Special Hazards Systems
Level I Content Outline

(Updated Exam Released November 2, 2026)

Technician Trainee

The candidates for NICET certification at Level I in Special Hazards Systems should have the knowledge, experience and basic skills needed to work in the industry. Under the direct supervision of a qualified technician, they identify wiring and devices and determine their purposes. They read and measure quantities, read drawings, and mount and remove devices and piping. Level I technicians have at least 6 months experience in special hazards systems.

1.1 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance

(Questions related to these tasks make up 35-45% of the exam.)

- 1.1.1 Identify system type and components. [1, 3, 4, 7, 8,11]
- 1.1.2 Check the locations of an existing system's detection, control, and mechanical components for changes. [3, 4,11]
- 1.1.3 Visually inspect a site's construction features for changes. [1, 4, 7,10]
- 1.1.4 Activate alarm initiating devices of a special hazard system. [1, 3, 8]
- 1.1.5 Determine whether container's agent quantity and/or pressure is within the documented range. [1, 4, 9]
- 1.1.6 Inspect clean agent cylinders and their discharge hoses for corrosion, physical damage, and hydrotest status. [4, 5, 6]
- 1.1.7 Visually inspect piping and hangers for physical damage. [1, 4]

1.2 Repair and Recharge

(Questions related to these tasks make up 7-17% of the exam.)

- 1.2.1 Replace damaged wires. [2, 3,15]
- 1.2.2 Replace damaged mechanical system components. [1, 4]

1.3 Installation

(Questions related to these tasks make up 15-25% of the exam.)

- 1.3.1 Obtain installation information from shop drawings. [3, 4, 8,11,16]
- 1.3.2 Install raceways and conduit. [2, 4]
- 1.3.3 Install piping for a special hazards system. [1, 3, 4]
- 1.3.4 Install air sampling piping. [3]
- 1.3.5 Mount special hazards system components. [1, 4]

1.4 System Design and Configuration

(Questions related to these tasks make up 8-18% of the exam.)

- 1.4.1 Derive installation information from architectural and engineering plans and specifications. [3, 4]
- 1.4.2 Identify basic electrical units and components. [3,15]
- 1.4.3 Identify the purposes of standards, codes, specifications, and manufacturer-specific listings and what professions and/or roles are involved in establishing and enforcing their use. [1, 2, 3, 4, 7]

1.5 Safety

(Questions related to these tasks make up 10-20% of the exam.)

- 1.5.1 Practice personal safety on the job site. [3,12,13,14,15]

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