

## QUALIFICATIONS PATHWAYS/NESTING IN TRAINING PACKAGES

### Through collaboration, comes clarity and confidence

After extensive collaboration and consultation with key stakeholders including the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), Australian Industry Group (AIG), Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET), TAFE Directors Australia, State and Territory training authorities and Industry Skills Councils, the National Quality Council (NQC) and DEST have identified and clarified issues surrounding the nesting of qualifications.

This process of collaboration is ensuring that stakeholders, particularly Registered Training Organisations and Australian Quality Training Framework 2007 auditors, have the confidence to conduct their operations knowing they have a shared and common understanding of what is required.

The NQC has recently considered issues relating to the term 'nesting' for Training Package qualifications.

'Nesting' is traditionally defined as:

- one qualification being nested in another. That is, a full qualification is attained at a lower level in order to proceed to the next qualification at a higher level; and
- qualifications at a higher level requiring units of competency from a lower level qualification (but not a full qualification).

### New text has now been developed for the Training Package Development Handbook

New text has now been developed for the *Training Package Development Handbook* which will provide clear advice to developers about qualification entry requirements, pre-requisites and pathways. Essentially, the process of updating the handbook has involved:

- clarifying terminology so that the term 'nesting' becomes redundant and is removed;
- clearly distinguishing the purpose of entry requirements/pre-requisites for qualifications and for units of competency; and, for pathways;
- establishing requirements that entry and exit points for qualifications are provided in packaging rules; and
- establishing requirements into the provision of clear 'plain speaking' packaging rules and pathways for qualifications.



Patrick McKendry - Chair of the National Quality Council

### Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) has extended the number of confirmation of enrolments (CoEs) possible for overseas students

Accompanying this change, the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) has extended the number of confirmation of enrolments (CoEs) possible for overseas students beyond the current limit of three. An electronic system limitation will be addressed from January 2008, and in the meantime, DIAC will manually manage situations where clients present more than three CoEs. During this time it will not always be possible for clients with more than three COEs to package their entire course on the one visa.

Through these improvements, the NQC is ensuring Australia has high quality training products and clarity and confidence for all involved in vocational education and training.

