

## **CPC08 Construction, Plumbing and Services Integrated Training Framework - version 2**

The revised CPC08 Training Package was endorsed by the National Quality Council on 6 January 2009.

This fire systems design project is a result of Construction Property Services Industry Skills Council's response to the long-held need of the fire sector to develop qualifications to support the designers of fire systems. Although this is a small, niche sector it is of great importance to the Australian community given the vital work fire systems designers do in ensuring public safety and the protection of built assets.

The design of fire systems is not currently covered by any formal competency-based qualifications. There is a shortage of people with skills and experience in fire systems design. This shortage is recognised by both of the national industry associations with coverage in this area, the National Fire Industry Association (NFIA) and the Fire Protection Association Australia (FPAA). It should be noted that both of these industry associations played a central and active role in the project steering committee and in the development of the fire systems design qualifications and units of competency.

At present there is no clear education or training pathway to fire systems design. People may enter the industry via a number of educational pathways, such as with a year 12 level education, undertaking or completing tertiary studies in fire technology, or undertaking a Certificate or Diploma course in computer aided drawing (CAD). Some people may work their way into the sector with a trade background, but will typically lack a background in design. People working as designers in large enterprises will have typically undertaken a level of 'structured training' provided in-house by more experienced colleagues or possibly undertaken short external courses.

There are a limited number of units of competency for 'design functions' in CPC08 Construction, Plumbing and Services Integrated Framework Training Package. The view of the fire industry and the project steering committee was, however, that these are recognised as not being adequate for the broad and full requirements of fire systems designers.

The fire systems design sector is subject to a range of regulatory and performance requirements arising from fire, plumbing, environmental agencies and Australian standards. The regulatory requirements also vary from and between the various commonwealth, state and territory jurisdictions. It is expected that this sector will be subject to increasing levels of regulatory coverage.

The development of qualifications for fire systems design will meet the needs of enterprises and a diverse range of industry workers. The newly developed fire systems design qualifications offer:

- a defined training pathway for new entrants seeking careers in fire

- systems design;
- the opportunity for existing workers within allied areas, such as tradespeople and CAD operators, to further build and deepen their skills and move into fire systems design;
- a recognition pathway for senior and experienced industry workers without nationally recognised qualifications; and
- open entry to the qualifications.

The fire systems design addition to the CPC08 Training Package includes:

- CPC50509 Diploma of Fire Systems Design
- CPC70109 Vocational Graduate Certificate in Fire Systems Design Management.
- 18 new fire systems design units of competency.
- one imported unit (BSBAUD504B to CPC50509 qualification)

Members of the National Quality Council endorsed the addition to the CPC08 Construction, Plumbing and Services Integrated Framework Training Package out of session on 26 May 2009. The Ministerial delegate approved the NQC endorsement decision on 15 June 2009.

**Qualification Outcomes:**

CPC50509 Diploma of Fire Systems Design  
CPC70109 Vocational Graduate Certificate in Fire Systems Design Management.

For further information, please contact:

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