

**Higher National Qualifications**

**And**

**Scottish Vocational Qualifications**

**Senior Verifier Report**

**2007**

**Subject: Sheet Plate and Welding**

**Sector Panel: Engineering, Science and Mathematics**

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

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## HIGHER NATIONAL UNITS

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### **General comments:**

This year's verification covered a broad range of units within the Sheet Plate and Welding Group. The spread consisted of units in Fabrication, Welding, Manufacture, Materials, Quality Assurance and Inspection techniques. The spread of subjects included both practical and theory based learning and assessment.

All of the verifier reports highlighted consistency in the approach to assessing evidence. All centres had quality assurance procedures in place, internal verification and assessment was carried out well and all centres had suitably qualified staff in the roles of internal verification and assessment.

All centres had produced a high standard of assessment material which included appropriate instruments of assessments, using a wide range of approaches to generating evidence and detailed marking schemes.

Some centres had not produced sample responses or sample solutions as part of their assessment packs. This was recommended to centres as being good assessment practice and they were encouraged to produce these in future.

Evidence existed of constructive discussions taking place between external verifiers and centre's internal verifiers and assessors.

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

As in previous years positive comments were received regarding the quality of candidates' work across all centres. This was an encouraging trend and testament to the good work being carried out by centres to ensure skills and standards are being maintained.

The centre reports highlighted elements of good practice in assessment materials, documented evidence and internal verification procedures.

Centres were aware of the introduction of new design HN units and were also aware of the need to develop marking schemes which should include sample solutions and alternative assessment materials as part of Assessment Packs. These were the only areas where centres were advised of areas for further development.

## HIGHER NATIONAL GRADED UNITS

### TITLES/LEVELS OF HN GRADED UNITS VERIFIED

Unit Title: Fabrication, Welding and Inspection Graded Unit 1

Unit Number: DR37 34

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

There was only one centre presenting candidates for this award this year.

A total of four candidates' scripts were presented for external verification. The centre had produced a locally devised examination paper that had been subject to prior verification. The assessment pack included a clear marking schedule with sample solutions. These sample solutions provided good guidance for markers and external verifiers.

The assessor's interpretation of the marking guidelines was accurate and the results had been internally verified. This process resulted in some minor adjustments being made to the assessor's original mark allocation to candidates. After these adjustments had been made the mark allocation was fair and appropriate to the standard of responses submitted by candidates

The recording of assessment decisions noted on the examination papers was inaccurate in some cases. This was due to the assessor incorrectly totalling marks gained by the candidates for individual questions. This was amended as part of the external verification process and candidates' marks and percentage scores were altered accordingly.

The responses to the examination submitted by candidates demonstrated a good knowledge and understanding of the subject area which was encouraging. The spread of marks was as follows:

- One candidate achieved 55% – Grade C
- One candidate achieved 62% – Grade B
- One candidate achieved 67% – Grade B
- One candidate achieved 75% – Grade A

Candidates scoring high were able to fully answer the questions as presented, whereas candidates who scored low presented incomplete answers which lacked detail.

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

The centre produced a well laid out assessment pack which included a clear marking schedule with sample solutions. These sample solutions provided good guidance for markers and external verifiers.

A more thorough process of internal verification was recommended, as this would have picked up the anomalies around the totalling of candidates' marks. Errors were identified with this process which affected the percentage of marks awarded to some candidates. This was picked up during external verification and all errors were amended accordingly.

Some centres were in the process of introducing new verifiers to the process. It was good to report that these new verifiers were being fully supported by experienced centre staff.

## NATIONAL UNITS

(i.e. Freestanding units which contribute to NPAs or NCs etc.)

### TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS VERIFIED

Unit Number	Unit Level	Unit Title
D00W 11	11	Thermal Joining Skills
DH5D 10	10	Fabrication and Welding: Basic
ED8N 11	11	Fastening & Joining: Non-Thermal Methods
EA0V 11	11	Introduction to Metal Inert Gas (MIG) Welding
E8M0 12	12	Metal Joining Skills for all Positional Welding
D00G 12	12	Metal Arc Gas Shielded Basic Welding Practice-Ferrous Material
EA14 11	11	Introduction to Oxy-Acetylene Welding
D00X 12	12	Tungsten Arc Gas Shielded Basic Welding Practice Ferrous Material
D00A 12	12	Manual Metal Arc Basic Welding Practice
D00 B 11	11	Manual Metal Arc Welding Process
E7 WW 12	12	Manual Metal Arc Welding Practice 2
E7 WV 12	12	Tungsten Arc Gas Shielded Welding Practice 2
ED 8J 11	11	Oxy-Fuel Gas Thermal Cutting Skills
EE 1W 12	12	Welding-Distortion & Residual Stress
EE 1Y 12	12	Welding-Effects on the Structure of Materials 1
D00V 11	11	Thermal Joining Processes
D00W 11	11	Thermal Joining Skills

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

The centre reports highlighted elements of good practice in assessment materials, documented evidence, internal verification procedures and cross referencing of assessment evidence.

As in previous years positive comments were also received regarding the quality of candidates' work across all centres. This was an encouraging trend and testament to the good work being carried out by centres to ensure skills and standards are being maintained.

All the feedback given to centres was of a positive nature with minor recommendations being made.

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

As in previous years all of the centres visited demonstrated good practice and a high quality of candidates' work. The quality of the assessment materials was good in all cases.

Evidence suggests that centres are adopting the use of Master Unit Packs demonstrating good practice in this area.

Areas for further development should focus on producing marking schemes, sample solutions and alternative assessment materials as part of Assessment Packs. Examples of these can be found in NABS.