

## Organisations



## Organisations and Assessment Centres

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The Royal Meteorological Society is the learned and professional body recognised as the Regulating Body for the meteorological sector in the UK. It is concerned to maintain standards of performance and ethics and generally to foster the subject. Therefore, it was natural for it to take the lead in promoting the development and use of standards in the main specialist, operational functions performed by the sector. To further this goal, with the active support of all parts of the sector and funding provided by Met Office, it arranged for a study to be carried out into the pros and cons of introducing vocational qualifications and the feasibility of doing so. This concluded that there would be significant advantages in introducing such qualifications based on national occupational standards.

The Society subsequently took the lead in obtaining funds for this from within the sector and from a levy raised on Vocational Qualifications controlled by the appropriate government departments and agencies. They also appointed a project leader, consultants and eventually an awarding body to oversee and administer the awards. The Society has set up a sector committee to oversee all the preparatory work and the development, promotion, continued maintenance and use of the standards and qualifications based upon them. It will continue to ensure that the national occupational standards remain relevant and up to date.

In 2010 with NVQs were updated and included with the Government's Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF).

The particular ability of the Society to represent the interests of all parts of the sector has been and will remain crucial to success. Membership of the Society is open to all involved in meteorology and you are encouraged to join.

## **PAA\QSET**

PAA\QSET is the awarding body for the following Vocational Qualifications

**Level 3 Diploma in Meteorological Observing – 66 Credits**

**Level 4 Certificate for a Meteorological Forecasting Technician (QCF) – 28 Credits**

**Level 5 Diploma in Meteorological Forecasting – 85 Credits**

**Level 5 Certificate in Meteorological Broadcasting – 13 Credits**

**Level 5 Award in Meteorological Briefing – 9 Credits**

**Level 6 Diploma in Flood Forecasting – 50 Credits**

Further information can be found on our website: <http://www.paa-uk.org> [1]

## **Qualifications and Curriculum Authority**

The 1997 Education Act established the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) as a non-departmental public body. It is accountable to the Secretary of State for Education and Employment. It is required to advise him/her about the curriculum, the methods to be used to assess progress, qualifications and national occupational standards as these relate to the education and training system in England. However, QCA is also responsible for accrediting NVQs in Wales and Northern Ireland.

QCA oversees the national qualifications framework within which the Forecaster and Observer NVQs sit. It is tasked with assuring that they are up to date, accurate and being assessed fairly. QCA also sets the criteria that are designed to guarantee the coherence, consistency and quality of national occupational standards generally. It approves sets of standards that meet these criteria.

For more information visit: <http://www.qca.org.uk> [2].

## **Meteogroup**

MeteoGroup is Europe's largest private sector weather business providing tailored products to professional, media and consumer markets. Founded in 1986, the company has an unrivalled reputation for quality and innovation in weather forecasting. Our expert meteorologists provide forecasts, support, monitoring and consultancy services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. MeteoGroup is owned by the Press Association.

MeteoGroup is the only private sector Assessment Centre in the UK for Weather Forecasting NVQs. Two of MeteoGroup's senior meteorologists are qualified NVQ Assessors which ensures that MeteoGroup's employees receive the highest level of support and training. An NVQ in Weather Forecasting is recognised as the standard national vocational qualification for operational weather forecasters.

Web site [www.meteogroup.co.uk](http://www.meteogroup.co.uk) [3]

## **SEMTA**

SEMTA is one of 25 Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) set up to develop National Occupational Standards (NOS) and associated qualifications for their relevant sectors within the UK. SEMTA is also part of the Skills for Business network, which ensures that all SSCs work to the same high standards.

SEMTA is one of the largest SSCs, whose footprint includes Engineering Manufacture (which covers Automotive, Aeronautical, Marine, Mechanical, Electrical and Electronic Engineering), as well as many Science based areas such as Biotechnology, Optical Manufacturing, Applied Psychology, Analytical Chemistry, Explosives Detection and Clearance, Packaging, Nanotechnology, and Meteorology.

SEMTA works closely with representatives from the various 'industries' and their associated Professional bodies (such as RMetS) to ensure that the NOS reflect, in clear language and using relevant terminology, exactly what a competent person needs to be able to do, and what that person needs to know, in order to work competently and safely in a particular occupation or profession.

SEMTA also works closely with the regulating authorities (such as QCA and SQA), to ensure that the standards and qualification structures meet the criteria laid down for acceptance into the Qualifications and Credits Framework. This means that all vocational qualifications (such as the ones for Meteorology) are nationally recognised throughout the UK (and, increasingly through the European Qualifications Framework, by many other countries).

For more information on SEMTA, please click on the link below: [www.semta.org.uk](http://www.semta.org.uk) [4]

## **Assessment Centres**

- **met office logo**

### **Met Office College**

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**Met Office  
FitzRoy Road  
Exeter  
Devon**

**EX1 3PB**

**Tel: 01392 885410**

**Email: [NVQ@metoffice.gov.uk](mailto:NVQ@metoffice.gov.uk) <sup>[5]</sup>**

**<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/training/> <sup>[6]</sup>**

- **royal navy**

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**Flag Officer Sea Training HM**

**Upper Battery Road**

**HMS DRAKE**

**HM Naval Base Devonport**

**PLYMOUTH**

**Devon**

**PL2 2BG**

**Tel: 01752 555421**

**Email: [fost-hm-oicmetoc@a.dii.mod.uk](mailto:fost-hm-oicmetoc@a.dii.mod.uk) <sup>[7]</sup>**



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**[www.meteogroup.co.uk](http://www.meteogroup.co.uk) <sup>[3]</sup>**

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**Source URL:** <http://accsys.rmets.org/our-activities/vocational-qualifications/organisations>

**Links**

- [1] <http://www.paa-uk.org>
- [2] [http://www.qca.org.uk/qca\\_6640.aspx](http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_6640.aspx)
- [3] <http://www.meteogroup.co.uk>
- [4] <http://www.semta.org.uk>
- [5] <mailto:NVQ@metoffice.gov.uk>
- [6] <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/training/>
- [7] <mailto:fost-hm-oicmetoc@a.dii.mod.uk>
- [8] <mailto:Julian.mayes@meteogroup.com>