PRESS RELEASE

Construction Industry Council

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A STEP towards integrating use of Occupational Standards

CIC are proud to announce the launch of STEP (Standards, Training and Education for Progression) the fully interactive information and guidance tool to the industry's higher level Occupational Standards and National Vocational Qualifications/Scottish Vocational Qualifications (NVQ/SVQ's). It is of particular use, but not exclusively, for those who are new to Occupational Standards.

STEP brings together guidance developed through years of Occupational Standards related projects and research led by CIC and the former CISC. It is the final output of the CIC Progression Project which sought to assist Professional and Academic Institutions in mapping their qualification requirements to Occupational Standards.

If you are searching for information or guidance on Standards, Training, Education, linkages between the three, or information about the CIC Progression Project, STEP should provide the information you need.

STEP has been developed so that it is easy for you to view the information you want when you want it, and access further information via links to other websites. Therefore, whilst it is possible to download STEP to save onto your hard-drive, or to print it, we do advise you to view STEP whilst online to enable you to use the links to access the information you need.

STEP is accessible from the CIC Standards Panel website at www.cicsc.org.uk

Notes to the Editor

CIC is the representative forum for the professional bodies, research organisations and specialist trade association in the construction industry. It provides a single voice for professionals in all sectors of the built environment through its collective membership of 500,000 individual professionals and 25,000 firms of construction consultants.

Occupational Standards measure competence of individuals employed in industry, and are specified by industry practitioners. They provide for measurement/assessment of individuals by provision of evidence of competent workplace performance and also of necessary underpinning knowledge and understanding. Occupational Standards and NVQs/SVQs cover

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the full scope of competence and encompass technical and professional job functions, as well as the equally important managerial and personnel/people aspects.

The Construction Industry Council's Standards Panel (since 1999 superseding the Construction Industry Standing Conference) is responsible for leading the development of higher level technical, managerial and professional Occupational Standards and National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications across the Built Environment. CIC has a Memorandum of Agreement with the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), that provides for CIC to give expert support to CITB and the other National Training Organisations/Sector Skills Councils that operate in the built environment.

The original CISC Occupational Standards were developed from 1990 and were first published in 1994. They were the result of long and detailed development and scrutiny by hundreds of employers and practioners from across the higher levels of the built environment sector. The Occupational Standards were the subject of a further major review and were re-published in 1998.

The CISC 1998 Standards have now been reviewed, revised and updated as the result of consultation and analysis of a variety of sources of feedback to reflect changing industry practice, and are now available online at www.cicsc.org.uk

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