



INSTITUTE OF THE  
MOTOR INDUSTRY

IMI ACCREDITATION

# LIGHT VEHICLE INSPECTION

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## What is IMI Accreditation?

IMI Accreditation is a practical, non-academic way to demonstrate individual capability, providing independent proof of current competence, knowledge and skills.

Focused on the Light Vehicle area of the automotive sector, IMI Accreditation encompasses everyone within this area, from individuals working directly on vehicles to those advising customers or managing a dealership. Three different types of accreditation reflect the diverse range of roles within the motor industry: Technical, Customer Facing and Management

Accreditation typically takes just one day to achieve (depending on the specific route), with individuals assessed against industry-agreed standards. Each accreditation route is designed using best practice techniques, and offers multiple career development options for a specific job role.

## Accreditation is available for the following routes:

- Technical
  - Air Conditioning
  - Autoglazing
  - Cosmetic Repair
  - Digital Audio Broadcasting
  - Electric Vehicle
  - Fast Fit
  - Light Vehicle Maintenance & Repair
  - Light Vehicle Inspection
  - Mechanical Electrical Trim
  - Motorcycle
  - Paint
  - Panel
  - Roadside
  - Vehicle Damage Assessor
- Customer Facing
  - Customer Service
  - Parts
  - Sales
- Management
  - Management

Once an individual has passed all the required practical and knowledge-based modules in a specific route, they will receive a certificate of achievement which is valid for three years.



## IMI Accreditation benefits

IMI Accreditation was created to help the motor industry keep on top of constant, rapid changes in technology, legislation and working methods, by encouraging and measuring the current competence, knowledge and ability of those working within it. By providing proof of current competence, IMI Accreditation benefits both individuals and their employers.

Those gaining accreditation receive:

- An IMI Accredited certificate
- Inclusion on IMI Professional Register
- Industry-wide recognition of their skills and abilities
- Confidence
- Advice and guidance for development
- An opportunity for career progression

While the employer of an accredited individual benefits from:

- Confidence in the individual's ability
- Eligibility for British Standard/DVSA requirements (depending on routes)
- Increased customer visibility on the IMI Professional Register
- Higher work output and fewer mistakes
- Public confidence in abilities

## Industry Recognition through the IMI Professional Register

The IMI Professional Register is an industry-wide database of professionals in the motor industry. The Register is promoted to consumers as a place to find trustworthy professionals who have proven their skills and competence within specialist areas of the industry. IMI Accredited individuals are automatically included on the IMI Professional Register.

## Routes to Accreditation

There are two routes to gaining IMI Accredited status: Full Assessment, and Conversion\*. Full Assessment involves the completion of all practical and knowledge-based assessments at each level. Conversion enables an individual to use existing qualifications to gain exemption from specific modules.

IMI Accreditation continually evolves to meet the changing needs of the industry, with each accreditation valid for three years, after which time an individual is required to undertake a new assessment either at the same level, next career level or a different route in order to prove their current competence.

IMI Accreditations are delivered through the IMI approved centre network, and you can find your nearest centre or explore assessment routes at [www.imiawards.org.uk](http://www.imiawards.org.uk).



### Further Information

For further information on any of the accreditation routes, please visit [www.theimi.org.uk/ata](http://www.theimi.org.uk/ata). Alternatively call 01992 511521 to contact IMI directly.

### Who is the LV Inspection route for?

The IMI Light Vehicle Inspection route is intended for technicians whose job role involves the inspection, maintenance and repair of light vehicles.

There is one level within Light Vehicle Inspection:

- **Inspection Technician**

The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least three years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.

### LV Inspection Route Structure

Those wishing to achieve accreditation will be required to use the following method:

- **Full Assessment**

For those wishing to retain their accreditation there are two options, these are:

- **Full Assessment**
- or
- **AOM Update**

**Note:** In order to re-accredit using 'AOM Updates' (Assessed Outcome Modules) the candidate's accreditation must remain valid throughout the assessments and until all of the prescribed AOMs have been passed. Should the accreditation expire beforehand, the candidate will be required to re-take a 'full assessment'.



