



Hall 20, Stand A024 - GQA Sponsor of the Glassex Challenge

The Glass Qualifications Authority (GQA), the first and Major Sponsor of the 2005 Glassex Challenge, is an important part of the UK national qualifications framework and works with the glass sector to raise occupational standards and award competence based qualifications.

GQA, based in Sheffield, is the only national awarding body for glass and glass related national vocational qualifications (NVQs and SVQs).

The Glassex Challenge embraces the spirit of GQA's interaction with the building related sector and also the GQA Mission Statement 'To achieve a world class qualified workforce in glass and glass related occupations'. There is a close synergy between GQA and the aims of the Glassex Challenge.

GQA has awarded over 11,500 NVQ certificates of competence and has another 6,500 candidates registered.

GQA Building/Glassex Related Qualifications

NVQ/SVQ Title	Level(s)	Building/Glassex Link
Fenestration Installation	2	Building Regulations, OSAT approved, covers CSCS card occupations (for installers of windows and doors, conservatories and curtain walling)
Fenestration Installation and Surveying	3	Building Regulations, OSAT approved, covers CSCS card occupations (for installers of windows and doors, conservatories and curtain walling). Also covers the CSCS card role for Fenestration Surveyors.
Glazing Installation and Maintenance	2 and 3	Covers domestic and construction site glazing and maintenance. The CSCS related cards are for glaziers.
Glass Processing	2 and 3	These are factory based qualifications and include those whose occupational roles include the cutting of glass, the manufacture of sealed units and glass toughening etc. NB not linked to OSAT or CSCS
Production of Glass Supporting Fabrications	2 and 3	Building Regulations require quality fabrications for windows & doors, conservatories and screen/curtain walling. The fabricator usually works within a factory environment. NB Not linked to OSAT or CSCS
Glass Manufacturing	2 and 3	Flat glass manufacturers provide the materials for windows, sealed units and glass panels etc. Flat glass is made in a modern factory environment. NB not linked to OSAT or CSCS

Further details of all GQA qualifications can be found on our website www.glassqualificationsauthority.com via the GQA Info button. Hard copies of the qualification structures can be obtained by ringing our office on 0114 272 0033 and advising which particular GQA qualifications are of interest.

Funding GQA Qualifications

Funding is available from a variety of sources to implement GQA qualifications, some examples are given below:

- Those companies in-scope to the CITB or registered with them can access grants linked to registration onto GQA OSAT/CSCS approved qualifications, profiling experienced candidates and achieving the qualification.
- Approved independent training providers can access (with or on behalf of employers) funds via the local Learning and Skills Councils (LSCs)
- Some GQA centres have consistently accessed European Social Fund (ESF) grants (to implement GQA qualifications).
- A number of educational colleges with construction related involvements have become GQA approved centres. They usually have the experience and knowledge to link the NVQ/SVQ to an appropriate funded national initiative.
- Individual companies can apply to their local Learning and Skills Council (LSC) for support to implement qualifications e.g. for those under the age of 25 years following a modern apprenticeship scheme.

NB Some GQA independent training provider or college based centres aim to offer NVQ qualifications at zero (or minimal) cost to the employer.

The Advantages of Workplace Learning (and NVQs)

Research in the glass and related industries has shown that key components related to workplace learners that have been consistently highlighted, include:

- Specific, agreed job related standards that learners can be trained and assessed against.
- Judgements by credible persons who assess over a period of time and over a wide range of tasks.
- Involvement of immediate supervisors in the training and assessment process.
- Outcomes that can be measured before and after the training and assessment process.

The first three key components, should be part and parcel of any NVQ implementation process. The people interviewed, included learners, supervisors and management. A more comprehensive article entitled: "What do I want workplace learning to do for me and can NVQs help? Can be found on the GQA website under the 'GQA Info' button (and then 'GQA NVQ/SVQ Promotional Materials')

The Management of GOA

The GOA Board is chaired by Mike Morris, Director for Business Development at the College of Technology, St Helens College.

The Board consist of management representatives from various sectors within the glass and related industries, i.e.

Mr Gywn Baker	BPTC
Mr Nick Gooderson	CITB
Mr Jim Kelly	Rockware Glass
Mr Justin Ratcliffe	CAB
Mr Nigel Rees	Glass and Glazing Federation
Mr Andrew Wooton	Construction Sector Consultant

Allan Murry is GOA's Chief Executive.



