

The background:

- The concept of transportability has been around for a number of vears
- This particular scheme evolved out of a Longwall move that occurred at Oaky North (late 2001)
- Raised at the Coal Operators forum (late 2002)
- Subcommittee developed a model. (Underground Mobile Diesel Vehicle) (April 2003)
- Always seen as a <u>nice to have</u> (suggest that this has now changed)

The problem:

- Even though they may have been previously assessed against the Coal Competency Standards, mines fully re-assess all new employees & contractors to verify that they are, in fact, competent to perform their assigned tasks.
- This is at a great expense, in cost & time, to mine site and contractor alike.
- Further emphasized by depleting pool of experience labour.

The reasons:

- For this are numerous, with this scheme focusing on overcoming weaknesses and barriers evident in the training arena only. These include
 - The competency standards are quite broad and diverse in their application by design (e.g. D4 – D11)
 - Variability in assessment requirements across sites (e.g. Statements of Attainment, CAT contracts)
 - Variability in the interpretation of the competency standards (e.g. Pre-start)

The reasons:

- The competency standards are used nationally
- Owned by DEST, reviewed every three years
- Making any changes to the competency standards difficult
- QLD is the only state <u>directly</u> legislated to use the competencies to their full extent.

The proposed solution:

To develop a local system that enables the transportability of competencies between participating sites, <u>without compromising the SSE's legislative obligations</u>.

The anticipated benefits:

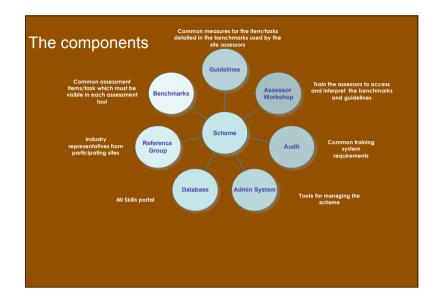
- Substantial savings in the time and costs associated with the reassessment of new employees and the contract workforce
- The sharing of industry skills/resources
- The overall increase in industry training standards

The objectives:

- To move between sites, having a <u>large portion</u> of their competencies recognised, with only the site specific top up required.
- To recognise work currently done to date, whilst not imposing vast amounts of additional work
- To ensure that all <u>standards are maintained at a high level</u>, with the aim of improving the overall industry training standard
- To ensure that the <u>risk to the sites, in particular the SSE's was not increased</u> by their involvement in this scheme.

To achieve these objectives:

- Identify sites that were interested in participating in a system that enabled transportability
- <u>Identify competencies</u> best suited for transportability
- Identify aspects of assessment tasks that are <u>common across these sites</u> (grouping/descriptors)
- Develop a range of agreed "Assessment Benchmarks" and "Assessor Guidelines" for each common assessment task.
- Develop a management/audit process to ensure that site's training systems meet the agreed standards and maintain the level of risk



Reference Group:

- The original intent of the steering committee was to flesh out the concept, design and document the scheme
- Later converted to a reference group
- It is made up of participating mine site and contractor representatives (SSE's reps)
- It has a future role in the ongoing development, co-ordination and management of the scheme

Assessment Benchmarks:

- Assessment benchmarks contain details of "what industry expects to find in the assessment tools"
- They are reference documents which contain details of the common assessment items/task which must be visible in each assessment tool used within the scheme.

Assessor Guidelines:

- These guidelines contain details of "what industry expects the to assessor to be looking for when conducting an assessment"
- They are reference documents which contain details of the common measures for the item/tasks detailed in the assessment evidence standard used by the site assessors to deem a person competent within the scheme.
- Built in best practice where known

Training System Standard:

- This standard contain details of "what industry expects each site's training system to contain"
- This is a reference document which contains details of the common training system requirements which are expected to be in place, and maintained by each site involved within the scheme.
- This document forms the basis of the system audit requirements.

Assessor Workshop:

- The development of this workshop was requested by the reference group
- It is required to ensure that all workplace assessors involved in the CTIS are aware of their requirements and the requirements of the standards and quidelines
- It has been updated to assist in addressing current refresher training requirements and TAA alignment.
- Should be noted that these are not a requirement of the CITS model, therefore the workshop is expected to have various exit points

Recording/Reporting:

- The MI Skill Generic Induction database was the system selected by the reference group, as it best met their requirements of;
 - Having no distinct commercial advantage to the owner
 - Being of reasonable cost to users
 - Being readily accessible to all sites involved
 - Being proven
 - Being secure
 - Showing where the first assessment was conducted and the date it was conducted on
 - Have reasonable reporting functions

Administration Systems:

- These systems are modeled on the controls similar to those used for the generic induction including;
 - Registration process (Provider/Assessor)
 - Application Forms
 - Mapping Documents (Standard/Competency)
 - Approvals
 - Handbook
 - Licence

The process:

- Three key distinct functions;
 - Registration
- Provider registers interest

 Assessment

 Assessment, qualifications, workshop, insurances etc verified

 Assessment, conducted by 1st provider

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 Details entered in database

 Operatives at 2nd provider, advises of transportable skill

 Monitoring audits (6 & 12 months)

 Skill verified by database, provider assesses non transportable/ site specific components

 Scheme development
 - Scheme development



The roles:

- The key roles within the scheme include;
 - Industry (Reference Group)
 - Providers (Mine Sites/Contractors/RTO's)
 - Workplace Assessors (Trained/Approved)
 - MI Skills Centre (Audit/Co-ordination/Development)
 - Trainees

Current status:

<u>Development</u>

• Assessment benchmarks/guidelines are to be drafted for;

Surface

- Overhead Crane (G40)
- Forklift (G48)
- Elevated Work Platform (G49)
- Light Vehicle (G61)

Underground

- Tracked Vehicles Myne Dozer & Petito Mule (U14)
- Man Transporters PJB/Driftrunner/Ranger/PET/MPV (U15)
- Loaders Eimco/Seneca/FBL/Wright/Juganaut(U17)
- Portable Gas Detectors Minigas & Odalog (U26)

Current status:

Introduction

- Registration interests have been received from 19 providers (mine sites /contractors) and 8 RTO's
- 8 Assessor workshops have been conducted to date; with 3 more currently scheduled
- 2 site audits have been conducted as part of the MI Skills training system evaluations

<u>Awareness</u>

- Presentations like this have been conducted throughout QLD and most recently the NSW Hunter Valley region
- This has also included the Metalliferous sector (primarily Mt Isa and Charter Towers)
- To date the concept of the scheme has been well received and support (although not without question)



Future direction:

Shorter term

- Develop additional benchmarks and guidelines
- Increase the number of providers involved

Longer term

- Increase the level of transportable content (80 90%)
- Look to move across sectors and states
- Look for opportunities to change the competency standards, policy etc to achieve transportability (scheme is the vehicle, not the end solution)
- Remain focused on the base principle, "that a forklift is a forklift regardless of where it is operated"

Thank you