**LV Inspection Route Structure**

This level requires the technician to complete the following modules:

Emission System - Inspection	AOM 071
Electrical Systems - Inspection	AOM 072
Braking Systems - Inspection	AOM 073
Steering & Suspension System - Inspection	AOM 074
Vehicle Structure - Inspection*	AOM 075
Vehicle Appraisal - Inspection	AOM 076

This will normally be a one-day assessment.

\***Note:** this module is a knowledge only assessment.

**Inspection Technician**

**AOM Update** Reaccreditation only

This level requires the technician to complete the following modules:

Emission System - Inspection	AOM 071
Electrical Systems - Inspection	AOM 072
Vehicle Appraisal - Inspection	AOM 076

This may either be achieved through a one-day assessment or may be spread over the duration of the individual's existing IMI accreditation.



<b>Accreditation Module Title</b>	Emission System - Inspection
<b>Module Code</b>	ATA - AOM - 071
<b>Practical Assessment Time</b>	1.0 hour
<b>On-line Knowledge Test</b>	K - 071
<b>IMI AOM Level</b>	3
<b>Module Overview</b>	<p>This module is to ensure that the candidate has the ability to carry out emission testing on light vehicles fitted with either petrol or diesel engines.</p> <p>The candidate will be able to use the appropriate vehicle and / or equipment manufacturer information to identify the processes / techniques required to test, diagnose and rectify vehicle emission faults.</p>
<b>Candidate Profile</b>	<p>This module is intended for technicians working within maintenance and repair vehicle workshop. The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least 3 years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.</p>
<b>Links with Accreditation Routes and Modules</b>	
This module features in:	
<b>IMI Accreditation Route</b>	<b>IMI Accreditation Level</b>
Light Vehicle Inspection	Technician



Skills Requirements	
The candidate must demonstrate the ability to:	
1.1	Use emission equipment when testing vehicles with a petrol engine
1.2	Use emission equipment when testing vehicles with a diesel engine
1.3	Accurately analyse emission testing data from vehicles with a petrol engine
1.4	Use diagnostic equipment and interpret live data correctly to determine the cause of emission system faults
1.5	Accurately analyse emission testing data from vehicles with a diesel engine vehicles
1.6	Carryout the necessary calibration of emission test equipment prior to testing a vehicle
1.7	Use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
1.8	Follow health and safety guidelines
1.9	Work within given time constraints

Knowledge Requirements	
The candidate must indicate a sound knowledge of:	
2.1	Diesel fuel system(s) and the associated components
2.2	Petrol fuel system(s) and the associated components
2.3	Vehicle emission systems, including system components i.e. oxygen sensor
2.4	Engine faults including symptom, effect & cause



<b>Accreditation Module Title</b>	Electrical Systems - Inspection
<b>Module Code</b>	ATA - AOM - 072
<b>Practical Assessment Time</b>	1.0 hour
<b>On-line Knowledge Test</b>	K - 072
<b>IMI AOM Level</b>	3
<b>Module Overview</b>	<p>This module is to assess the competence of the candidate's knowledge, skill and ability to check vehicle electrical systems and diagnose an electrical fault using a logical method.</p> <p>The candidate will need to access vehicle information such as component location and the appropriate electrical wiring diagrams, together with the use of electrical test equipment such as multi-meter and fault code / scan tools to diagnose the system fault. Once the electrical fault has been diagnosed, the candidate should have the ability to rectify the fault, reconfigure system components and erase fault codes to allow the candidate to check the system is functioning as per the vehicle manufacturer's original specification.</p>
<b>Candidate Profile</b>	<p>This module is intended for technicians working within maintenance and repair vehicle workshop. The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least 3 years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.</p>
<b>Links with Accreditation Routes and Modules</b>	
This module features in:	
<b>IMI Accreditation Route</b>	<b>IMI Accreditation Level</b>
Light Vehicle Inspection	Technician





