

## Contractor Competence

As a trailblazer in the field of damage management and restoration, holding the prestigious titles of the first IICRC chairman in the UK and the founding chairman of the British Damage Management Association (BDMA), my insights into the certification protocols of these leading training bodies are deeply informed. The BDMA and the IICRC stand out as eminent training and certification authorities in the UK, offering unparalleled training in fire and flood restoration. However, it's noteworthy that neither organization currently offers certification for Indoor Environmental Hygiene Professionals (IEPs), a critical area of expertise in our field.

While both the IICRC and BDMA excel in their training programs, spanning a comprehensive 3-day duration, they stop short of certifying competence in indoor environmental hygiene. This gap highlights a significant area for development, especially considering the intricate nature of mould remediation and indoor air quality management. The IICRC's recommendation for even their most adept Mould Technicians to seek guidance from a certified IEP underscores the complexity and specialized knowledge required in this domain.

In contrast, Dewpoint Training emerges as a pioneering entity in the UK's certification landscape, offering a City & Guilds approved course that addresses water damage and mould, condensed into an intensive 2-day program. This addition marks a significant step towards bridging the training gap in our industry.

However, the path to becoming a recognized IEP is arduous and extensive, often spanning up to 8 years, with periodic reviews of past work. This rigorous process underscores the depth of expertise and experience required to excel in this field.

When you have mould or water damage remediation or any form of biological decontamination, you should always request verified certification perhaps by an IEP.

For those interested in delving deeper into the nuances of indoor environmental management and restoration, I recommend exploring the CV and biography of Jeff Charlton, our principal consultant. His wealth of knowledge and experience in the industry not only reflects our commitment to excellence but also serves as a valuable resource for professionals seeking to advance their skills and understanding in this critical area.