

Course Title:	Assisted Felling Operations
Duration:	1 day training. 1 day City & Guilds NPTC Assessment (completed approx. one week after the course to encourage consolidation and practice)
Pre-requisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chainsaw Maintenance & Crosscutting • Felling & Processing Trees up to 380mm • Felling & Processing Trees over 380mm
Venue:	This is normally completed on a MWMAC site in Rhayader. <i>If you have enough people for a full course we are able, in some instances, to run this course on your site (subject to a pre-course visit).</i>
Attendees:	Max. number per course = 4
Objectives	<p>Candidates should achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the conditions necessary for the safe & effective use of the winch or rope, including legislative requirements and controls to prevent environmental damage. • Understand the differences between winch assisted and conventional tree felling and understand situations that can occur in felling trees using winch or rope assistance. • Understand the condition, controls & safety features of the pulling equipment component parts. • Understand the ancillary chocking & anchoring equipment & identify worn or damaged components and describe compatibility of components in the system. • Understand the preparation of the pulling system to assist in tree felling operation, including correct positioning and configuration of chokers/ slings and any intermediate pulleys and correct choice of anchor point. • A "failsafe" required in the winching system such as the use of wedges by chainsaw operator to support to support tree during felling operation. • Understand setting up snatch block/pulley for offset pulling & describe and the hazards involved including the risk zones and increased loads imposed on the intermediate anchor point. • Agree a signalling system between winch operator and chainsaw operator and tension system as appropriate • Winch assisted tree felling operation, safe & effective, under control of chainsaw operator
Equipment:	<p>Chainsaw:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum guide-bar length : 15" (i.e. a 18" – 25" acceptable) <input type="checkbox"/> Chain protection guard <input type="checkbox"/> Regulation fuel & oil can, with fuel and oil! <input type="checkbox"/> Spare chain <input type="checkbox"/> spare plug, starter spring & cord, sprocket and clutch spring (Optional or a 2nd Chainsaw)

Equipment:	<p>Field Toolkit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All tools necessary for on-site maintenance & Sharpening of Saws. <i>(There will be no workshop based saw maintenance on the course)</i> <p>Felling Aids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Alloy or Nylon Wedge <input type="checkbox"/> Breaking bar / Cant hook <input type="checkbox"/> Log lifting tongs with holster <input type="checkbox"/> Hand winch and 2 soft strops to match <input type="checkbox"/> Snatch Block and soft strop <input type="checkbox"/> Compatible shackles etc. as required. <input type="checkbox"/> Any other felling aids <p>Protective Clothing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Safety helmet complying with EN397 <input type="checkbox"/> Eye Protection (Mesh visor complying with EN1731) <input type="checkbox"/> Ear Defenders complying with EN352 <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves (complying with EN381-7 if Chainsaw Gloves) <input type="checkbox"/> Chainsaw Trousers complying with EN381-5 <input type="checkbox"/> Chainsaw boots / Chainsaw Wellingtons with good grip complying with BN EN20345 <input type="checkbox"/> Personal First Aid Kit for belt or pocket including Large wound dressing and whistle <input type="checkbox"/> High-Visibility Jacket or Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Wet weather jacket, close fitting (if appropriate)
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