Skills Requirements	
The candidate must demonstrate the ability to:	
1.1	Check all vehicle lighting – front / rear / side - including headlamps (halogen / xenon technology)
1.2	Accurately check the alignment of headlamps meets vehicle manufacturer settings
1.3	Check vehicle occupant safety systems (including SRS) meet vehicle manufacturer settings
1.4	Check vehicle instrument warning lamps and identify any immediate actions required to remedy fault(s)
1.5	Access fault codes from vehicle system(s) and interpret any information to be able to rectify a fault(s)
1.6	Accurately diagnose a vehicle electrical fault
1.7	Use electrical test equipment (such as a multi-meter) to accurately test the vehicle's electrical system
1.8	Access the appropriate wiring diagram for the vehicle's electrical system(s) under test
1.9	Correctly apply the wiring diagram to the vehicle during diagnosis of the vehicle's fault
1.10	Diagnose electrical circuit faults using at least two methods of electrical fault finding to locate an open circuit / high resistance fault
1.11	Use a logical path to accurately diagnose the vehicle's electrical fault
1.12	Use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
1.13	Follow health and safety guidelines
1.14	Work within given time constraints

Knowledge Requirements	
The candidate must indicate a sound knowledge of:	
2.1	Scan tool / diagnostic equipment
2.2	Electrical values i.e. Ohms, Amps, Volts
2.3	The correct practices when working on Hybrid - EV including safe working



<b>Accreditation Module Title</b>	Braking System - Inspection
<b>Module Code</b>	ATA - AOM - 073
<b>Practical Assessment Time</b>	1.0 hour
<b>On-line Knowledge Test</b>	K - 073
<b>IMI AOM Level</b>	3
<b>Module Overview</b>	<p>This module is to ensure that the candidate has the ability to carry out vehicle brake inspection(s) using various methods such as visual and measuring braking components using the appropriate tools and equipment (micrometer / DTI).</p> <p>The candidate should be able to use the appropriate workshop equipment (such as brake roller tester equipment), review the information to identify the processes / techniques needed to rectify brake system faults and recommend any actions required.</p>
<b>Candidate Profile</b>	<p>This module is intended for technicians working within maintenance and repair vehicle workshop. The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least 3 years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.</p>
<b>Links with Accreditation Routes and Modules</b>	
This module features in:	
<b>IMI Accreditation Route</b>	<b>IMI Accreditation Level</b>
Light Vehicle Inspection	Technician



Skills Requirements	
The candidate must demonstrate the ability to:	
1.1	Accurately analyse and interpret data from a brake roller tester
1.2	Accurately determine the serviceability of braking components - brake discs / drums
1.3	Remove road wheels and associated components to inspect wheel braking components
1.4	Identify braking components which require replacement
1.5	Use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
1.6	Follow health and safety guidelines
1.7	Work within given time constraints

Knowledge Requirements	
The candidate must indicate a sound knowledge of:	
2.1	Brake roller tester equipment
2.2	Decelerometer equipment
2.3	Brake fluid properties
2.4	The component functions within a vehicle electronically controlled braking system (electric handbrakes / ABS / ESP / TRC)



<b>Accreditation Module Title</b>	Steering & Suspension System - Inspection
<b>Module Code</b>	ATA - AOM - 074
<b>Practical Assessment Time</b>	1.0 hour
<b>On-line Knowledge Test</b>	K - 074
<b>IMI AOM Level</b>	2
<b>Module Overview</b>	<p>This module is to ensure that the candidate has the ability to carry out vehicle suspension system inspection(s) using the appropriate method, dependant on the suspension system, using the appropriate tools and equipment.</p> <p>The candidate will be able to use the appropriate workshop equipment (such as turntable plates), review the information to identify the processes / techniques needed to rectify suspension system faults and recommend any actions required.</p>
<b>Candidate Profile</b>	<p>This module is intended for technicians working within maintenance and repair vehicle workshop. The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least 3 years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.</p>
<b>Links with Accreditation Routes and Modules</b>	
This module features in:	
<b>IMI Accreditation Route</b>	<b>IMI Accreditation Level</b>
Light Vehicle Inspection	Technician



Skills Requirements	
The candidate must demonstrate the ability to:	
1.1	Inspect a variety of suspension systems including:- McPherson strut, wishbone, solid axle
1.2	Inspect vehicle suspension spring(s)
1.3	Inspect suspension dampers / shock absorbers
1.4	Identify a range of tyre wear characteristics and the identify the possible causes
1.5	Identify a range of tyres including run flat / DOR / radial / crossply
1.6	Use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
1.7	Follow health and safety guidelines
1.8	Work within given time constraints

