

Petroleum Driver Passport (PDP) - Terminal Update

1. Annual Refreshers - 2021
2. Other PDP Dispensations that still apply
3. Enforcement

14 December 2020

The Downstream Oil Distribution Forum (DODF) are continuing to review the operation of the PDP Scheme to ensure we reduce risk, respond to the challenges encountered, and to take account of the ongoing changes to Government restrictions/guidance across the UK.

As previously stated, our priorities, in making any amendments to PDP, continue to be allowing Drivers, Employers, Training Providers and Terminals to operate within relevant Government restrictions and guidance and take all necessary precautions, whilst keeping the economy moving by ensuring drivers can continue to work safely, load at Terminals, and deliver product in a competent manner.

1. ANNUAL REFRESHERS - 2021

The DODF has recently considered the issues regarding annual refreshers in 2020; drivers are required to undertake annual refresher training and assessment in order to maintain the validity of their PDP card. However, the Covid-19 lockdowns/restrictions have meant that some drivers have been unable to complete their 2020 annual refresher; this means that under normal circumstances, these drivers would have an invalid PDP card at the start of 2021. The DODF have put in place actions to address this during 2021.

However, to allow drivers with a good track record of completing their annual refreshers access to load product, we ask the Terminals to implement the following measure.

Until further notice, any driver who has taken and passed their Annual Refresher in 2020 and/or 2019 should be treated as having a valid PDP card and be permitted to load normally.

2. OTHER PDP DISPENSATIONS THAT STILL APPLY:

EXTENSION TO PDP CARD EXPIRY

Any PDP cards expiring in the period 1st March 2020 to 1st March 2021 remain valid until 31st March 2021. These drivers have until 1st April 2021 to complete their PDP assessments and should be treated as having a valid PDP card and still be allowed to load.

AMENDMENT TO PDP PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT - TANKER DRIVING ASSESSMENT ELEMENT ONLY

The mandatory requirement to assess tanker driving (LO3) via in-cab assessment or observation is being suspended and instead this assessment can be undertaken via a verbal, structured review of tanker driving between the assessor and driver. The driver's responses will form part of their overall practical assessment.

This temporary dispensation will be in force until 31st March 2021; this date will be reviewed in January 2021 in the light of the prevailing Covid-19 situation.

The other elements of the Practical Assessment - prepare to load, loading and unloading (LO1, LO2 and LO4) will continue to be assessed as previously, in accordance with the PDP Syllabus and Manual of Practice, after undertaking a risk assessment and putting in place the identified measures.

Therefore, assessors will still require access to the Terminal to conduct their assessment of the driver during loading as part of the PDP Practical Assessment.

3. ENFORCEMENT


The DODF would be very grateful if the Terminals continue with PDP card validity checks, taking account of the above dispensations.

If a Terminal has direct access to the PDP System to check a driver's validity, please use this method.

Otherwise, enforcement officers (Terminals) wishing to check a driver's entitlement, may contact the SQA Administration Team via email pdpassport@sqa.org.uk or telephone on 0345 270 0123 to check the PDP System.

Please note that SQA has now moved to homeworking and any email checks will be dealt with in business hours, Monday to Friday, with phone lines open 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday.

The DODF continue to appreciate your support and understanding of the Terminals, as we take these steps to protect drivers, Training Providers, Terminal operators, SQA staff and the wider public and ensure the smooth running of the petroleum distribution industry. If you have any queries please contact: PDP Helpdesk - pdpassport@sqa.org.uk or DODF Facilitator – jenny.clucas@coagentskills.com.



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