

Principal Assessor Report 2002

Assessment Panel:

Construction

Qualification area

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

Construction Craft Skills

Statistical information: update

Number of entries in 2001	16
Pre appeal	16
Post appeal	16

Number of entries in 2002	11
Pre appeal	11
Post appeal	

General comments re entry numbers

The entry numbers stated above for 2002 are candidates completing the course. At the time of the moderation visits 19 candidates were entered but 8 were withdrawn. Most of the withdrawn candidates gained employment.

General comments

Only 2 centres presented candidates this session for the entire course with one other centre entering candidates for the 2 units of 120 hours preceding the final project. One centre presented 4 candidates and one centre presented 7 candidates. All candidates gained the award.

Grade boundaries at C, B and A for each subject area included in the report

Grade C	50%
Grade B	60%
Grade A	70%

General commentary on grade boundaries

Notional percentage cut-offs for each grade

Question papers and their associated marking schemes are designed to be of the required standard and to meet the assessment specification for the subject/level concerned.

For National courses the examination paper(s) are set in order that a score of approximately 50% of the total marks for all components merits a grade C (based on the grade descriptions for that grade), and similarly a score of 70 % for a grade A. The lowest mark for a grade B is set by the computer software as half way between the C and A grade boundaries.

Comments on grade boundaries for each subject area

Agreed as appropriate for this session at the Pass Mark Meeting

Comments on candidate performance

General comments

One centre presented 4 candidates, all of whom selected the same brief from the NAB pack. This was Brief 1 involving carpentry and joinery plus painting.

The other centre presented 7 candidates when all 3 briefs from the NAB pack were selected. The culmination of this was the completion of a project where all candidates benefited from exposure to numerous crafts and activities.

Planning and evaluation section were handled much better than I had anticipated and was helped this session with the introduction of word processing when presentations were generally far tidier than the previous year.

Candidates produced practical projects to a very high standard for this level and were highly motivated.

Areas of external assessment in which candidates performed well

The best performance generally was in the development of the project when the completed projects displayed very good craft skills. These skills have been taught and developed in the other units in the 160 hours course.

Candidates, this session, are very well equipped and motivated to progress to other courses in construction, particularly SVQs.

Areas of external assessment in which candidates had difficulty

Undoubtedly the most difficult section is evaluation of the candidate's own project. This can be a very challenging aspect of the course for some candidates.

Areas of common misunderstanding

No areas of misunderstanding were apparent.

Recommendations

Feedback to centres

- ◆ all candidates this session were successful in the practical assignment
- ◆ the standard of work, particularly in the development section, is highly commendable
- ◆ planning and evaluation sections have improved in content since last session due partly to better guidance being given to the candidate in terms of the provision of sub-section headings on assessment sheets
- ◆ the use of word processing greatly enhanced the presentation of the assignment portfolios and should be continued
- ◆ staff running the course are highly motivated and well organised which has reflected on the work of the candidates this session
- ◆ consider the possibility of widening the craft position to meet the needs of the individual candidates and the group when additional briefs could be developed and prior moderation
- ◆ consider group numbers and space requirements when skilled activities undertaken within the project may for some candidates be undertaken on wall surfaces nearby