

## **SPECIALIST TRAINING BECOMES AN APPROVED CENTRE FOR DRIVER CPC - MAY 2007**

Specialist Training & Consultancy Services is amongst the first organisations in the country to be awarded approved centre status for the delivery of the Driver CPC. We have been approved to deliver training to Bus and Coach drivers **and** for Goods vehicle drivers. Delivery of approved courses to Specialist's customers starts in just over a years time.

The Driver CPC is the biggest thing to hit the Road Transport Industry since driving licences! The Driver CPC qualification will need to be held by all those who drive buses / coaches or goods vehicles for a living. The qualification derives from an EU Directive and will be implemented by the Driving Standards Agency (DSA). It comes into force across all European Union member states on 10 September 2008 for bus and coach drivers and 10 September 2009 for lorry drivers.

The main benefit expected from the qualification is an improvement in road safety and better qualified drivers helping to reduce road casualties. Driver CPC should also bring an improved professional and positive image to the driving role, attracting more people to drive buses, coaches and lorries for a living. It introduces an initial qualification process that new drivers have to complete before they are allowed to drive professionally. Existing drivers will have to take "Periodic Training." This means that at least 35 hours of training on approved courses at approved training centres must be carried out every five years if a driver wishes to retain their CPC status.

Specialist will be able to offer both Initial training and Periodic training to its customers. For more information on how Specialist can help your organisation meet its requirements under the Driver CPC, give us a call on 01282 687090.

