



**Higher National Qualifications  
Internal Assessment Report 2015  
Mechanical Engineering**

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

# Higher National Units

## General comments

All the centres that were visited in 2014–15 had a clear and accurate understanding of the requirements of the national standards for the HN Mechanical Engineering qualifications.

The centres that were verified were all experienced in the delivery of these Units.

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

The centres demonstrated a good level of understanding and awareness of the requirements of the Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials relating to the delivery. Each centre also demonstrated a wide knowledge and experience of using and interpreting the course documentation and materials, embedding their experience within the Units taught.

Centres provided details of course meetings in which staff shared ideas and good practice from within each department on the delivery of each Unit.

## Evidence Requirements

The Units had not been delivered at the time of verification so no evidence was present for sampling.

## Administration of assessments

The centres demonstrated good control and management of assessments and materials, with robust control and administration of assessments to be used.

The centres' internal verification procedures were deemed to be robust, ensuring all candidate work met the national standards.

## General feedback

Centres employ a variety of innovative feedback mechanisms to ensure all candidates gain feedback on their performance during their course.

## Areas of good practice

A number of centres use IT to provide feedback and deliver certain aspects of training which takes place overseas.

## Specific areas for improvement

None identified.

# Higher National Graded Units

Titles/levels of HN Graded Units verified:

DV11 34 Mechanical Engineering Graded Unit 1(postal verification)

DV12 35 Mechanical Engineering Graded Unit 2

## General comments

The centres that were verified in 2014–15 had a clear and accurate understanding of the requirements of the national standards for HN Mechanical Engineering.

All centres that were verified were experienced in the delivery of these Graded Units.

Four centres were centrally verified during the session.

## Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

All assessors demonstrated good understanding and awareness of the requirements of the Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials. Each centre also demonstrated wide knowledge and experience of using and interpreting the course documentation and materials, embedding their experience within the Units taught.

Centres provided details of course meetings in which staff shared ideas and good practice from within each department on the delivery of each Unit.

No centres visited in session 2014–15 were subject to a hold on certification, thereby reinforcing that all assessment decisions were reliable and valid.

## Evidence Requirements

All centres that were visited clearly demonstrated an understanding of the evidence requirements of all the Units to be delivered.

In all cases, the student materials were ready for verifying and were deemed to be of an appropriate standard.

## Administration of assessments

The centres demonstrated control and management of assessments and materials and these were deemed to be of an appropriate level. For those centres visited, internal verification procedures were deemed to be robust ensuring all candidate work meets the national standards.

As has been noted in the past as good practice, all centres engaged in cross-marking or second marking of candidate evidence to ensure all work met the college internal verification procedures and national standards.

### **General feedback**

Centres employed a variety of feedback mechanisms to ensure all candidates gained feedback on their performance during their course.

Due to the timing and type of external verification, no candidates were interviewed.

All centres employed excellent access to their assessments with no barriers identified from any visit.

### **Areas of good practice**

- ◆ All centres visited demonstrated a high standard of record keeping.
- ◆ All centres provided detailed feedback to candidates during their work.
- ◆ In all cases the assessment papers being used were signed by the internal verifier resulting in a standardised approach across the sector.
- ◆ Again this year, high standards of industry-based Graded Unit 2 projects were presented.

### **Specific areas for improvement**

None were identified.