

DES15 Research and evaluate the nature of design in a specific industry context - SQA Unit Code H9X0 04

Unit summary

This unit is about researching and evaluating the nature and role of design in a particular industry context. Design occurs in all industries and increasingly quality design is considered a key factor in building organisational and industry capacity and competitiveness. This unit applies to any individuals who need to develop a basic appreciation and knowledge of the way that design works in a particular industry, and of its potential impacts on industry and individual work practice

What you must be able to do

- a) Research, and investigate the nature, history, role and importance of design in the industry
- b) Evaluate the roles played by designers and other contributors in the design process
- c) Source information on the impacts of technology on design in the industry
- d) Investigate impacts of design on own work
- e) Consider the roles of individual workers across the industry in affecting future design directions
- f) Identify and access opportunities to maintain currency of knowledge about industry design trends
- g) Evaluate how design trends affect the overall industry and the way it operates
- h) Share information and pro-actively discuss emerging trends with work colleagues
- i) Identify trends that will impact on your own work and seek opportunities to develop appropriate skills
- j) Keep abreast of ethical issues and regulations that impact on the design industry

What you must know:

- 1) What is important to the consumer/end user
- 2) Current and emerging technologies and their effects on design in the industry
- 3) Current and past designers of influence in the industry
- 4) Current trends in use of design in a given industry context
- 5) Different definitions of design, and the differences in similarities between design and product development
- 6) Major design trends in the industry
- 7) The role of design in a given industry context
- 8) Current thinking, attitudes and approaches to key issues about professional design practice