



## Wood Technology Ireland -Training Course

### Structural Timber - Visual Strength Grading Certification Course VSG 1-18

#### Refresher Course – Timber Strength Graders RVSG 1-18

Next Course: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Course location: Ballyhaise Agricultural College, Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan

Wood Technology Ireland (WTI) provides technical support to the timber and construction industry in Ireland through technical information, advice on timber and construction standards and training courses. WTI is supported by Coford (Council for Forest Research and Development) Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. WTI technical information and training is based on compliance with the requirements of Certification/Notified bodies such as NSAI the National Standards Authority of Ireland.

Compliance with the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) is now a legal requirement in all EU countries including Ireland. This means that all construction products must comply with the relevant EU standards. Suppliers of structural timber must ensure that the timber is strength graded, CE marked and must produce a Declaration of Performance (DoP). This applies to roofing timbers, floor joists and structural timbers used in the manufacture of roof trusses, web joists, studs for timber frame buildings and many other building products.

The WTI course provides comprehensive training for all personnel working in the timber industry and addresses the new requirements of the CPR, changes to Standards and new developments.

Timber merchants and suppliers who were previously certified to grade and stamp timber, are also invited to attend the training courses to be up-dated and eligible for re-certification to grade structural timber.

- New requirements for grading and marking of **Roofing Battens** are also included

### **Course**

### **Information**

This is an intensive but friendly and interactive practical course which covers the theory and practice of grading structural timber by visual assessment of natural characteristics in the wood. The course includes the methods used to assess the different strength reducing characteristics and how to apply the grading rules. The course is aimed at personnel working in sawmills, timber merchants, builder's providers, roof truss and timber frame manufacturer's and indeed management and quality control personnel. In addition, for sawmills who machine grade timber, the requirements for 'visual over-ride' and Factory Production Control are also covered.

The course is also applicable to quality control supervisors and personnel with responsibility for Factory Production Control (FPC) and to graders requiring a refresher course.

The course is based on the following standards;

- European Standard EN 14081: Strength Graded Structural Timber
- Irish Standard I.S.127: Visual Strength Grading- Sawn Softwoods
- UK Standard BS 4978: Visual Strength Grading of Softwood
- **NEW REQUIREMENTS:** Roofing battens: S.R.82 - Visual and Machine grading

The course will also cover other important standards and topics relevant to structural timber including moisture content and measurement, timber size and dimensional tolerances, strength classes, softwood timber species identification, the use of span tables, the EU construction products regulation (CPR), Declaration of Performance (DoP) and basic requirements for a factory production control system (FPC).

Those who successfully complete the course will be equipped with the skills necessary to grade structural timber and apply grading stamps containing the CE mark, subject to the company becoming certified by NSAI. Candidates who successfully complete the course and the practical examination on the final day will receive the following certificate from Wood Technology Ireland:

**'Certificate of Proficiency in Visual Strength Grading and Grading Operations'**

Timber strength graders who were trained prior to 2013 and who wish to be updated to comply with current regulations should attend the **two-day refresher training course**.

## **Visual Strength Grading Certification Course**

**Course date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2018**

## **Refresher Course for Graders:**

**Course date: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2018**

### **Course Fees:**

Course 1: Visual Strength Grading Certification Course (4-day): €1250

Course 2: Refresher Course for Graders (2-day): €625

### **Booking:**

Places on the course will be filled on a first come first served basis. To secure a place, please complete the attached [Booking form](#).

**(Note: bookings for the course must be direct with WTI and not through the college or through NSAI, please see attached [Booking Form](#)).**

### **Accommodation:**

Participants companies are responsible for their own accommodation costs. Local venues include:

Avalon B&B - Coolboyogue, Clones Road, Butlersbridge (1.8km from college)

Fortview House B&B – Drumbran, Cloverhill, Cavan (3.7 km from college)

Hotel Kilmore – Dublin Road, Cavan (6.3km from college)

Cavan Crystal Hotel – Dublin Road, Cavan (6.5km from college)

**Catering:**

The course fee includes –

Morning coffee break: tea /coffee /scones

Lunch: soup, main course / desert (daily menu choice provided)

Afternoon break: tea/coffee /scones

Bottled water provided daily

**How to get there:**

From Cavan town:

At Dublin Road Roundabout, Cavan. Take the exit onto N3 (Ballyshannon / Enniskillen / Belturbet / Monaghan). Turn right onto the R212 for Ballyhaise / Redhills. Continue through Ballyhaise for about 1 Km. Ballyhaise Agricultural College will be on the left.

Ballyhaise College Sat Nav Co-ordinates: 54.0505° N, 7.3114° W

*Kind Regards,  
Wood Technology Ireland*

*Caroline Davis  
Course Administrator*

*Bob Davis  
Course Instructor*

*Web: [www.woodtechnologyireland.ie](http://www.woodtechnologyireland.ie)*

*Email: [training@wti.ie](mailto:training@wti.ie)*

*Phone: 087 688 6866*