession, which include behavioural and technical best practices.

*Service and function are important ideas in the work of a rope access technician, who links a social practice with the mastery of technical skills (professional technique and experience know-how) and can thus earn his or her livelihood from this activity.*

### Opportunity study

The profession is developing through various sectors, mainly construction, public works, and industry, but also cleaning, events, and shows. Whatever the sector, the skills of rope access technicians are needed where conditions of access are difficult and the work can only be performed using ropes.

The professionalisation of rope access technicians has led to the constant progression of the profession in the sectors mentioned above. In France, jobs are distributed over the entire country, but tend to concentrate in highly urbanised areas, on industrial sites, or in mountainous areas, where the relief makes access difficult.

Training is one of the pillars for acquiring these skills together with rope access techniques, which are constantly evolving and make technology and regulatory watch crucial for companies.

### Professional development and the certification

Organisation and professionalisation of rope access technician training started in 1995, with the goal of creating a professional qualification certification (CQP) for rope access technicians in 1996. Over the past 20 years, the professional branch brought changes to training to include diverse trainee profiles and to foster the possibility of career development. In addition to rope access technicians with caving, climbing, or mountaineering backgrounds, the profession now includes more and more personnel from construction, public works and other sectors, who train in rope access techniques to enhance their initial skills.

Moreover, the profession of rope access technician and work activities in difficult access locations were strengthened by the application of a the French decree (2004/09/24 of 1 September 2004) transposing the European directive 2001/45/CE of 27th June 2001 and a circular of 27 June 2005. This legislation and the publication of a practical professional guide provided added structure to the profession. Similarly, the regulatory and technical requirements that the profession adheres to are now applied from the training phase with the initiative of the DPMC (French organisation for the Development and Promotion of rope access technicians) to support rope access training companies (TC), notably by setting up a "Quality" reference document to accredit TCs registered with CNEFOP (French national council on employment, training, and professional orientation).

Finally, a constant effort is made to maintain balance between supply and demand, so that qualified technicians can find work in companies. This involves basing certification reference documents on the skills company executives expect according to qualification level, based on a professional reference document (Reference Document for Activities and Skills). Thus, the last CQP1 reference document took into account companies' need for qualified personnel to work under the direction of experienced CQP2 rope access technicians, which justified adjusting the skill levels between CQP1 and CQP2, the latter qualification held by too few technicians to meet job market and company needs.

The reference certification of the CQP2 rope access technician (skilled worker status in France) is strengthened in the new rope access technician CQP system where the CQP1 holder must increase skills through training and certification, alongside professional experience.

The reference documents have not been completely revised, but rather adjusted in terms of skills and training content:

- Changes in techniques (e.g. personal protective equipment/PPE and simpler evacuation techniques for level 1)
- The jobs held, and the distinct positioning of a CQP1 compared to a CQP2 (main rope access technician qualification)
- Minimum training hours and assessment

# REFERENCE DOCUMENT FOR ACTIVITIES AND SKILLS

## BC1 - Skill Set 1

MAIN ACTIVITIES	ASSOCIATED SKILLS
<b>SKILL SET 1 _ ROPE ACCESS AND AT-HEIGHT WORK TECHNIQUES</b>	
BC1.A1 / Help install rope access, progression, and holding systems to contribute to work station ergonomics	<p>C1. Evaluate standard knots</p> <p>C2. Make the commonly used knots that are standard in the profession</p> <p>C3. Help set up anchor points</p> <p>C4. Help install ropes and/or fall-from-height personal protective systems from defined anchor points to allow access and installation of the work station</p>
BC1.A2 / Progression at height in simple situations using ropes and/or fall-from-height PPE	<p>C5. Moving with help of the structure / ground at height using appropriate progression techniques</p> <p>C6. Lateral movement, descent, and ascent using progression techniques while suspended</p> <p>C7. Back up a technician's progression against an existing structure using appropriate equipment and technique</p>

## BC2 - Skill Set 2

MAIN ACTIVITIES	ASSOCIATED SKILLS
<b>SKILL SET 2 _ ORGANISATION OF ROPE ACCESS OPERATIONS</b>	
BC2.A1 / Apply worksite risk prevention measures	<p>C8. Apply work station risk prevention means</p> <p>C9. Apply procedures for the work-at-height operation, detect any deviations from reality, and inform supervisor</p> <p>C10. Continuously monitor that prevention equipment remains in place while performing a task</p>
BC2.A2 / Use standard equipment (PPE and accessories) to perform a rope access operation	<p>C11. Safely move and use the tools, equipment, and material appropriate to the task</p> <p>C12. Use progression, holding, and fall-from-height protection equipment for the rope access operation</p> <p>C13. Check the function of the progression and fall protection equipment during use</p>
BC2.A3 / Set up the work station according to the constraints induced by performing a defined work task	<p>C14. Help set up the work station to perform a task ergonomically</p> <p>C15. Safely evacuate the work station</p>

