

Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Senior Moderator Report

2006

Subject: Aeronautical Engineering (214)

Sector Panel or SSC: Engineering, Science and Mathematics

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation which has taken place within Higher National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications in this subject.

HIGHER NATIONAL GRADED UNITS

TITLES/LEVELS OF HN GRADED UNITS MODERATED

HNC Aircraft Engineering: Graded Unit 1 (DR01 34)

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Two centres offered the HNC Aircraft Engineering: Graded Unit 1 in 2006. The two centres worked together to produce a single examination paper which was sat by a total of 45 candidates.

In the absence of a verifier in Aeronautical Engineering (now appointed) candidate responses were externally verified by the Senior Verifiers in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. The two verifiers came to the following common view of the Examination Paper and candidate responses:

- (1) Both were confident that the final results achieved by candidates represent a fair outcome.
- (2) The wording of some questions was imprecise which could have confused some candidates.
- (3) There were examples of significant differences in the work required for questions in Section A Paper 1 and ideally this should be reflected in the marks allocated to each question in future papers.
- (4) More alternative answers may be appropriate for the multiple choice questions in Section A of Paper 1.
- (5) The marking scheme should be regarded as giving only one of a number of possible answers and assessors should use their judgment and mark against the questions and not the model answer.
- (6) All assessment decisions (e.g. ticks and crosses) and marks allocations should be clearly shown on candidates' scripts to facilitate internal and external moderation.
- (7) As with all other types of assessments candidate responses should be internally moderated.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

- Review the Graded Unit Specification to clarify it is one paper made up of Sections, and not two separate papers.