



SkillGuard for Utilities

Introduction to: SkillGuard for Utilities



Introduction

By protecting your workforce, we protect you.

Using our proven and comprehensive technology within our trusted, “gold-standard” software, SkillGuard for Utilities is the latest in our sector-specific platform systems for comprehensive workforce and supply chain management and is dedicated to serving the utilities sector.

The platform provides a mobile workforce management system covering the entire utilities industry, providing a passport to work across the whole supply chain.

It is a proven solution that uses trusted technology to help you establish a safety culture and forge a path towards industry-leading worker safety rates, all whilst driving greater efficiency. It uniquely allows your workers to carry their record with them as they travel across your supply chain. This flexible structure makes it possible to ensure every worker in your supply chain has the competencies and inductions they need to work safely and effectively, whilst tapping into the unparalleled efficiencies offered by industry-sized economies of scale.

Thames Water has already come on board as an anchor client, bringing approximately 20,000 active workers employed within a supply chain of more than 300 contractors. We are now inviting meetings with other UK utility companies to demonstrate the features and benefits that the platform brings to every part of the stakeholder community - from utility companies, principal contractors, sub-contractors and individual members of the workforce.



**Safer
Sites**



**Greater
Efficiency**



**Reduced
Risk**



**Improved
Sustainability**



**Cost
Savings**



The Core of SkillGuard for Utilities



A Centralised Database for The Entire Industry

SkillGuard for Utilities' database provides every worker in your workforce with one unique record. No duplication. No needless repetition. Just one trusted record that is kept up to date and can be checked when needed.



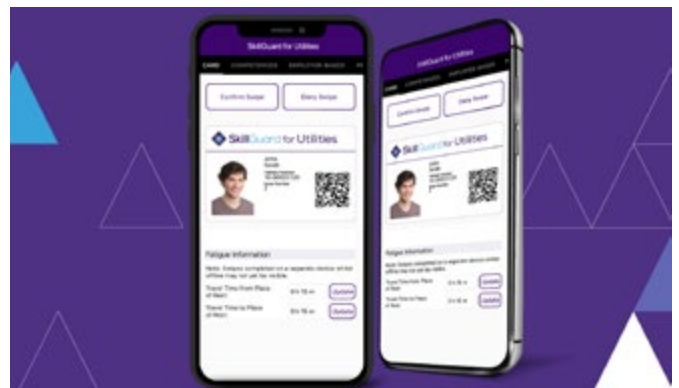
Comprehensive Records

Each record in SkillGuard for Utilities provides a complete picture of everything you need to know about that worker to determine their authority to work. This includes full competencies and qualifications at every level (from national awards to site-specific briefings and inductions), as well as a wide range of other data such as shift and travel time for management of fatigue, summary medical data and employment status to name just a few.



High-Security Smartcards

Physical and virtual smartcards allow workers to carry their complete, consistent, trusted record with them as they travel around the supply chain – even when they change employers or work for different principal contractors and utility clients.



iOS & Android Apps

Securely verify worker records in seconds and instantly log site and project-based events using the SkillGuard apps.



Why SkillGuard for Utilities?

SkillGuard for Utilities is a dedicated implementation of the world's leading mobile workforce management system: SkillGuard.

This is the same technology behind many of the most extensive mobile workforce competence and safety systems, providing trusted protection globally to people 24/7. Including Network Rail and TfL's Sentinel system, HS2's Validate and Highways Passport, as well as Australia's Rail Industry Worker system to name just a few.

It provides round-the-clock authentication and protection so that our clients can run productive and efficient projects whilst ensuring that their workers go home safe and well each day.



Benefits to Utility Companies

SkillGuard offers utility companies the ideal tool to establish a safety culture across their entire workforce, including their supply chain. It allows you to save money, drive efficiency and boost quality whilst pursuing reduced AFR and LTIFR rates.

