



**National Qualifications 2011
Internal Assessment Report
Skills for Work: Energy**

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

National Qualifications (NQ) awards

Titles/levels of NQ awards verified

Skills for Work: Energy (Intermediate 2)

General comments

Four centres were externally verified this session. Three of these centres were using NAB materials for all Units; the fourth centre was using a mixture of NAB materials and college-developed assessment materials. The latter had a suitable internal verification system to verify that standards were being met.

The use of NABs led to a clear understanding of the national standards, which was visibly demonstrated. The college that developed its own assessments had also met these standards.

All External Verifier (EV) visits gave positive feedback on the standard of student responses and of assessor marking and feedback.

Internal verification was found to be carried out to a satisfactory standard in all four centres.

Course Arrangements documents, Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

All EV reports show that the assessors were familiar with the appropriate documentation, including the link between the Outcomes, Performance Criteria and instruments of assessment — including NABs.

Evidence Requirements

The NABs clearly defined Evidence Requirements for all Units. College-developed assessments used appropriate NABs as model solutions and thereby helped ensure all centres were meeting the standards set in the Unit specifications.

Administration of assessments

The one college using self-developed assessment materials had clear marking schemes available. They also held a formal interview with each candidate leading to greater clarity between the candidate, assessor and the Internal Verifier.

Centres are reminded to be clear about which Units, Outcomes and Performance Criteria are being assessed, especially when using integrated assessments.

Where NAB materials were used it ensured the standard of assessment materials was correct and the marking guidelines helped maintain standards.

Areas of good practice/areas for improvement

One centre was using control files. This was a central resource for all teaching, assessment, marking and IV documentation, and is a good example of enhanced quality control.

Another centre had entered candidates in an energy industry competition, which not only enhanced their learning but gave an increase in motivation to both the assessors and candidates.

Specific areas for improvement

When developing integrated assessments, more work needs to be done to provide greater clarity as to the specific Units, Outcomes and PCs being covered in each assessment.

One centre had queries about the 'Christmas tree' mentioned in the oil/gas Unit. Centres are reminded that:

'In petroleum and natural gas extraction, a Christmas tree, (not 'wellhead' as sometimes incorrectly referred to) is an assembly of valves, spools, and fittings used for an oil well, gas well, water injection well, water disposal well, gas injection well, condensate well and other types of wells. It was named for its crude resemblance to a decorated tree.'

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas_tree_\(oil_well\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas_tree_(oil_well))

Centres using digital images need to ensure that the images and work shown can be attributed to the correct candidate, eg name and class printed on the image or inserted below the image.