

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Solid Wood Manufacturing (Level 3) With strands in Finger Jointing; Pole, Post and Pile; Saw Doctoring; Sawmilling; Timber Drying; Timber Grading and Optimising; Timber Machining; and Timber Treatment

Qualification number: 1969

Date of review: 31 July 2017

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National Consistency Confirmed

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of graduates working efficiently under limited supervision, applying their knowledge of health and safety and environmental and quality requirements and operating machines and processes relevant to their strand.

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation	Final rating
Competenz	Sufficient

Introduction

This is a level three certificate programme with a value of 49 to 79 credits. Currently only Competenz has produced graduates from this programme which can be completed as part of an apprenticeship. Competenz graduated 4 students in 2015 and 73 in 2016. Most graduates were from the sawmilling and timber grading and optimising strands. Two graduates went on to complete the level four programme as part of their complex apprenticeship.

Evidence

The education organisation provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the graduate profile outcomes.

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by TEO
- How well the organisation has analysed, interpreted and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency
- The extent to which the TEO can reasonably justify and validate claims and statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes, including in relation to other providers of programmes leading to the qualification

Key evidence included:

Programme Evidence

Competenz presented evidence of ongoing stakeholder engagement through Sector Advisory Groups that occur three times per annum. In addition, there is regular contact with industry through quarterly visits to employers and trainees by sector account managers. Evidence was presented of quality processes with respect to assessment and moderation. This includes pre-moderation of assessments and model answers by subject matter experts, quality reviews of a sample of moderation by the national moderator and biennial best practice assessment workshops for assessors. Records show assessors for this qualification are successfully engaged in moderation and workshops.

Graduate Feedback

Competenz commissioned a survey aligned to the graduate profile of this qualification. The response rate was 39 percent. All but two graduates are still working in the industry and attested to gaining important knowledge related to the graduate profile and being at or above the skill level they expected to be. All were either working under limited supervision, self-managing under broad guidance or completely self-managed. 85 percent believed the qualification has been of benefit to their ability to do their job and all would recommend it. In addition, Competenz contract a research company to conduct an annual survey with all graduates and employers from Wood manufacturing qualifications at level 3 and above. Responses show 98 percent of graduates believe that through the qualification they had learned the skills they needed for their job.

Next User feedback

As noted above Competenz contract annual research with employers of graduates from Wood manufacturing qualifications at level three and above. Findings from this survey show that 91 percent believe that the training plan delivered the expected skills for trainees in their company. In addition, Competenz also contacted six employers of graduates from this qualification and the level 2 New Zealand Certificate in Solid Wood Manufacturing. Five of the six employers said the qualifications had been of benefit and attested to the majority of graduates being self-managed under broad guidance or being completely self-managed. Of the two employers who were asked the more in-depth questions, they rated the graduates' competency at 8 out 10 against relevant knowledge and skill areas.

How well does the evidence provided by the education organisation demonstrate that its graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold?

This evidence supports consistency in ensuring that the qualification outcomes are being met at the appropriate threshold. The feedback from graduates and employers provides good evidence that graduates had gained the relevant knowledge and skills. Quality processes are in place to ensure programme design and assessment practice is robust.

Examples of good practice

The Competenz graduate survey asked the graduates about their competency with specific reference to the knowledge and skills outlined in the graduate profile. This level of specificity enhances the usefulness and validity of this evidence.