Knowledge Requirements	
The candidate must indicate a sound knowledge of:	
2.1	Tools and equipment used in the inspection of vehicles
2.2	Wheel alignment principles including the Ackerman principle
2.3	Tyre pressure monitoring systems
2.4	All suspension systems and checking operations



Accreditation Module Title	Vehicle Structure - Inspection
Module Code	ATA - AOM - 075
Practical Assessment Time	N/A
On-line Knowledge Test	0.25 hour
IMI AOM Level	3
Module Overview	<p>This module is to ensure that the candidate has the knowledge of the vehicle construction (including the materials used), vehicle body components including fixed glazing units and the methods used to repair.</p> <p>The candidate will be able to identify areas of corrosion, the method used to check and the remedial action necessary to rectify the fault.</p> <p><i>This is a 10 question theory test.</i></p>
Candidate Profile	<p>This module is intended for technicians working within maintenance and repair vehicle workshop. The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least 3 years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.</p>
Links with Accreditation Routes and Modules	
This module features in:	
IMI Accreditation Route	IMI Accreditation Level
Light Vehicle Inspection	Technician



Knowledge Requirements	
The candidate must indicate a sound knowledge of:	
2.1	Identification of poor previous repair
2.2	The vehicle structure and load bearing devices
2.3	Vehicle structure including A, B, C, D posts
2.4	Vehicle structure corrosion and how to identify
2.5	Vehicle body repairs using cosmetic / SMART and structural repairs
2.6	Vehicle crumple zones within vehicle body construction
2.7	Tow bar fitment and operation including checking procedures
2.8	Bonded automotive glazing units such as windscreens including the security / fixing and repairing of windscreens
2.9	Occupant safety systems inc. SRS (air bags and seat belt pretensioner(s))
2.10	Driver interior controls



<b>Accreditation Module Title</b>	Vehicle Appraisal - Inspection
<b>Module Code</b>	ATA - AOM - 076
<b>Practical Assessment Time</b>	1.0 hour
<b>On-line Knowledge Test</b>	K - 076
<b>IMI AOM Level</b>	2
<b>Module Overview</b>	<p>This module is to ensure that the candidate has the ability to carry out a vehicle inspection(s) using a logical method / routine, using the appropriate workshop tools and equipment.</p> <p>The candidate will be able to identify the processes / techniques needed to rectify system faults and recommend any actions required for repair.</p>
<b>Candidate Profile</b>	<p>This module is intended for technicians working within maintenance and repair vehicle workshop. The technician must be able to work unsupervised – ideally, they should be in full time employment with at least 3 years experience to ensure they are familiar with the techniques for vehicle servicing, inspection and system(s) diagnosis.</p>
<b>Links with Accreditation Routes and Modules</b>	
This module features in:	
<b>IMI Accreditation Route</b>	<b>IMI Accreditation Level</b>
Light Vehicle Inspection	Technician





Skills Requirements	
The candidate must demonstrate the ability to:	
1.1	Carryout a vehicle inspection using a structured routine / methodology to provide consistent and accurate results
1.2	Carryout an inspection of a vehicle's body structure and determine its roadworthiness
1.3	Accurately complete inspection documentation when carrying out a vehicle inspection to ensure that the vehicle conforms to legal / legislation requirements
1.4	Use inspection documentation to accurately record vehicle faults
1.5	Answer questions on vehicle inspection routines
1.6	Complete documentation (using either hand written or electronic format) to enable the transmission of clear communication of vehicle faults to others
1.7	Carry out an inspection of a vehicle and its component(s) to ensure that they operate / function as intended by the vehicle manufacturer
1.8	Identify components and their location on the vehicle
1.9	Advise when components remain serviceable yet require attention either in the immediate / medium/long term
1.10	Identify vehicle components and possible faults associated with those components
1.11	Access relevant vehicle inspection information from suitable sources
1.12	Use Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)
1.13	Follow health and safety guidelines
1.14	Work within given time constraints

Knowledge Requirements	
The candidate must indicate a sound knowledge of:	
2.1	The 'MIL' function including knowledge of Engine Management (EM), ABS & SRS warning lamp operation
2.2	Driver 'Tell Tale' warning lamps and recognition of the urgency of any rectification work
2.3	Vehicle faults including 'symptom, effect & cause'