

**Qualification Title:** New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Processing (Level 3) with optional strand in Plastics Engineering

**Qualification number:** 2974

**Date of review:** 8 November 2022

This report refers to all graduates awarded this qualification prior to: **31 December 2021**

**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:

- work safely as a member of a team in a plastics processing environment
- apply knowledge of materials and production processes to produce plastics products
- prepare for production, and run and monitor machinery to produce plastics products
- identify, resolve and report on routine processing problems.

In addition, graduates of the optional strand will be able to demonstrate the defined GPOs of their chosen specialism.

The threshold statement is the GPO statement for version 1 of this qualification.

#### **Education Organisations with sufficient evidence**

The following education organisations have been found to have sufficient evidence.

MOE Number	Education Organisation	Final rating
6044/3	Te Pūkenga Work Based Learning Limited-Competenz	Sufficient

#### **Introduction**

This Level 3 qualification is designed to provide the plastics industry with people who have the skills and knowledge to operate plastics machinery competently and safely. It is a 65-credit qualification with an optional strand in plastics engineering with a further 50 credits in a chosen specialist aspect. The qualification is unit standards based and learners taking the optional strand have the opportunity to undertake unit standards specific to the processes within their workplace.

All provision is for learners already working in the industry and is managed by Competenz.

To date, there have been 23 graduates, all but one of whom have undertaken the optional strand. Most graduates have completed this strand with unit standards related to the extrusion or injection moulding processes (12 and 7, respectively), with each of the following specialisms: blown film, rotational moulding and thermoforming having one graduate.

## Final Consistency Review Report

All graduates have completed version 1 of the qualification. Version 2 of the qualification was published in June 2021, assigning the Qualification Development role to Hanga-Aro-Rau Manufacturing, Engineering and Logistics Workforce Development Council. The graduate profile outcomes are unchanged in version 2.

It was noted that the qualification will expire at the end of 2026 (the last date for new enrolments is December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023). It will be replaced by NZ 4401- New Zealand Certificate in Plastics Processing (Level 3) with optional strands in Blown Film Extrusion, Extrusion, Extrusion Blow Moulding, Injection Moulding, Injection Stretch Blow Moulding, Rotational Moulding, and Thermoforming, each of the different processes having a defined strand.

### Evidence

The education organisations 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 included:

- detailed programme mapping showing how the optional strand can be completed within the context of different plastics manufacturing processes
- a summary of moderation processes and post-assessment moderation outcomes
- graduate and employer feedback.

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

The evidence portfolio for consistency was a very strong one and was complemented by a highly reflective presentation during the review meeting.

Overall, the self-assessment and supporting evidence supplied, by the organisation found sufficient, demonstrate that their graduates meet the graduate outcomes at the determined threshold.

### **Special Focus** (includes special focus on a strand or outcome)

Specific attention was paid to how the strand (and the multiple pathways through it) were being completed by learners.

## **Final Consistency Review Report**

### **Examples of good practice**

Very high level of feedback from graduates was obtained using a combination of phone text and email. The short graduate questionnaire was specifically designed to be meaningful to the graduates, encouraging them to respond.

Detailed feedback was obtained from 12 employers, covering 22 of the 23 graduates.

There is good evidence that this qualification provides a strong introduction to the industry and a basis for further study to foster career development.

### **Issues and concerns**

None

### **Recommendations to Qualification Developer**

None