

Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Internal Assessment Report

2008

Subject: Sheet Plate and Welding

Sector Panel or SSC: Engineering

Date: 7 August 2008

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation 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 moderation of centres.

Include:

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

General comments:

This year's moderation covered a broad range of units within the Sheet Plate and Welding Group. The spread consisted of units in Fabrication and Welding Technology and practical based units, Materials, Manufacture, Quality Assurance Non Destructive Testing and Inspection techniques.

All of the moderator reports highlighted a consistency in the approach to assessing evidence. All centres had quality assurance procedures in place, internal moderation and assessment was carried out well and all centres had suitably qualified staff in the roles of moderation and assessment.

Evidence existed of constructive discussions taking place between external moderators and centres' internal moderators and assessors. Some of these discussions were around the scheduling of assessments, assessment conditions, the use of NAB materials, sample responses, marking schemes, new graded unit provision and HN development

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

As in previous years positive comments were received regarding the quality of candidates' work across all centres. This was an encouraging trend and testament to the good work being carried out by centres to ensure skills and standards are being maintained.

The centre reports highlighted elements of good practice in assessment materials, documented evidence and internal moderation procedures. Good practice was also highlighted in the area of communication with candidates.

Centres were aware of the introduction of new HN units and in some cases were reminded of the need to develop marking schemes, sample solutions and alternative assessment materials as part of Assessment Packs. These were the only areas where centres were advised of areas for further development. These areas for development were also highlighted in last year's report.

HIGHER NATIONAL GRADED UNITS

TITLES/LEVELS OF HN GRADED UNITS MODERATED

Insert details below

Unit Title: Fabrication Welding and Inspection

Unit Number: DR37 34

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

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

Include:

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

General comments:

There were two centres presenting candidates for this award

The centres had produced a locally devised examination paper that had been subject to prior verification. The assessment pack included clear marking schedule with sample solutions. These sample solutions provided good guidance for markers and external verifiers.

The assessors' interpretation of the marking guidelines was accurate and the results had been internally verified. The external moderation process resulted in some minor adjustments being made to the assessors' original mark allocation to candidates. As a result, candidates' marks and percentage scores were altered accordingly.

After these adjustments had been made the mark allocation was fair and appropriate to the standards of responses submitted by candidates. There were no instances where re-assessment had taken place, therefore there were no re-assessment issues.

The responses to the examination submitted by candidates demonstrated a good knowledge and understanding of the subject area which was encouraging.

Candidates scoring high were able to fully answer the question as presented, whereas candidates who scored low presented incomplete answers which lacked detail.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

The centre produced a well laid out assessment pack and included clear marking schedule with sample solutions. These sample solutions provided good guidance for markers and external verifiers.

A more thorough process of internal verification was recommended, as this would have picked up the anomalies around the awarding of candidates' marks. Errors were identified with this process which affected the percentage of marks awarded to some candidates. This was picked up during external verification and all errors were amended accordingly.

SVQ AWARDS

TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS MODERATED

Insert details below

N/A

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

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

Include:

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

N/A

General comments:

N/A

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

N/A

NATIONAL UNITS

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

TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS MODERATED

Insert details below

N/A

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

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

Include:

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

General comments:

N/A

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

N/A

DEVELOPMENT VISITS

A total of three development visits were carried out during the year. The visits covered a wide range of Fabrication and Welding units including the Graded Unit. All visits were successful and centre feedback was good.
