Internal Assessment Report: SVQ Performing Manufacturing Operations (VG 32)

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.

SVQ Awards

SVQs in Performing Manufacturing Operations at Level 1 and Level 2

Feedback to centres

General comments

Fourteen centres were identified as offering Performing Manufacturing Operations (PMO) in session 2008–09 and ten were actively running with candidates. Employers and trainees appear to value, and hold a high regard for, the qualification.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development

Good practice

There was good use of naturally occurring evidence and observation assessment across all centres delivering the qualification.

All centres maintained good records of candidate progress — these were, largely, in the same format.

Generally, assessors operated to a high standard in delivering the award.

Areas for development

There are a number of common minor issues overall with internal quality assurance and these are listed below.

Internal verification was very much quality-control orientated rather than quality-assurance orientated, which is the fundamental difference between the old standard of internal verification D34 and new standards of practice V1.

The range of evaluation techniques used by centres was limited which consequently restricted internal quality assurance in terms of process improvements.

Centres could make better use of the assessment strategies information prescribed by the SSC — most centres are not as familiar with the assessment strategy document as they ought to be. As a result of this, some centres seemed to be unaware of the occupational competence requirements of assessors and verifiers. These have now either been provided to centres since the visits, or centres have been directed to where to obtain them.

Funding issues can have an effect on how candidate progress is recorded.