



## Customer case study



## Helping ACOP build the future



### About ACOP Training Ltd

ACOP Training Ltd, part of the ACOP Group, is an award winning training provider based in South Wales. ACOP Training delivers a wide range of training and learning including; CPCS training, testing and NVQ assessment on an extensive range of categories of plant machinery and lifting operations.

Since 2008, ACOP Training has been based at a quarry site near Cross Hands, South Wales; an ideal location for simulating a live working environment during training. ACOP offer courses which can be tailored to any ability and level of experience.

The organisation has a clear aim to deliver the highest quality of training and testing using the best possible facilities and plant machinery.

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## The Challenge

Initially, in May 2013, ACOP was set up as a Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) Centre to both deliver training and testing to a recognised standard for Plant Operators. At the same time ACOP were also approved as a CSCS Health and Safety Test Centre. ACOP were a team of three at this time.

By August 2013, the team was growing and the business started a period of NVQ (National Vocational Qualifications) development. It became apparent very quickly that ACOP needed to supply a whole selection of NVQ delivery to meet the differing needs of the Industry. The challenge they faced was to find the right people both internally and externally which would allow them to expand their provision in this area.

The Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) had a superb outreach and support infrastructure and provided the specialist service ACOP would need to make their dreams of expansion a reality.

SQA offered a professional approach, providing the knowledge required to support ACOP in which construction qualifications would be the best fit for their business.

## The Solution

The solution to ACOP's challenge was solved by working in partnership with SQA; becoming an approved SQA centre able to deliver NVQ's. ACOP recognised SQA's strong experience in the construction sector; offering qualifications which are developed with business and industry.

SQA provided the support, knowledge and expertise to provide ACOP the high standards of qualifications required for their business.

ACOP initially started by offering Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications in plant machinery and lifting operations but have more recently expanded their qualification provision to include levels 3, 4 and 5.

Through delivery of the Level 4 and Level 5 supervisory and management qualification, management qualification, ACOP has successfully been involved in supporting the construction work to modify the Olympic park in London.

Sion Morgan Jones, Training Director at ACOP Group, said ***“NVQ's now provide at least 25% of our business and through delivering these qualifications we have nurtured some important working relationships with influential companies within our industry. ACOP centre has seen a steady increase in the uptake of NVQs, and it is vital that we keep abreast of all changes within the standards and qualifications. SQA make this much easier and are extremely supportive”.***

ACOP Training recently won the prize for Centre of the Year in the Wider UK & Ireland at SQA's annual Star Awards Ceremony.

***“As we have grown our portfolio of qualifications, we have gone from strength to strength as a business. This growth has allowed us to invest in both our plant but also our people and have recently appointed new staff to help cope with demand”.***

**Sion Morgan Jones,**  
Training Director at  
ACOP Group.

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## The Future

ACOP Training is already looking to the future, with plans for continued growth. Moving forward, the company wishes to strengthen its provision and continue its commitment to high standards which are at the core of its business.

The training provider has already identified future qualifications which it would like to offer and will continue to work in partnership with SQA for continued growth.

***“It’s been a pleasure working with SQA, their EQA staff are supportive, experienced, friendly and realistic. Long may our relationship continue”.***

Sion Morgan Jones, Training Director at ACOP Group.

## About SQA

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) is an international leader in education and training; we assess and award qualifications throughout the UK.

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***With over 100 years’ experience in educational support, we help organisations to realise their potential and achieve their ambitions.***

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We work closely with training providers, colleges and employers to develop and deliver qualifications and assessments. With a vast portfolio of qualifications in sectors such as Construction, Maritime, Creative and Cultural, and Health and Social Care, we can find the right solution for your business. We also design bespoke qualifications which can be tailored to your unique business needs.

Experts in assessment, we are renowned for our quality and customer service.

## Find out more

To find out more about how SQA can help your organisation reach its potential please contact:

Phone: 0303 333 0330

Email: [ukskills@sqa.org.uk](mailto:ukskills@sqa.org.uk)

Web: [www.sqa.org.uk/uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk/uk)

***“As a business NVQ delivery is extremely important to us, and we have benefited greatly from SQA’s supportive and professional approach”.***

**Helen Scourfield,**  
Training Director at  
ACOP Group.

