



## National Unit Specification: general information

**UNIT** Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment (SCQF level 6)

**CODE** F6MF 12

### SUMMARY

This Unit is suitable for candidates working towards a Modern Apprenticeship in Construction Craft and will develop the candidate's knowledge and understanding of access platforms and equipment. This Unit is designed to provide candidates with an awareness and appreciation of working platforms appropriate to their own craft area and the ability to apply this knowledge in the workplace. It is also designed to enable candidates to develop their awareness of components, equipment and the health and safety requirements related to using working platforms appropriate to their craft area.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of access platforms and equipment.
- 2 Identify and report defects in access equipment.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, candidates undertaking a Professional Development Award in Construction Craft at SCQF level 6 must meet the requirements of the Modern Apprentices which include being employed in the relevant craft industry.

### CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Higher (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6\*).

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

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### Administrative Information

**Superclass:** TK

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## **National Unit Specification: general information (cont)**

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### **CORE SKILLS**

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit. Opportunities for developing aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in Support Notes of this Unit.

There are opportunities in this Unit to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Problem Solving at SCQF level 4
- ◆ Working with others at SCQF level 4
- ◆ IT at SCQF level 3
- ◆ Numeracy at SCQF level 4
- ◆ Communications at SCQF level 4

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

### **UNIT       Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment (SCQF level 6)**

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

#### **OUTCOME 1**

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of access platforms and equipment.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Identify terminology and components related to access equipment.
- (b) Identify terminology and components related to working platforms.
- (c) Outline construction practices related to access equipment correctly.
- (d) Outline construction practices related to working platforms correctly.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Identify and report defects in access equipment.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Identify and record defects and hazards on access equipment.
- (b) Report hazards and defects on access equipment correctly.
- (c) Identify the appropriate course of action to ensure safe use of access equipment.

#### **EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT**

These Evidence Requirements will be met by the completion of the Training and Assessment Programme (TAP).

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved this Unit to the standard specified all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Written and/or oral recorded evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved Outcome 1 to the standard specified in the Performance Criteria. Candidates will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of terminology, components, safety and practices by successful completion of a question paper relating to access equipment. This assessment will be conducted under controlled, closed-book supervised conditions.

Performance evidence in the form of a risk assessment is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved Outcome 2 to the standards specified in the Performance Criteria. Candidates will be required to identify defects and hazards and report the appropriately. Assessment of this Outcome will be evidenced through observation of work processes and assessment of the completed report. Assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised conditions.

## **National Unit Specification: Support Notes**

### **UNIT            Appreciation of Access Platforms and Equipment (SCQF level 6)**

This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

#### **GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT**

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit in the Professional Development Awards in Construction Crafts at SCQF level 6.

The successful completion of this Unit will provide candidates with the required skills relating to the safe use of working platforms relevant to their craft discipline.

This Unit will be offered to candidates working towards a Modern Apprenticeship in Construction and will develop their craft skills in working platforms and access equipment. The skills, knowledge and understanding are transferable within different working environments but the Unit is primarily aimed at candidates whose normal place of work would be a site, workshop, or similar environment.

Health and Safety and Sustainability are integral and key to the Construction Industry therefore throughout the Unit emphasis will be placed where appropriate on the application of Health and Safety and Sustainability. Safety working practices should be looked at in accordance with current safety codes of practice and regulations. Sustainability should include reference to criteria affecting sustainability, impact of not implementing sustainability on the environment and the legislation promoting sustainability.

#### **GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT**

The candidate is given the opportunity to further develop their skills in working platforms by learning about their components, assembly, safe use. This teaching approach should ensure the candidate is acquiring the underpinning knowledge required for the Unit.

The critical importance of this Unit is the correct positioning of working platforms, their components and their safe use as well as the successful completion of a test paper demonstrating the candidates understanding of relevant safety procedures.

Opportunities should be taken throughout delivery of this Unit to meet the requirements of the generic Units of the Training and Assessment Programme including:

- ◆ *Conform to General Workplace Safety*
- ◆ *Confirm Work Activities and Resources for the Work*
- ◆ *Develop and Maintain Good Working Relationships*
- ◆ *Confirm the Occupational Method of Work*
- ◆ *Conform to Efficient Working Practices*
- ◆ *Move and Handle Resources*

## National Unit Specification: Support Notes (cont)

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#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Components of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving*, such as Planning and Organising and Critical Thinking will be developed as candidates undertake this Unit. Candidates will need to take account of a range of factors in order to work efficiently and safely, such as the choice of tools, appropriate materials, safety issues, safety equipment and sustainability. Individual discussions with assessors will enhance the evaluation of efficient working practices.

Opportunities also arise for candidates to develop the Core Skill of *Information and Communications Technology* by researching Health and Safety legislation affecting their area of work.

Numeracy skills will be enhanced through the knowledge evidence in the practical use of calculation and measuring scales required for teaching and learning assessments.

Although Communication skills are not formally assessed, candidates will have the opportunity to develop written and/or oral communication skills for the knowledge part of the assessment for Outcomes 1. As candidates complete practical tasks in Outcome 2 they should be expected to communicate with others using the correct terminology, tone and style suited to the workplace.

#### GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Centres may use the instruments of assessment which they consider to be most appropriate but are advised to use the Construction Craft TAP appropriate to the candidates craft discipline which has been developed centrally by SQA. Any other instruments of assessment used must be comparable to the TAP and have been through prior verification.

The candidates' knowledge and understanding of terminology, safety and construction practices of working platforms will be assessed through a question paper and conducted under controlled, closed-book, supervised conditions.

Candidates should be presented with an access platform appropriate to their craft discipline containing defects to be identified by the candidate through a risk assessment. All defects and hazards should be identified and reported accordingly. An assessor observation checklist can be used to record this evidence along with report on defects. Assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised conditions.

#### Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by information and communications technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

## **National Unit Specification: Support Notes (cont)**

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### **CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).