



**Higher National Qualifications**

**And**

**Scottish Vocational Qualifications**

**Internal Assessment Report**

**2008**

**Subject: Mechanical Engineering (212)**

**Sector Panel or SSC: Engineering**

**Date: 25 August 2008**

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.

## HIGHER NATIONAL UNITS

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

*Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the verification of centres. Include:*

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

#### **General comments:**

**A total of 7 centres were visited to verify HN units, and a total of 7 separate units were sampled.**

**No serious problems were found at any of the centres visited. Units were generally being well presented.**

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

**It is usually the case that engineering projects which are based in industry, or which have an industrial link, are particularly successful. This type of project generally proves more motivating to the candidates, as they see it as more relevant.**

**It is also useful to encourage students undertaking an engineering project to make use of the web as part of their information searches. This broadens the scope of the project, and also helps to develop the candidate's ICT skills.**

## HIGHER NATIONAL GRADED UNITS

### TITLES/LEVELS OF HN GRADED UNITS VERIFIED

*Insert details below*

**DV11 34 Mechanical Engineering Graded Unit 1 (Central verification)**

**DW12 35 Mechanical Engineering Graded Unit 2**

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

*Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the verification of centres.*

*Include:*

- *General comment*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

#### General comments:

##### Graded Unit 1

All centres had gone through the process of prior verification (in one case, not fully), and hence no problems were identified relating to level or content of the assessments.

Assessors did not always show all assessment decisions and part mark allocations clearly on the candidate scripts.

Second marking was evident on many scripts. However, it was not always clear, when the first and second assessor differed in their assessment decision, how the final mark was agreed.

Assessors did not always follow good practice, for example in following through into later stages of a question with an incorrect answer from an earlier stage.

In some cases errors were identified in collating and adding part marks in questions.

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

##### Graded Unit 1

To ensure correct and consistent assessment decisions, and hence as part of the internal verification process, second marking of candidates work should be undertaken. Second markers should clearly indicate where they differ from the original assessment decision, and the final mark should be clearly indicated and justified.

Care should be taken to ensure that all parts of the assessment have been marked, and that all the part marks have been correctly added to form the final mark.

Centres should have a clear policy regarding carrying forward incorrect answers into later stages of a question. Wherever possible, assessments should be designed so as to minimize this problem.

##### Graded Unit 2

It is important that centres ensure that candidates are given clear and full guidance relating to the tasks to be undertaken in the project, and also all relevant timescales and deadlines.

## **SVQ AWARDS**

### **TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS VERIFIED**

*Insert details below*

N/A

### **FEEDBACK TO CENTRES**

*Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the verification of centres.*

*Include:*

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

**General comments:**

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

## **NATIONAL UNITS**

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

## **TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS VERIFIED**

*Insert details below*

**N/A**

## **FEEDBACK TO CENTRES**

*Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the verification of centres.*

*Include:*

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

**General comments:**

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