

A hard look at qualifications with help from industry

The New Zealand Qualifications Authority [NZQA] has launched a series of rolling sector reviews for all industries in the country, and one for the electrotechnology industry is now underway.



The Sector Review Group recently had its first meeting at ETITO's head office.

The sector review is NZQA's response to concerns that the system was sometimes not relevant to certain employers, was not user-friendly, and contained a confusingly large number of similar qualifications which made identifying educational pathways difficult.

ETITO is taking a fresh look at qualifications across the entire electrotechnology industry to combat this. There are a number of things the sector review aims to achieve – removing duplicate or redundant qualifications, ensuring that the qualifications available meet the skills requirements of a particular occupation, and making sure that there's a logical career pathway with sensible entry and exit points.

A group of 29 representatives have been recruited to represent the best interests of the electrotechnology industry and be its voice during the review process. The group members were nominated by others or volunteered themselves to sit on the group. The final group was chosen based on region, skills and industry.

The aim of the sector review group is to build a framework of the competencies required for each specialised area, and to look at what qualifications are required for the industry. Early next year a separate group of subject matter experts will be formed to deal with the technical aspect of developing the qualifications required.

ETITO Industry Manager Paul Hollings says ETITO's nationwide team of training managers have also canvassed the opinions of the industry as they've gone about their business. "We've also received a lot of messages from the reviewcomments@etito.co.nz inbox. It's still not too late for people to give us their thoughts," urges Paul.

ETITO has been regularly updating a special sector review page on its website at www.etito.co.nz/mandatory-sector-review where you can find out more.

New qualifications to raise the business skills of your firm

Recognising that it's not just the hard trade skills

that drive the performance of your firm, ETITO has launched three non-vocational qualifications for electrotechnology companies.

The National Certificate in Business Administration and Computing [Level 3] and the National Certificate in Business Administration [Level 4] are designed for office staff. These qualifications are a great way of building additional skills, as well as setting a benchmark across your business to ensure that all staff are working at the same level. It's also a tool to boost retention of key people by offering them a qualification to further their career.

ETITO has seen that often trade-qualified staff are promoted to management and supervisory roles and expected to possess an entirely different skill-set from day one. Our new National Certificate in First Line Management [Level 4] is now available to build additional coordination and management skills in these people.

Talk to your ETITO training manager to find out what these exciting new qualifications can bring to your business.

Auckland Brett Piskulic 09 583 1344 Prasad Joshi 09 583 1338 Colin Gibson 09 583 1700	Rotorua Paul Mitchell 07 349 3461	Canterbury/Westland Marty Matheson 03 365 9252
Hamilton Bob Thomas 07 839 7395	Palmerston North Perry Smith 06 350 1953	Dunedin Paul Hamilton 03 479 2978
	Wellington Warren Stevens 04 499 7673 Bruce Morgan 04 499 7672	