Mike Morris



Allan Murry

GOA Centres Approved to Offer CSCS Related Qualifications

A comprehensive list of all GOA Approved Centres (and their contact details where appropriate) can be found on the GOA website via the NVQ/SVQ Access button.

A list of GOA centres (by name) that are implementing CSCS related NVQ or SVQ qualifications is given below. It should be noted that some centres may only operate for the benefit of their employees, others may operate in a specific geographic area whilst some may provide a national service.

Accrington & Rossendale College
 Advisory Management Services Ltd
 Alto Business Associates Ltd
 Ashington Training Centre
 Barnsley College
 Boston College
 Building Learning UK Ltd
 CITB Northern Ireland Partnership
 Council for Aluminium in Buildings
 Derby College
 Dianne Smith Associates
 DMT Business Services
 Edinburgh's Telford College
 Glamalco Ltd
 Glasgow College of Building and Printing
 Glass & Glazing Federation
 Great Yarmouth College
 Henry Boot Training Ltd
 International Glass Centre
 IPS International
 Isle of Anglesey County Council
 ITCA LTD
 John Howard Assessment Ltd
 Kawneer UK Ltd
 Lambeth College
 Lauder College
 Leeds College of Building
 Llandrillo College Partnership
 Metcom Training
 Mila Maintenance and Project Services
 Network Training Services Ltd
 Newcastle College
 Norman & Underwood (Glass)
 Peak Training & Assessment Services
 Plymouth College
 Preston College/UCATT
 Project Management (Staffs) Ltd
 PTP International Ltd
 Radways
 Royal Extrusions
 Salisbury College
 Schuco International KG
 Solaglas Development Centre
 St Helens College
 The Assessment and Training Company Ltd
 The Essential Support Team Ltd
 The North Lancs Training Group (NLTG)
 The Vocational College
 Total People
 West Suffolk College
 Worcester College
 Yale College

Why National Vocational Qualifications?

National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs/SVQs) can be clearly linked to business requirements and improvements. It is individual employees that contribute to business success. The occupational competence of specific individuals is a requirement of Building Regulations and the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS). Health and Safety is integrated into all GOA qualifications. Systems and procedures such as ISO9002 and Investors in People (IIP) depend upon people, commitment and involvement. Quality People deserve external recognition of their occupational competence.



Regency Glass receiving a Greater Manchester LSC Industry Award



Russell Godfrey, the first installer to achieve the new level 3 NVQ for fenestration installation and surveying

Comments of Paul Beadnell (WPA) - Hot End Chargehand

As the Workplace Assessor, I found the new NVQ standards easier to follow as assess against although they required the candidate to have a greater understanding of the job. I feel proud to be the first Assessor to have a candidate successfully achieve against the new standards.

Comments of Kevin Lunn (Candidate) - I.S. Machine Operator

Doing the NVQ helped me to consolidate job role knowledge that is more than often learnt in an adhoc way or 'on the job'. This enabled me to prove competency against my job role.

General

Kevin has been at Rexam Glass Barnsley since the 3rd of Feb 2001 and, having worked in the Cold End for a year, he applied for a move into the Hot End and began training as an I.S. Machine Operator in February of 2002. Kevin's achievement of the award indicates his commitment to learning and Rexam Glass Barnsley as a centre are proud that the first achiever of the new standards is one of our younger employees who we are looking to provide future business success.

Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) Cards

The construction sector's commitment to improving the health and safety awareness and competence of all individuals or construction sites via the CSCS card, has been applauded by Government departments, MCG, quality employers, the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) and the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

NB QCA and SQA are respectively the regulatory bodies with responsibility for NVQs and SVQs.

The CSCS occupational groups supported by GOA qualifications are fenestration surveyors, glaziers and

installers. Full details of the arrangements can be found in their latest CSCS booklet (version 10) available free of charge by ringing the CSCS helpline number 01485 578777.

A significant number of experienced workers are actively registering on OSAT/CSCS related NVQ/SVQ qualifications. GOA centres approved to offer qualifications related to CSCS occupations usually offer a skillmatch (of profiling) service to help established workers to gain an Experienced Worker CSCS card (within a matter of weeks).