

## **Report on Monitoring Standards 2004**

### **SVQ: Carpentry & Joinery level 3 (G3S4 23)**

Two experienced members of SQA's verifying team and an external specialist in the field judged assessment material and candidate evidence against the standard of the Units:

- B5GR 04 *Scaffolding Appreciation and Use*
- B5H2 04 *Introduction to Building Craft Science*
- B5H3 04 *Construction Drawing 1*
- B5HH 04 *Construction Drawing 2*
- B63X 04 *Construction Drawing 3*
- B5HX 04 *Carpentry and Joinery: Woodworking Machines*
- B63S 04 *Carpentry and Joinery: Pitched Roof Construction*
- B63T 04 *Carpentry and Joinery: Constructing and Fixing Straight Flight Stairs*
- B63V 04 *Carpentry and Joinery: Window Construction*
- B63W 04 *Carpentry and Joinery: Manufacturing Purpose Made Joinery Components*

Centres were asked to provide evidence for two candidates for each of the above Units. There were a total number of 64 judgements for assessment instruments and assessment decisions in 2004. Detailed comments for each Unit are included in the appendix.

#### **Background**

A new training and assessment package for this SVQ is currently under development by SQA. As an interim arrangement the above Units are being undertaken by candidates and are known as 'Qualifying Units'.

#### **Quality of collected material**

This monitoring exercise covered the 'Qualifying Units' when evidence for all the underpinning knowledge was available but the practical provision did not cover the tangible evidence seen during external moderation visits such as pitched roofs, stairs, etc. since this is not possible. Instruments of assessments and checklists of practical work were, however, included in the monitoring exercise. Broadly speaking, the quality of presentation ranged from unsatisfactory to excellent — the majority falling into the acceptable to good categories. Individual Unit comments are available in the appendix.

#### **Assessment instruments**

These were fit for purpose and the majority showed evidence of integration across Outcomes — the Woodworking Machines Unit showed evidence of integration across Outcomes and across other craft specific Units within the award. There was no evidence of integration for one Unit only — Window Construction. Centres generally gave clear guidance for a pass and had valid assessments. They are following the assessment guidance in the Unit Specification, by and large. The panel found that there was a high

degree of consistency across centres in the level of demand of the instruments of assessments and a high degree of consistency across centres of the instruments of assessments fully covering the PCs, range and evidence requirements. Conditions of assessment are specified and appropriate and there was evidence of improvements in the design and production of instruments of assessments across centres.

### **Evidence of candidate performance**

Generally, there was substantial and consistent evidence of good assessment practices. The panel found that a high majority of candidates were meeting the standards on the first attempt and that the grading stated by the centres was largely accurate.

### **Assessment decisions**

Both assessment decisions and the application of standards were generally consistently accurate. However, some borderline assessments, accepted by some centres, could have been improved by a more diligent internal verification process.

The panel judged that there was a slight tendency towards leniency in the application of the standards for both the Pitched Roof Construction and the Manufacturing Purpose Made Joinery Components Units.

### **Comparing standards over time**

Evidence from 1999 was provided for the following two Units:

B63X 04 *Construction Drawing 3*

B63S 04 *Carpentry and Joinery: Pitched Roof Construction*

The panel noted that there has been no significant difference to assessment instruments and standardisation over the five year period.

### **General comments on the Units**

Historically, SVQs in Carpentry and Joinery at levels 1, 2 and 3 were based on a framework of NC modules until 1996/97 when the content was largely converted to a similar number of workplace Units. These Units, in broad terms, matched those developed by the Lead Body, namely the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

Scottish Industry also decided that the content of the awards would be delivered and assessed in Further Education Colleges and that an end skills test, developed and administered by the CITB, would be an integrative Unit in the SVQ at level 3. This Unit is B664 04 Integrative Assessment in the Construction Industry. The vast majority of candidates attend college on a block release system from their employers and are undergoing apprenticeship training.

## **Recommendations**

The Scrutiny Panel recommends that SQA should:

- ◆ continue to assist centres during moderation/verification visits on development issues
- ◆ increase moderation/verification visits annually
- ◆ consult practitioners in the content of the new training and assessment package, currently under development
- ◆ discuss the contents of the new training and assessment package firstly at a moderation group meeting and secondly at a Quality Network
- ◆ target centres for additional external moderation/verification visits where there have been considerable staff changes
- ◆ correlate the content of forms presented to centres and those to the scrutiny panel at future monitoring of standards exercises
- ◆ consider the format of forms for future monitoring exercises (examples of old forms enclosed with this report and considered better)