

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.
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Classification	Computing > Computer Support
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Available grade	Achieved
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Explanatory notes

- 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 evidence requirements

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.

Evidence requirements

- 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.

Evidence requirements

- 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.

Planned review date	31 December 2021
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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	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0113
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Please note

Providers must be granted consent to assess against standards (accredited) by NZQA, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be granted consent to assess against standards by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Providers and Industry Training Organisations, which have been granted consent and which are assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Requirements for consent to assess and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR). The CMR also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact NZQA National Qualifications Services nqs@nzqa.govt.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.