## FALSIFICATION OF CSWIP/BGAS-CSWIP CERTIFICATES

TWI Certification Ltd is pleased to inform all CSWIP certificate holders and inspection companies that we have an online verification service. To use this service you need to go to <u>www.cswip.com/verification/</u> and follow the simple online instructions. It is strongly advised you take advantage of this service before you employ anyone claiming to hold a CSWIP or BGAS-CSWIP certificate.

If anyone has a problem with verification, please email **verification@twi.co.uk** and we will look into the matter for you.

Legitimate certificate holders should always ensure that their own certificate is in a safe place and not accessible to opportunists who try to falsify certificates.

We understand that many certificate holders wish to demonstrate their competence to current or future employers by posting the certificate on Social Media sites such as LinkedIn; however, if you wish to confirm your compliance with an employer please direct them to our online verification service as mentioned above, do not post copies online.

Please be advised that the uploading of CSWIP/BGAS-CSWIP Certificates and/or CSWIP/BGAS-CSWIP ID Cards online is a breach of our code of conduct, as it is a misuse of the certificate, and ultimately could result in its withdrawal.

By posting your certificate or ID cards online, you are enabling those who would falsify certificates. These falsifications are damaging to the CSWIP brand, and by association, the certification you have achieved.

Anyone discovered falsifying (or knowingly aiding in the falsification of) a certificate is immediately reported to the police. A case was put before Halifax Crown Court and the defendant pleaded guilty to the offence of "Attempting to obtain a Pecuniary Advantage by deception, namely to falsely representing that he was the holder of a welding inspectors certificate".

## THE NEED TO EXERCISE CARE WHEN SIGNING DOCUMENTS

A number of recent instances have re-enforced the need for vigilance and care when signing documents.

CSWIP certificate holders, particularly Welding Inspectors, are often called upon to sign important documents. In doing so, it is important to make clear what is being confirmed by the signature. For example, it may be simply to verify a photocopy or it may be to prolong a welder approval. In cases such as the latter, it is important to ensure that the terms for prolongation as required by the standard in force are satisfied. If the signature merely verifies a photocopy, it would be normal practice to annotate the document to make that clear.

Justified complaints about the incorrect signing of documents by CSWIP certificate holders are treated as a misuse of the certificate and can result in withdrawal of the certificate.

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