



## On Line assessment of Vocational Qualifications in the UK

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## Why

- The endless paper chase
- Because the present paper system will be overtaken by Technology
- Develop an E portfolio within an assessment management structure.
- **But making the change brings many other challenges.**



## Back to the past

- **Learner** “I have no idea when I will qualify or how much more work is required.”
- **Assessor** “I am so stressed, just to keep up with the audit, I don’t know how much evidence is missing”.
- **Manager** “I had no idea that verification has not occurred”.



## Why Develop a System

- **Learner** To something which told me how much I have to do and how this can be done.
- **Assessor** To provide information without effort and help the learner qualify without delay
- **Manager** To have increased quality as standard and to be cost efficient by telling me where resources are required



## Developmental Principles



- Provide clarity on work completed and real time reporting to the learner.
- Change the way in which NVQs are assessed and verified, thereby enabling centres to be confident of success.
- Significantly reduce verification costs while ensuring improvements in quality.



## Developmental Principles




- Clearly state full evidence requirements and measure activity against them
- Provide remote sampling which will enable EV assurance of valued activity
- Encourage an interactive visible process which builds confidence with the assessor and learner




## Who is the system for



- The Learner, above all, its their work and for the future, a continuing record of competence achieved over time.
- The centre because the structure of the system is also a record of the quality of assessment in the centre
- The employer who can view the progress of all staff and identify skills gaps



## Connecting with others in the learning community



- Opportunity for all to view the process
- All involved have live reports on actual progress
- The ability to identify problem areas of assessment
- Time taken to assess is reduced by 50%
- What about confidentiality and security



## What evidence



- How do you know its authentic
- Allow all file types and do not limit file size
- Digital audio recording of observation coupled with visual files
- Digital video of candidates at work
- What about real product evidence/ reference



## Assessment Management



- Identify assessments that have been made
- Identify the gaps in the portfolio
- When is future assessment planned
- Where is evidence valid for other units  
APL / Holistic assessment process
- What is the impact on assessors



## Tracking and Verification



- How do you deal with volume of information
- Ensure that the assessment is automatically tracked
- Compare the track with assessment performance and detail gaps



## Verification Management



- Awarding bodies use of the system
- Manage verifiers practice
- Enable Verifiers to remotely sample work from the centre.
- Reduce costs and expenses in assessment
- Provide a cost effective process for small centres



## Technology Needs



- The Ability to add all file types.
- The need to integrate with MIS and VLE systems
- To be capable of continued further development through standards
- To allow multiple site use through common browser activity



## Technical Skills for Users



- Common IT skills
- In time the ability to mix file types as evidence and understand what is appropriate
- So not a great deal
- Fear of change??



## Quality Control



- Sampling strategies
- Multiple choices for samples
- How do we assure quality in the system
- How can we be sure about the evidence value



## Change Management



- There is fear of the unknown
- What if the evidence is lost
- I like my paper and don't want to change



## Continuing Development



- Moves towards interoperability are vital
- Web Cam technology reduces distance
- VLE and MLE integration
- Awarding Body MIS system.