National Qualifications 2013
Internal Assessment Report
Electrical Engineering

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

National Qualifications (NQ) Units

Titles/levels of NQ Units verified:

The following three NQ Units were externally verified during session 2012–13:

D9AF 11 – Fundamental Electrical Principles
D9AG 11 – Basic Electrical Installation Systems and Protection
D9AH 11 – Basic Electrical Installation Skills

These three NQ Units form the basis of the NQ award Electrical Installation Fundamentals at Intermediate 2. This award is externally assessed using an electrical installation project.

General comments

In session 2012–13, visiting external verification took place in four further education colleges for the three NQ Units shown above. All four visits were conducted by the same External Verifier. The four visits were undertaken using the traditional method of external verification involving the EV8a form. All four visits were successful in that no Holds were placed on the three NQ Units shown above. This success demonstrates that all four centres were meeting national standards.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

All four centres visited had up-to-date Unit specifications in their master folders. The fours centres were using the National Assessment Bank materials, including marking schemes, developed for the three NQ Units.

Evidence Requirements

The External Verifier found that in all four centres there was a clear understanding by assessors and Internal Verifiers of the Evidence Requirements in individual NQ Units. This understanding was reflected in the accuracy and consistency with which candidate scripts were marked.

Administration of assessments

The External Verifier observed that written feedback to candidates in all four centres was very good. Assessors gave praise where this was due, but also pointed out where candidates were inaccurate in their responses or had failed to submit work. In one centre the assessor pointed out where candidates had failed to put units (eg A, V etc.) in their answers and where candidates were working to an excessive level of decimal places (eg 9 places when 2 would do).

In all four centres, samples of candidate scripts had been cross-marked by an Internal Verifier to show that they had been checked for accuracy and

consistency of marking. The External Verifier also saw evidence of completed internal verification documentation in all four centres which was in line with centre policy on assessment and internal verification.

Areas of good practice

The following areas of good practice were noted by the External Verifier during his visits to the centres:

- In one centre, the External Verifier had been provided with photographic evidence of candidate practical work which allowed the External Verifier to confirm the accuracy of completed assessor checklists used to record assessor judgements of the practical work.
- In a second centre, the master folders for the Units were very good. Each folder contained an up-to-date Unit specification (a date had been written on the front page of the specification to show when it had been downloaded from SQA's website), completed centre internal verification documentation and a very good set of presentation slides. The External Verifier was particularly impressed by the way the lecturer had identified particular items of equipment photographically so that candidates knew what this equipment looked like.
- In a third centre, the full wiring systems for both the garage and workshop in the Electrical Installation Fundamentals Intermediate 2 Project Unit had been produced to a high quality by centre staff so that candidates could get a clear indication of the standard that is expected of them when wiring-up the garage or workshop.

Specific areas for improvement

No significant areas of improvement were identified during the four visits.