



NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Message Reports

Verification group name:	Practical Electronics
Levels	N4 and N5
Date published:	October 2016

This Report combines all Verification Key Messages for the academic session 2015-2016.



NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Messages Round 1

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Practical Electronics
Verification event/visiting information	Postal verification
Date published:	March 2016

National Courses/Units verified:

H25L National 5 Practical Electronics: Circuit Simulation

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

All evidence submitted for this Unit was candidate interim evidence, taking the Unit-by-Unit approach. SQA assessments had been used throughout. It is anticipated that the majority of candidates will successfully complete the activities before the end of the session.

Some centres experienced difficulties in simulating one of the circuits provided by SQA. This sometimes happens when there are different versions of software used or different updates to software. Slight modifications were made to the circuit in question to enable the circuit to function in the software environment. It is anticipated that as new software is being purchased or upgraded in the future then more local adjustments may need to be made to circuits.

Assessment judgements

There was evidence of comprehensive internal verification processes in place, which should ensure the integrity of assessment decisions. All interim assessment decisions provided for this round of external verification were found to be in line with SQA requirements.

Section 3: General comments

When centres provide extensive documentation for the purposes of internal and external verification, it appears to give deliverers the confidence to modify SQA material while ensuring that it continues to meet the Course requirements.

It is anticipated that the sourcing of electronics kits, consumables, tools, software, etc will change in future, and centres will continue to respond to these changes by modifying tasks and assignments.

NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Messages Round 2

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Practical Electronics
Verification event/visiting information	Visiting
Date published:	June 2016

National Courses/Units verified:

Unit code	Level	Unit title
H25N 74	N4	Added Value Unit
	N5	Internally Assessed Component of Course Assessment (IACCA)

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

There is a bank of tasks to choose from, but most centres chose to utilise the cycle lights project.

In general, candidate performance was good at N4 and N5, with a good standard of practical work. However, weaknesses were identified at the reporting and documentation stages.

Assessment judgements

The tasks were found to be at the correct level of difficulty, and the marking instructions enabled assessors to differentiate between different levels of performance.

03

Section 3: General comments

Overall, the tasks and marking instructions functioned as expected. The exceptions were a small number of centres with an 'Accepted with recommendations' verification outcome. This was due to minor misinterpretation of the marking instructions.

Whilst the marking instructions appear to be working well, we will review them to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and that they are as clear as possible.