

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Timber Machining (Level 4)

Qualification number: 1974

Date of review: 10 July 2018

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, without supervision, will be able to:

- safely and efficiently operate timber machining plant and equipment
- maintain the plant and equipment and
- troubleshoot and make decisions to maintain productivity.

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Education Organisation	Final rating
Competenz	Sufficient

Introduction

The purpose of this 160-credit qualification is to provide the solid wood manufacturing industry with people who have the advanced technical skills and knowledge to operate as trade-level timber machinists. Competenz, the Industry Training Organisation (ITO) was the only tertiary education organisation approved to award the qualification. There were eleven graduates in the review period from 2015- 2017. Competenz is also the qualification developer and a separate representative participated in the consistency review meeting, conducted via a telephone conference.

Evidence

The education organisation provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that its 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 the education organisation
- 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 education organisation 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.

The education organisation provided a range of evidence including:

Programme related evidence

- A programme outline showing which unit standards mapped against the different qualification graduate profile outcomes.

- Pre-moderated ITO-developed assessment guides, model answers for a selection of unit standards, as well as a programme handbook for employers and learners.
- A record of the moderation activity and results since 2015, showing that all assessors and most unit standards have been recently moderated, generally moderation confirmed the assessment judgments made. The organisation has appropriate procedures in place to address any issues.
- The ITO had participated in industry forums and had worked with industry when developing the unit standards and the new qualification.

The Stakeholder feedback evidence

- Surveys of the graduates and their employers asked each stakeholder to rate (on a scale of 1 to 10), how well the graduates demonstrated each of the graduate profile outcomes. The survey response rates were 55% (6/11 graduates¹) and 50% (4/8 employers), the sample size was sufficient for make reasonable judgements about the graduates. Both the employers and graduates stated the graduates demonstrated each of the graduate profile outcomes, though the graduates consistently rated their level of competency higher than their employers.

Destinational evidence

- Evidence was provided that the 6 of the 11 graduates were employed in advanced timber machining roles, matching the expected employment pathways for this qualification.

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

The training and assessment of the eleven graduates mostly took place in a wood manufacturing industry workplace.² This operating environment provided a strong source of real-world evidence for the graduates to demonstrate they had matched the graduate profile. All graduates were working in relevant industry roles when they graduated; 6 out of the 11 graduates were working in advanced machinist roles when the survey was conducted. This was strong evidence that the graduates had followed the expected employment pathway. Competenz had developed and pre-moderated the industry training and assessment materials. All of the workplace assessors had their work recently moderated, and mostly confirm the judgements they had made and effectively addressed any issues raised. Most of the unit standards had been moderated. The evidence regarding the ITP-delivered programmes organisation was however more limited.

The meeting agreed that the strategic purpose statement captured well the threshold of the graduate demonstrating the most important graduate profile outcomes in a real-world environment. There was good evidence that the training, assessment and moderation was robust, and this provided confidence in the capability of these graduates. Many of the graduates were working in the expected industry roles. There was also a clear consensus among the employer and graduate survey respondents that graduates had demonstrated the graduate profile outcomes. The combined evidence along with the detailed understanding of the tertiary education organisation representative and the analysis undertaken, provided a convincing case that the graduates match the graduate profile outcome at the appropriate threshold.

¹ 3 of the 11 graduates were no longer employed.

² Some graduates had attended a block course of training and assessment offered by two ITPs.

Examples of good practice

The survey was well designed asking both employers and graduates to rate each of the graduate profile outcomes using the same rating scale. This provided well triangulated feedback directly related to the graduate profile outcomes. This feedback from graduates and employers had added weight as graduates and employers worked together in an operating industry workplace, where the graduate had performed the required range of advanced timber machinist assessment tasks.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

There were no recommendations to the qualification developer.