- SkillGuard for Utilities ensures up-to-date, real-time validation of an individual's authority to work, ensuring everyone on site is qualified and competent to be there, helping you meet - or exceed - safety targets.
- Implementing SkillGuard means you are implementing the most trusted mobile workforce management system.
- It allows you to spread the cost across your entire supply chain whilst reaping all the benefits.
- SkillGuard for Utilities provides you with a complete toolkit for boosting the competency of your supply chain workforce, helping drive both safety and quality improvements.
- Efficiency savings are such that you can boost output without increasing workforce size.
- You can set access requirements across all your sites, ensuring minimum levels of competence.
- Powerful reports with Power BI offer sector-based views enabling you to plan effectively for the future.
- SkillGuard for Utilities gives you the information you need to invest in the future of your supply chain, your workforce and the planet.



Benefits to Principal Contractors

SkillGuard for Utilities gives Principal Contractors confidence that everyone who works on their projects and sites is trained and competent, helping ensure their workforce goes home safe and well every day.

- Prevent duplicated training to improve efficiencies and reduce costs.
- Quickly alert your workforce, including your supply chain, to dangers and hazards with targeted messaging.
- Reduce risk with full audit functionality, giving you complete protection and peace of mind.
- Support sustainability by reducing plastic with our virtual smartcards and valuable data insights.
- Improve your site productivity by streamlining your onboarding process and allowing your workforce - whether directly employed by you or within your supply chain - to get to work faster.



Benefits to Sub-Contractors Who Are Part of the Supply Chain

SkillGuard for Utilities saves contractors time, effort, and money by driving efficiency and eliminating duplicated training.

- Win more work and highlight that you invest in the safety, training and the competence of your workforce by confirming your workers are all SkillGuard for Utilities recordholders.
- Effortlessly provide advanced visibility of worker records to the Principal Contractor, saving administration time at every new site.
- Operatives can carry their entire record with them on one smartcard, making their lives simpler.
- Fully maintain your staff learning, development and training records - an added benefit for those without a dedicated HR/training records system.

Benefits to Workers

Workers benefit from a streamlined and scaled worker passport system as it makes them safer and allows them to do what they really care about: get to work.

- Many contractors report that their workers value their SkillGuard smartcard as a source of great pride and proof of their capability.
- To workers, the card represents their own safety – it provides reassurance that every worker on site has the training they need to work safely.
- mySkillGuard gives each worker full visibility of their record and an easy way to manage their contact and ICE details.
- Having one SkillGuard for Utilities smartcard makes workers' lives simpler and makes for faster onboarding; they no longer need to bring a folder or paperwork with them when they visit a new site. With one scan of their smartcard, all their data becomes quickly visible.
- Many workers have to sit through the same training and inductions time after time - this can be very boring for workers meaning they switch off. SkillGuard prevents this duplication.





SkillGuard and Thames Water

Thames Water has been using the SkillGuard system for their own Thames Water Safety Passport for many years, but this was their own system and not open more broadly. Thames Water is now an anchor client on the new industry-wide platform and has replaced its previous passport system with SkillGuard for Utilities for its workforce.

“Thames Water are incredibly proud of the Thames Water Safety Passport and our relationship with Reference Point, who provide the SkillGuard system it uses.

It’s a cornerstone of our safety culture, and its impact has been immense. Ten years ago, many of our contracted staff didn’t receive health and safety training as standard. Passport was introduced to ensure everyone had the training they needed to operate safely and effectively.

Things have come a long way; we now use SkillGuard to provide an introduction to Thames Water and our values. Our safety improvements have been dramatic since.

This is why we want to expand the system’s usage across the entire industry. We’re working with Reference Point to introduce the system to the whole utilities industry because we think the benefits it will offer utility companies and their supply chains are hugely worthwhile.”

Gareth Mullen, Head of Safety, Health & Wellbeing, H&S Policy & Systems, Thames Water

About Reference Point



Reference Point is a global leader in specialist software solutions.

Established for over 20 years, the business is still founder-led and we have our own in-house development and testing teams which give us full confidence in the quality of our systems. We have more than 3,500,000 users around the world, and we are behind many of the largest mobile workforce management solutions. Some of our major systems include:

- Network Rail Sentinel
- Highways Passport
- HS2 Validate
- The Rail Industry Worker system (Australia)
- Tarmac OneCard
- CSCS Smartcards
- Energy and Utility Skills using Gencarda Suite

Visit utilities.skillguard.co.uk to learn more.



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