BC2.A4 / Communicate with the actors involved in the work task

C16. Communicate with the team

C17. Communicate with the other actors involved in the task to be performed

### BC3 - Skill Set 3

MAIN ACTIVITIES	ASSOCIATED SKILLS
<b>SKILL SET 3 _ PARTICIPATION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND/OR OPERATIONS</b>	
BC3.A1 / Apply a simple rescue method	C18. Evacuate a technician who is using a fall arrest system by means of a standardised evacuation system C19. Use rescue techniques for a rope access victim in a simple work situation



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## SKILLS EVALUATION METHODS

Skill set	Name	Tests
<b>BC1</b>	<b>ROPE ACCESS AND AT-HEIGHT WORK TECHNIQUES</b>	<b>MCQ (multiple choice questionnaire) - At-height and Rope Access Progression - Rigging Equipment</b>
<b>BC2</b>	<b>ORGANISATION OF ROPE ACCESS OPERATIONS</b>	<b>MCQ - Application Worksite</b>
<b>BC3</b>	<b>EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND/OR OPERATIONS</b>	<b>MCQ - Rescue Evacuation</b>

**The candidate obtains his or her CQP when the 3 skill sets are validated.**

## VALIDATION VIA SKILL SETS

### SKILLS EVALUATIONS

#### BC1 / ROPE ACCESS AND AT-HEIGHT WORK TECHNIQUES

SKILLS OR CAPABILITIES EVALUATED	EVALUATION METHODS / Tests				
	MCQ	At-height & Rope access Progression	Rigging Equipment		
<b>BC1.A1</b> Help install rope access, progression, and holding systems to contribute to work station ergonomics					
C1. Evaluate standard knots	X		X		
C2. Make the commonly used knots that are standard in the profession			X		
C3. Help set up anchor points	X		X		
C4. Help install ropes and/or fall-from-height personal protective systems from defined anchor points to allow access and installation of the work station			X		
<b>BC1.A2</b> Progression at height in simple situations using ropes and/or fall-from-height PPE	MCQ	At-height Rope Progression	Rigging Equipment		
C5. Moving with help of the structure / ground at height using appropriate progression techniques	X	X			
C6. Lateral movement, descent, and ascent using progression techniques while suspended	X	X			
C7. Back up a technician's progression against an existing structure using appropriate equipment and technique	X	X			

<b>BC2 / ORGANISATION OF ROPE ACCESS OPERATIONS</b>					
<b>SKILLS OR CAPABILITIES EVALUATED</b>	<b>EVALUATION METHODS / Tests</b>				
<b>BC2.A1</b> Apply worksite risk prevention measures	MCQ			Application Worksite	
C8. Apply work station risk prevention means	X			X	
C9. Apply procedures for the work-at-height operation, detect any deviations from reality, and inform supervisor				X	
C10. Continuously monitor that prevention equipment remains in place while performing a task				X	
<b>BC2.A2</b> Use standard equipment (PPE and accessories) to perform a rope access operation	MCQ			Application Worksite	
C11. Safely move and use the tools, equipment, and material appropriate to the task	X			X	
C12. Use progression, holding, and fall-from-height protection equipment for the rope access operation				X	
C13. Check the upkeep of the progression and fall protection equipment during use	X			X	
<b>BC2.A3</b> Set up the work station according to the constraints induced by performing a defined work task	MCQ			Application Worksite	
C14. Help set up the work station to perform a task ergonomically	X			X	
C15. Safely evacuate the work station	X			X	
<b>BC2.A4</b> Communicate with the actors involved in the work task	MCQ			Application Worksite	
C16. Communicate with the team				X	
C17. Communicate with the other actors involved in task to be performed	X			X	

## BC3 / EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND/OR OPERATIONS

SKILLS OR CAPABILITIES EVALUATED	EVALUATION METHODS / Tests				
<b>BC3.A1</b> Apply a simple rescue method	MCQ				Rescue Evacuation
C18. Evacuate a technician who is using a fall arrest system by means of a standardised evacuation system	X				X
C19. Use rope access victim rescue techniques in a simple work situation					X

## CERTIFICATION REFERENCE DOCUMENT / SKILLS VALIDATION

CQP Objective / Legend				
Improves upon technique - Transferable skill				T
Applies technique - Level achieved			A	
Partially applies technique - Can do better - Performs technique under supervision		SC		
Degrades technique - Does not know how to perform the technique	D			

SKILLS OR CAPABILITIES EVALUATED	SECONDARY SKILLS	KEY SKILLS		
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**Example:** Help install rope access, progression, and holding systems to contribute to work station ergonomics.

