

**Higher National Qualifications**

**And**

**Scottish Vocational Qualifications**

**Senior Moderator Report**

**2006**

**Subject: 181 – Heating and Ventilating (SVQ)**  
**181 – Building Services Engineering (HNC)**  
**191 – Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (SVQ)**

**Sector Panel or SSC: Summit Skills**

## HIGHER NATIONAL UNITS

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

There has been limited activity in this area over the past 12 months. Activity that did take place related to two centres:

One centre, who originally delivered the 'old' HNC, has uplifted the new HNC award. This was validated in 2005, and the candidates have been effectively transferred from the previous programme to the new one.

The other is new and commenced delivery of the HNC in Sept 2005.

A moderation visit was conducted to the centre in May 2006 and positive progress is being made by the centre.

#### Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

The new centre received positive comments along the following lines, '..... centre is an experienced and well qualified centre of education and the process of assessment and moderation worked well.....'

In particular the centre was commended for its internal moderation process and practice with a clear audit trail most evident.

A number of development points for the centre were noted (these awards are newly offered by the centre), and advises that it would be most beneficial for the centre to receive a further moderation/development visit as early as possible in the next academic year.

The advice refers to further guidance and support being given to assessors on assessment issues during the live period of delivery and assessment.

## SVQ AWARDS

### TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS MODERATED

#### 181 Heating and Ventilating Installation – Mechanical Engineering Services:

G7AC 22 Level 2 (Domestic)	G7AD 23 Level 3 (Domestic)
G7AF 22 Level 2 (Industrial & Commercial)	G7A9 23 Level 3 (Industrial & Commercial)
G34D 22 Level 2 (Industrial & Commercial)	G3ST 23 Level 3 (Industrial & Commercial)
G7AA 22 Level 3 (Maintenance of System Components)	
G7A8 23 Level 3 (Rectification of Systems)	
G34C 22 Level 2 (Maintenance of System Components)	
G3SS 23 Level 3 (Rectification of Systems)	

#### 191 Refrigeration and Air Conditioning:

G363 22 Level 2 – Small Commercial Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems
G3WG 23 level 3 – Commercial and Industrial Refrigeration Systems (Non-Ammonia)
G3WJ 23 Level 3 – Commercial and Industrial Air Conditioning Systems
G3WH 23 Level 3 – Refrigeration Systems (Ammonia)

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

#### Heating and Ventilating Centres:

Three centres were visited.

#### Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Centres:

Four centres were visited.

In general terms moderators were pleased with the provision at all centres although some action/development points were recorded at each of the centres (see below).

### **Advice on good practice and areas for further development:**

The most referred to area in all reports was the issue of assessment, whether conducted in the centre or in the workplace. SQA assessment methodology does not require centres to carry out assessment in the candidate's workplace. However, it does encourage centres where possible, to conduct assessment in the candidate's workplace.

Alternatively, assessment of candidate competence can, and is, carried out in the centre's workshops. These assessments must be of a 'real work environment' nature and conducted under assessment methodology requirements.

Whichever way centres carry out the observed assessment requirements, it still remains essential that candidates gather evidence in the workplace of their day to day activities and for this to be assessed in the workplace by the centre's qualified assessors.

Two centres in particular have developed sound workplace assessment (observed) methods and assessor recording methods for this purpose.

The centre staff plan access to workplace assessment opportunities with their candidate(s). This action planning is communicated to the candidate's employer via the candidate and his training officer at BEST, in liaison with the employer.

If a candidate encounters difficulty in accessing a particular area of work required for assessment the candidate's training officer communicates with the employer to arrange work on work sites that include the particular aspect of the candidate's work range.

This has been carried out now for the period of the past nine months. The centre is reporting enthusiastically about this latest development.

There are a number of reports that highlighted the improvement/development of centre Internal Moderation process.

There are occasions where individual centres deal with the assessment of knowledge in isolation to the assessment of performance of the candidate e.g. It is normal to conduct safety training at an early stage of the candidate's training programme. This usually results in a formative assessment at the end of that 'safety course'. On occasions this may result in a safety certificate being awarded.

Later in the programme when the candidate is being assessed for competence of performance in a number of activities, questions relating to safety/safe working practices are not addressed and, in some cases the candidates demonstrate a lack of competence for e.g. non use of PPE, or incorrect application of equipment (e.g. scaffolding, lifting and handling equipment, site tidiness etc.).

Centres have been encouraged to consider this issue of assessment of knowledge in conjunction with the conduct of the performance aspects of the work activity and not in isolation to it.

A further issue in relation to the assessment of knowledge that centres could benefit from, is the development of 'pre-written' oral question papers, addressing the standard work activities of candidates or the systems that candidates are working on.