



**National Qualifications 2015
Internal Assessment Report
Product Design**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in National Qualifications in this subject.

National Qualifications (NQ) Units

DF4W Design Analysis (Intermediate 2 and Higher)

DF4V Developing Design Proposals (Intermediate 2 and Higher)

General comments

In total, 11 centres were verified, all at the central event in April. Six centres were verified in Unit DF4W and five in DF4V.

Seven centres were Accepted. Four centres were Not Accepted and were required to re-submit evidence.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

All centres used SQA NABs. Marking instructions were followed and applied for DF4W. A significant number of centres did not correctly apply the marking instructions for DF4V.

It was also noted that a number of centres used NAB 001 for DF4W. Although this NAB is still valid, NAB 002 reduces the assessment burden on candidates.

Evidence Requirements

DF4V Design Analysis — Intermediate 2 and Higher

There was clear understanding of the requirements for both Outcomes. Candidates submitted evaluations on a wide range of suitable products and analysis of the set brief was structured and generated suitable evidence.

DF4W Developing Design Proposals — Intermediate 2 and Higher

The main reason for Not Accepted decisions was the generous awarding of marks for modelling and graphics. Centres are advised to pay particular attention to the detail in the NAB.

Outcome 1 — Produce a design proposal

At both levels, a number of centres accepted evidence that was very weak. The evidence presented must be detailed enough to demonstrate the candidate's design knowledge.

Outcome 2 — Use graphic techniques during the production of a design proposal

Often, marks were awarded to drawings that were not recognisable types. Reference should be made to the NAB statements.

Occasionally, too many marks were awarded for computer-generated graphics. Reference should be made to the NAB statements.

Often, too many marks were awarded for rendering. Marks in the top range (7–10) can only be awarded if at least three media have been used.

It should be noted that if candidates have undertaken more than one design task to generate evidence for this Outcome they are required to submit the folio of work for each task to show that the graphic techniques were used during the production of a design proposal.

Outcome 3 — Use modelling techniques during the production of a design proposal

It would appear that a large number of candidates are not using modelling during the design process but are simply producing a model of their design proposal at the end of the process.

Issues included:

- ◆ Too many marks awarded for computer modelling. Reference should be made the NAB. **In particular, it should be noted that practical skills marks cannot be awarded for computer modelling.**
- ◆ Inappropriate or very limited use of modelling. Models should be used for a purpose and they should be evident throughout the folio.
- ◆ Lack of range of models. Often a single model was produced and appeared at the end of the folio. Often several examples of the same type of model appeared at the end of the folio. Centres should note that candidates can achieve the maximum 5 marks for very quickly produced models which have validity during the idea generation and development stages of the folio.

Administration of assessments

All centres made use of SQA NABs.

Areas of good practice

Evidence submitted by a number of centres for DF4W was very strong with candidates producing excellent reports.

Specific areas for improvement

A number of centres were generous in awarding marks for graphics and modelling in DF4W. Reference must be made to the NABs.