

**Higher National Qualifications,  
Scottish Vocational Qualifications  
And  
Scottish Progression Award  
Senior Moderator Report  
2006**

**Subject: Specialised Plant and Machinery Operations**

**Sector Panel or SSC: Construction Skills**

## SVQ AWARDS

### TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS MODERATED

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

Centres do a good job of balancing the needs of two distinct groups associated with this particular occupational award area, namely SQA for the awards, and the administrators of the associated CPCS card scheme, a scheme that is so essential for the candidates wishing to work on a construction site which is the main factor for the uptake of the SPMO awards.

Robust awarding body/SSC meetings take place regularly to ensure proper administration of the SPMO awards.

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

- Centres are very good at both supporting candidates and seeking advice and support themselves so that they can maintain a high level of compliance with all the SSC, Award and SQA requirements.
- Candidate satisfaction for advice and services received from centres is very high.
- A good level of candidate evidence portfolio building has been noted where centres have made good use of national initiatives or taken note of best practice trends.
- Good award/candidate documentation administration and filing with easy to follow audit systems in place has been noted for many of the centres.
- Reports indicate that a great deal of effort is expended to assure the best possible work place assessment evidence is being secured.
- Reports indicate that centre staff are motivated, occupationally competent and well managed.

#### Areas for further development

- SQA "Centre Product List" indicating the number of active candidates for visit and visit planning purposes can vary significantly with the centre candidate active list, and as such this can involve lengthy centre/EM debate agreeing the appropriate level of sampling and portfolio/candidate selection well before the planned EM event.
- Some centres still need to improve on their award/scheme induction pack as this can be thought of as a fairly confusing award area for the average candidate to understand.
- Centres need to constantly monitor their compliance with the SSC assessment strategy for the SPMO awards area.
- Understanding and compliance with CPD is an area still to be focused on for the 2006/7 session.
- Better use and provision could be made of candidate evidence cross-matched to unit standard matrix documentation.
- Centres will need to budget, invest in staff training and set time aside to develop assessment approaches and devise for the new SPMO level 2 awards coming into force this 2006/7 session.
- There is still an ongoing challenge for some D32/33 assessors to work to the A1/2 standards.