



Vaal University of Technology

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Memorandum

**Programme Accreditation and Curriculum
Development**

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To: HEQSFonline
CC: n/a
From: O Evangelou
Director: Programme Accreditation and Curriculum Development
Date: 20 April 2015
Subject: Application returned for Deferral

To whom it may concern,

Kindly find attached clarification on the following programme:

Diploma in Non-Destructive Testing (3215048)

O Evangelou
Director: Programme Accreditation and Curriculum Development

Diploma in Non-Destructive Testing (3215048)

The NDT diploma has a unique curriculum that seeks to address the important functions that an NDT Technician is required to perform. The 'level certification'(artisan level) short courses currently offered as basic training are ghastly inadequate for these functions. Graduates will better contribute to the maintenance plans of plants and machinery, hence improve on the safe operation thereof. The qualification will also contribute to research and innovation in non-evasive methods with context in mind (i.e. environment, operating conditions, etc...). This will improve the probability of detection of defects with a background of the causes. The qualification has been bench-marked with international qualifications in the United Kingdom, Ukraine and the United States of America. Articulation to other qualifications is also possible, for example, the BTech. (Quality Assurance) at the University of Johannesburg.

Twelve months Work Integrated Learning (WIL) has been proven to be long in the present industry practice and the programme outcomes required. This has manifested itself in students repeating tasks that they are now competent in, hence not enhancing and widening their knowledge base. Thus, the 12 months workplace-based learning covers the basic outcomes in less than 6 months. With the 5th compulsory semester, the programme will address this shortcoming and further enhance their problem solving skills necessary for the work place and future research careers. Note that this stark aberration with respect to the 12 months WIL programme outcomes and diploma desired outcomes is due to the fact that that the Vaal University of Technology is the only higher education institution offering Non-Destructive Testing as a full qualification in South Africa and Africa in general.