



**Higher National Qualifications
Internal Assessment Report 2013
Engineering Systems**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in Higher National Qualifications in this subject.

Higher National Units

General comments

Centres visited clearly demonstrated their understanding of national standards.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

The evidence and documentation reviewed indicated strongly the solid experience of assessors.

Evidence Requirements

For all Units reviewed, the interpretation of Units' Evidence Requirements was clearly understood at all centres.

Administration of assessments

Assessments, and their arrangements, were found to be appropriate and well-administered.

General feedback

With the low number of visits undertaken for this verification group, it is difficult to draw any wide-ranging points. Feedback was deemed useful; this was confirmed in the candidate interviews which were undertaken.

Areas of good practice

Good practice was noted in the provision of well-specified proposals for Engineering Systems Graded Unit 2 (F1E8 35), leading to successful implementations by candidates.

Additionally, the use of a programme-wide delivery and assessment schedule enabled staff and candidates to plan and organise their work in each Unit.

The use of a stamp clearly indicating submissions which had been internally verified is also good practice.

The use of a distinctive colour by second markers is a simple means which aids internal and external verification processes.

One centre had been integrating a number of assignments which had proved helpful to candidates in reducing the assessment burden.

Specific areas for improvement

Consistent application of the notification of assignment submission dates will aid candidates in meeting deadlines.

Higher National Graded Units

Titles/levels of HN Graded Units verified:

Engineering Systems Graded Unit 2 F1E8 35
Engineering Systems Graded Unit 1 DW11 34
Engineering Practice Graded Unit 1 DW92 34

General comments

The Graded Unit 1 material was verified at the annual central event. Two centres were visited for the purpose of verifying Graded Unit 2. It would prove beneficial for centres to ensure that the examination front sheet remains attached to candidate's scripts. This would permit a clearer record of mark allocation by question.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

It is clear that staff at all centres are effective in the application of Unit specifications and instruments of assessments.

Evidence Requirements

These are clearly understood across centres.

Administration of assessments

There were no issues with this.

General feedback

Feedback to candidates undertaking Graded Unit 2 was identified as being very useful and the evidence suggests they made use of it as a formative tool.

Feedback for Graded Unit 1 is more difficult to classify, those candidates who have passed are unlikely to be concerned, and those who failed may apply it at the time of a resit.

Areas of good practice

'Real-life' project specifications leading to high-grade integrated project designs and construction.

Specific areas for improvement

Some written submissions were a little tainted by poor use of English. It could prove beneficial to encourage the consistent use of spell- and grammar-checks by candidates. In addition, further support may be considered to help improve language standards in reports, etc.