C1. Evaluate standard knots	D	S C	A	T
C7. Back up a technician's progression against an existing structure using appropriate equipment and technique	D	S C	A	T

For KEY skills, the required level is indicated in blue

For SECONDARY skills, the required level is indicated in grey

SKILLS OR CAPABILITIES EVALUATED	SECONDARY SKILLS	KEY SKILLS	
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## BC1 / ROPE ACCESS AND AT-HEIGHT WORK TECHNIQUES

### BC1.A1 / Help install rope access, progression, and holding systems to contribute to work station ergonomics

C1. Evaluate standard knots	D	S C	A	T
C2. Make the commonly used knots that are standard in the profession	D	S C	A	T
C3. Help set up anchor points	D	S C	A	T
C4. Help install ropes and/or fall-from-height personal protective systems from defined anchor points to allow access and installation of the work station	D	S C	A	T

### BC1.A2 / Progression at height in simple situations using ropes and/or fall-from-height PPE

C5. Moving with help of the structure / ground at height using appropriate progression techniques	D	S C	A	T
C6. Lateral movement, descent, and ascent using progression techniques while suspended	D	S C	A	T
C7. Back up a technician's progression against an existing structure using appropriate equipment and technique	D	S C	A	T

## BC2 / ORGANISATION OF ROPE ACCESS OPERATIONS

### BC2.A1 / Apply worksite risk prevention measures

C8. Apply work station risk prevention means	D	S C	A	T
C9. Apply procedures for the work-at-height operation, detect any deviations from reality, and inform supervisor	D	S C	A	T
C10. Continuously monitor that prevention equipment remains in place while performing a task	D	S C	A	T

### BC2.A2 / Use standard equipment (PPE and accessories) to perform a rope access operation

C11. Safely move and use the tools, equipment, and material appropriate to the task	D	S C	A	T
C12. Use progression, holding, and fall-from-height protection equipment for the rope access operation	D	S C	A	T
C13. Check the upkeep of the progression and fall protection equipment during use	D	S C	A	T

### BC2.A3 / Set up the work station according to the constraints induced by performing a defined work task

C14. Help set up the work station to perform a task ergonomically	D	S C	A	T
C15. Safely evacuate the work station	D	S C	A	T

### BC2.A4 / Communicate with the actors involved in the work task

C16. Communicate with the team	D	S C	A	T
C17. Communicate with the other actors involved in task to be performed	D	S C	A	T

## BC3 / PARTICIPATION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND/OR OPERATIONS

### BC3.A1 / Apply a simple rescue method

C18. Evacuate a technician who is using a fall arrest system by means of a standardised evacuation system	D	S C	A	T
C19. Use rope access victim rescue techniques in a simple work situation	D	S C	A	T

## TYPE OF EVALUATION DEPENDING ON SKILLS, APTITUDES, AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE CHECKED

Every skill set is evaluated based on the test types below, depending on the type of skills to check (see pages 8 to 10, “Skills Evaluation Methods” table).

### 1. MCQ (multiple choice questionnaire) for each of the 3 skill sets

It is used to check the candidate’s level of general theoretical and technical knowledge in addition to the evaluation of his or her observable skills via the practical tests.

### 2. Skill set 1

2.1. **Rope progression**, this test certifies the candidate’s aptitude in progression according to best practices, in all circumstances and at-height, using different types of fall-from-height PPE. The candidate performs an itinerary at height and must safely negotiate technical difficulties involving worksite equipment configurations that he or she could be faced with in various sectors.

2.2. **Equipment / Rigging**, this test certifies the candidate’s ability to: make knots and set up rope attachments according to professional standards; rig and unrig ropes to reach the work station in a simple work situation. Under the supervision of a CQP2 rope access technician : the candidate moving easily on his feet with help of the structure or the ground, horizontally installs and uninstalls ropes ; using rope access techniques, he vertically installs and uninstalls ropes on identified anchors with the installation of “deviations”, “rebelays”, and “rope protections”.

