

Strengthen your sealing expertise with the European Sealing Association's online courses

Here, the European Sealing Association shares the new online courses that they have on offer and the flexibility and reliability of the training.

By David Edwin-Scott and
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In an increasingly regulated, digital and performance-driven industrial landscape, sealing technology continues to play a critical role in safety, reliability and sustainability. To help engineers, technicians, purchasers and decision-makers stay ahead of these demands, the European Sealing Association (ESA) offers a comprehensive portfolio of online training courses designed to build practical knowledge and recognised competence across all major sealing disciplines. The courses can be found by using the following link: <https://www.esaknowledgebase.com/esa-new-courses/>.

Online training and flexibility

The ESA is widely regarded as the leading authority for sealing technology in Europe, representing manufacturers and experts in gaskets, packings, elastomeric seals, expansion joints and mechanical seals. Its online courses translate decades of industry experience, standards expertise, and best practice into structured, accessible learning modules that can be completed anywhere in the world. One of the key strengths of ESA's online training is its industry relevance. The courses are developed by sealing specialists who understand real-world operating conditions, regulatory pressures and common failure modes. Participants gain not only theoretical background but also practical guidance on selection, installation, performance and troubleshooting of sealing solutions in demanding industrial applications such as

chemical processing, power generation, oil and gas, hydrogen and pharmaceuticals. The online format offers maximum flexibility. Learners can study at their own pace, making the courses ideal for busy professionals who cannot commit to classroom-based training. Modular structures allow participants to focus on specific topics, such as gasket fundamentals, bolted flange joints, packing systems, fugitive emissions or sealing standards, without disrupting work schedules. This flexibility makes ESA courses equally suitable for individual professionals and for company-wide training programmes.

Types of courses

For packings applications there are two courses available: *An Introduction to Compression Packing* and *Compression Packing – Troubleshooting*. A new course covering packing installation is currently under development. For gaskets there is a wide range of courses including *Introduction to Flange Gaskets*, *Gasket Selection*, *Gasket Types & Materials*. Recently two additional courses *Gasket Installation Procedures* and *Flange Gasket Failure Analysis* have been added. Additionally a video "Successful Guide to Gasket Installation" is available in English, with subtitles in Spanish and Italian. For mechanical seals two courses are available: *Introduction to Mechanical Seals* and *Containment Devices* with further ones on the way. The introductory courses for elastomeric seals and fabric expansion joints are under development.

Introduction to Flange Gaskets



The European Sealing Association's interactive training course is intended as an introduction to this method of sealing technology and to help engineers, technicians and users of gaskets understand what gaskets are and how and when they can be used successfully.

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* New – Introduction to Flange Gaskets – Gasket Selection



An addition to the range of Flange Gaskets Course, describing the gasket selection process.

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Valve Packing Installation

- ▶ Tighten gland nuts
- Slacken all nuts evenly
- Cycle the valve spindle
- Retighten
- Introduce system pressure



ESA online courses also support professional development and consistency of knowledge within organisations. By providing a common technical foundation, they help align engineering, maintenance, procurement and management teams around the same principles and terminology. This shared understanding leads to better specification, fewer installation errors, longer service life and lower total cost of ownership.

Reliability

Importantly, ESA training is prepared independently without any company bias.

The focus is on principles, performance requirements and correct application rather than promoting specific products. This gives participants confidence to make informed decisions based on operating conditions, risk assessment and lifecycle considerations. All courses are free of charge, but enrolment is necessary to take them. Completion of the courses enhances professional credibility for individuals and for employers, it provides assurance that teams are trained to a recognised industry standard. Whether you are new to sealing technology or seeking to refresh and deepen your

expertise, the European Sealing Association's online courses offer a trusted, practical and flexible route to higher performance and reduced risk. Investing in ESA training is an investment in safer operations, improved reliability and long-term industrial excellence. ■

About the authors

David Edwin-Scott is a Chartered Mechanical Engineer with over 50 years experience in the design and application of sealing devices.



Currently involved in the development of training courses for the ESA.

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