

**Qualification Title:** New Zealand Certificate in Solid Wood Manufacturing (level 4) with strands in Laminating, Timber Drying, Timber Grading and Timber Treatment

**Qualification number:** 1973

**Date of review:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Final decision on consistency of the qualification:** *National Consistency is confirmed*

**Threshold:**

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of:

Graduates being able to lead an investigation into production issues or understand cost factors in a solid wood manufacturing operation.

Graduates of the **Timber Drying Strand** will also be able to:

- Manage the operation, performance and maintenance requirements of a timber kiln operation.
- Understand production planning and production control processes in a wood manufacturing operation

Graduates of the **Timber Grading Strand** will also be able to:

- Grade timber to company grading specifications at production rate and agreed industry standards and understand value and cost factors in solid wood manufacturing.
- Manage the quality requirements of a timber grading operation.

Graduates of the **Timber Treatment Strand** will also be able to:

- Understand production planning and production control processes in a wood manufacturing operation.
- Manage the operation, performance and maintenance requirements of a wood preservation plant.

There were no graduates for the **Laminating Strand**

Note that the GPOs of the qualification are retained unchanged in the threshold statement

## Final consistency report

### Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation	Final rating
Competenz	Sufficient

#### Introduction

This is a flexible Level 4 qualification designed to meet the needs of the solid wood manufacturing industry. It comprises 45-55 credits depending on the strand studied.

The purpose of this qualification is to provide the solid wood manufacturing industry with people who have the skills and knowledge required to work as advanced operators in a solid wood manufacturing operation.

Graduates will be responsible for the safe and efficient operation of plant and equipment used in solid wood manufacturing without supervision. Graduates will also be responsible for the maintenance of plant and equipment and will be capable of troubleshooting and making decisions to maintain productivity.

Strands available to learners are: laminating, timber drying, timber grading and timber treatment. To date, there have been 12 graduates: timber drying - 4; timber grading - 5; timber treatment - 3. As yet there are no graduates in the laminating strand.

All current graduates are in employment (across 6 employers) and have undertaken the qualification through on-job study with Competenz

#### 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 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

Evidence was provided of programme design related to the learner's own work environment, external moderation practice, graduate and employer survey data, and graduate retention data.

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

The evidence presented provides a strong, well-triangulated picture of consistency across all three strands where there are graduates. A recent survey of graduates had a 58% percent response rate. All responses were highly positive, although there was only one graduate response from the timber drying strand.

A similar employer survey achieved a 50% response rate This response covered 8 of the 12 graduates and covered businesses operating in all three strands of the qualification Once more, the responses were highly positive.

## **Final consistency report**

A telephone survey of all employers confirmed that all 12 graduates are still employed by the industry in their areas of study. So far industry has not raised any problems with the qualification during regular industry liaison meetings.

Moderation processes are strong with most unit standards being covered by two assessors whose work has been verified by Competenz. Other unit standards contributing to the programme have been moderated through Competenz's business as usual processes.

Considering all this evidence provides confidence that national consistency has been achieved across all strands where there are currently graduates.

### **Examples of good practice**

A high response rate to the graduate survey which gave a positive view provides confidence that graduates with this qualification attain outcomes that are highly appropriate to their roles within industry. Graduate comments clearly demonstrate that the qualification has added value to their roles within the industry. Strong lines of communication with employers reinforce that this is the case.

Samples of quality assured study guides and assessments were provided that show a clear and constructively aligned level of challenge to learners within their work contexts.

### **Recommendations to Qualification Developer**

This qualification is due for review at the end of 2019 and meeting industry needs well. The level of qualification might need to be reconsidered at review: a case could be made that this is a Level 5 qualification, in that it requires a level of analytical skill and it is assumed that staff are working without supervision.