### 3. Skill Set 2, Application Worksite

Under the direction of a more experienced rope access technician (the examiner), this test certifies the candidate’s ability to:

- apply worksite risk assessment measures
- work at height safely ;
- rig and unrig ropes in simple work situations ;
- ergonomically set up the work station to perform a task ;
- safely haul or lower the materials and equipment necessary to perform a simple work task.

### 4. Skill Set 3, Evacuation and Rescue

This test certifies the candidate’s ability to provide assistance or to rescue an incapacitated workmate in a simple worksite configuration (direct evacuation to the ground). The evaluation is conducted according to the Rope Access Technician Specific Rescue Operation Plan (direct access and evacuation) prepared by the DPMC technical committee.

#### Professional field discussion with assessors : jury

During the practical tests and usually after an exercise, the jury may ask the candidate to justify his (or her) technical choices, if it deems doing so determinative. It may also ask him to describe the difficulties encountered and express whether he feels the options selected were the right ones, his manoeuvres were efficient, and his performance was good. Depending on the case, this exchange between the candidate and the jury verifies and completes the evaluation of expected skills by means of a pre-established scheme.

#### Training assessment

Considering the elements provided by approved training companies during training evaluations following evaluation supports defined by the DPMC

For an objective evaluation of the expected skills, rope access professionals and experts have drafted the associated criteria for each skill.

## Example

BC1 Skill Set 1 – ROPE ACCESS TECHNIQUES					
		BC1-A1		Help install rope access, progression, and holding systems to contribute to work station ergonomics	Lev 1
		KEY	C1	Evaluate standard knots	Lev 1
				The quality of the main knots standardised by the profession is evaluated.	Crit1
				The residual strength of a knotted rope is evaluated.	Crit2

## JURY

The evaluation is performed by a joint jury with equal representation. It is made up of qualified professionals and includes both company and employee representatives.

To conduct the evaluation based on rope access technician CQP tests, the jury members are certified by the DPMC. They are required to have in-depth knowledge of the professional context and the jobs for which the Level 1 Rope Access Worker CQP is intended. They undergo jury training before completing a process for work in pairs with a certified assessor.

For the practical tests, they hold French CQP2 (or CQP3, under the old system) rope access technician certification.

The day of the assessment, they will have:

- The Practical Jury Guide (procedural manual for validating rope access technician CQP certifications) for the jury members
- CQP ID sheet
- reference document for activities and skills
- evaluation criteria and supports (skill evaluation tables), MCQ, list of key skills that the assessors for the certification session are required to check
- Practical Guides: Knot and anchors rigging Guide; Operation Plans and Specialised Rope Access Rescue (SRR) Guide.

The jury members assess the candidate's skill level using the evaluation table for the required CQP skills and give a favourable or unfavourable opinion as to whether the CPNE should award the CQP.

## JURY DELIBERATIONS

Following the tests, the jury meets for concerted deliberations, during which the jury members measure the candidate's knowledge, assess skill level for each test, and correct the MCQ.

They make their assessment collectively for each skill set. All faults and comments are discussed by all jury members present, to accurately gauge the candidate's skill level and the seriousness of any faults.

The deliberations are a particularly important exchange to arrive at a decision that will validate or invalidate each of the 3 skill sets. The joint jury members thus have an important responsibility in that they have a degree of power over the candidate's professional future.

## PARTIAL VALIDATION

Depending on the skills and knowledge validated, and to enable the candidate to obtain the complete certification in the best conditions, the jury or the DPMC advises him or her on how to prepare for any missing elements in the 3 skill sets.

The validation of a candidate's skill sets remains valid for one year. In the year following his (or her) training, he can retest on the non-validated skill set(s), which requires appearing before another jury.

Beyond one year, for safety reasons and to maintain skills and knowledge, the candidate must present a technical positioning report for the previously validated skill set(s) to the jury. The technical positioning will be prepared by a training companies approved by the profession.

## PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW

Upon receiving a CQP1 candidature, the certifying organisation (DPMC) sends a complete file to the future candidate and, if applicable, to his or her company, including:

- this “Technical File \_ Reference Document for Activities and Skills” for CQP1
- Reference Document for Activities and Skills (RAC)
- the “Implementation Methods” manual for rope access technician CQP 1&2, addressed to the candidate or the company
- CQP1 ID sheet
- list of approved training companies
- if applicable, a calendar with CQP examination dates by region

