Title	Describe data communications		
Level	4	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe past, current, and emerging developments in data communications; and describe synchronous and asynchronous data communication.

Classification	Computing > Computer Support

Available grade	Achieved

Guidance Information

1   The assessment context for this unit standard must be suitable to meet the criteria for level 4 in the NZQF Level Descriptors, which are available by searching for "level descriptors" at www.nzqa.govt.nz.

2   Legislation relevant to this unit standard may include but is not limited to the:
Copyright Act 1994
Copyright (New Technologies) Amendment Act 2008
Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
Privacy Act 1993
Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act 2007
and any subsequent amendments.
Current legislation and regulations can be accessed at http://legislation.govt.nz.

3   References
ACC5637 Guidelines for Using Computers - Preventing and managing discomfort, pain and injury. Accident Compensation Corporation - Department of Labour, 2010; available from Worksafe New Zealand, at
http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/all-guidance-items/guidelines-for-using-computers.

4   An assessment resource to support computing unit standards (levels 1 to 4) can be found on the NZQA website at www.nzqa.govt.nz/asm.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe past, current and emerging developments in data communications.

Range   signal characteristics, components, standards, protocols, media;
a minimum of two past, current and emerging developments are required.

Performance criteria

1.1   The description explains the origin and past developments of current data communications.

1.2   The description provides a classification of current data communications.

   Range   may include but is not limited to – wireless, voice, data, digital, analogue, packet switching.

1.3   The description identifies and projects trends from emerging developments in data communications.

   Range   a minimum of two trends.

Outcome 2

Describe synchronous and asynchronous data communications.

Range   physical interface, modes of operation.

Performance criteria

2.1   The description outlines the characteristics of synchronous and asynchronous data communication.

   Range   features, functions, standards, protocols.

2.2   The description explains the features of data communications equipment with respect to synchronous and asynchronous data communications.

   Range   modem, network terminating unit, transmission equipment.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 July 1996	31 December 2013
Revision	2	28 July 1998	31 December 2013
Review	3	30 November 2000	31 December 2013
Revision	4	5 July 2002	31 December 2013
Revision	5	16 July 2004	31 December 2013
Rollover and Revision	6	26 March 2007	31 December 2013
Review	7	19 March 2010	31 December 2015
Rollover and Revision	8	19 September 2013	31 December 2019
Review	9	19 January 2017	31 December 2024
Review	10	26 May 2022	31 December 2024

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0113

This CMR can be accessed at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do.