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★ **OFFICIAL PROGRAM STANDARDS NOTIFICATION** ★

Issued: October 15, 2009

**Program: Instrumentation and Control Technician
(Industrial Instrument Mechanic)**

To: ITA Training Providers
Resource Training Organization (RTO)
ACE IT School Districts

RE: REF: 2009 016
**UPDATE TO INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL TECHNICIAN (INDUSTRIAL
INSTRUMENT MECHANIC) APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

Timing: Effective immediately

Information: Please be advised that a new program standard for the Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprenticeship program has been approved by the ITA. An updated program profile and program outline is posted on the ITA website at www.itabc.ca.

Delivery of training for the Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprenticeship program is to be based on the updated program outline immediately.

Background

The Resource Training Organization (RTO) has been working on the review and restructure of the Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprenticeship program over the past two years. The review process has involved extensive consultation with industry and has resulted in changes to both in-school training and work-based training. These changes include:

- reducing the number of in-school training levels from 5 levels to 4 levels;
- increasing the duration of in-school training from 8 weeks per level to 10 weeks per level; and,
- reducing the number of work-based training hours from 7,800 to 6,000.

Transition of Current Apprentices

The ITA, in cooperation with RTO, has developed an implementation plan to transition apprentices to the in-school training structure as defined in the new standard. There are two training providers (BCIT and Northern Lights College) currently delivering in-school training for the Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprenticeship program and each will have their own transition plan as outlined below.

A letter will be sent to all registered Industrial Instrumentation Mechanic apprentices and their sponsors advising them of the changes to the program and informing them of the relevant transition process.

- **BCIT**

Apprentices taking the 5 level in-school training at BCIT will continue their training as currently structured until completion.

- **Northern Lights College**

Apprentices taking the 5 level in-school training at Northern Lights College will be transitioned into the College's new 4 level structure by completing a supplementary session to obtain additional competencies per level created by the new structure (see below for more detail).

- Apprentices who have completed Level 1 of the current 5 level in-school training will complete a supplementary session of approximately 1 week duration and then proceed to Level 2 of the new 4 level in-school training.
- Apprentices who have completed Level 2 of the current 5 level in-school training will complete a supplementary session of approximately 2 weeks duration and then proceed to Level 3 of the new 4 level in-school training.
- Apprentices who have completed Level 3 of the current 5 level in-school training will complete a supplementary session of approximately 3 weeks duration and then proceed to Level 4 of the new 4 level in-school training.
- Apprentices who have completed Level 4 of the current 5 level in-school training will complete a supplementary session of approximately 4 weeks duration which will conclude their in-school training requirement.

Assessment

In-school Training

Training providers delivering levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 in-school training for Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) are required to enter the following assessment result for each apprentice in ITADirectAccess:

- An in-school mark in the form of a percentage (min. 70% is required for a pass)

The in-school mark is a combined theory and practical assessment determined on the basis of:

- Theory and practical subject competencies and a theory level exam. A table showing the competencies, theory and practical weightings and the weighting for the level exam is shown in the attached Assessment Guidelines document.
- The theory subject competency mark is calculated as follows:
 - 70% based on accumulated individual competencies; and
 - 30% based on the score achieved on the final theory level exam. Until further notice, training providers are expected to use their own proprietary theory level exam.
- The practical subject competency mark is based 100% on the accumulated individual competencies and is calculated by totaling the individual subject competencies.
- The final in-school mark for entry in ITADirectAccess is calculated by applying a weighting of 50% to the theory subject competency result and a weighting of 50% to the practical subject competency mark and then adding the two results together. Refer to the Assessment Guidelines document.

Successful completion of the in-school training for each level is defined as a score of 70% or greater for the final in-school mark.

ITA Standardized Level Examinations

ITA standardized level exams for the Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprenticeship program have been developed and will be field tested (date TBA). Once finalized, these exams will replace the proprietary theory level exams being used by training providers delivering in-school training for the Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprenticeship program.

The Resource Training Organization (RTO) is responsible for the administration and invigilation of exams being field tested. Field testing will be conducted by RTO at BCIT and Northern Lights College. Training providers will be notified when the ITA standardized level exams are ready for use.

Questions regarding the field testing process should be directed to: Larry Richardson at the Resource Training Organization (RTO) at lrichardson@rtobc.com or 604-455-0075 e. 222.

Inter-provincial (Red Seal) Examination

Instrumentation and Control Technician (Industrial Instrument Mechanic) apprentices are required to write the Instrumentation and Control Technician Inter-provincial (Red Seal) exam after completing their in-school training levels, in order to be certified. A score of 70% or greater is required for a pass.

Inter-provincial (Red Seal) exams may be requested by training providers via the usual ITA procedure.

The ITA will administer and invigilate the Inter-provincial (Red Seal) exam and score and record exam results in ITADirectAccess.

For more information contact: Ed Jarvis
Industry Training Authority
Tel: (604) 214-8723
Email: ejarvis@itabc.ca

Copy: ITA Staff