

Examinations Organiser Re-issue of PI Equivalence Data for 2011

ID: 16138

Introduction

As a result of the late release of several new BTEC levels that correspond with the new QCF requirements, it has been necessary for Capita SIMS to re-issue the Exam_PI_Equivalence table. This will enable the PI collation and calculation process to work more accurately within Edexcel's BTEC qualification framework for both Key Stage 4 and Level 3.

To ensure that the equivalence data is set up correctly and to minimise errors, some manual linking must be done to amend the Performance Measures data. This is an indirect process, the entry code which identifies the item in the basedata does not appear in the Register of Regulated Qualifications (RRQ), nor does the level code indicated in the basedata. A link must be made through the QAN given in the basedata (bytes 35-42), which may be used as a search term in the RRQ once the oblique strokes have been inserted, e.g. 50073643 must be entered as 500/7364/3. Once you have located the relevant QAN and linked the details, a further link to Performance Measures is displayed. This will enable you to determine whether the equivalences for the particular qualifications that you are delivering, match the default values in the *PI Values for BTEC Levels* table on page 3.

The levels affected, as far as we are aware, are shown in the following table, with the presumed new code, the level code as indicated in the issued basedata, and the points for each grade. Also shown is the contribution to the threshold at the corresponding level, i.e. at Level 3, a GCE A-Level represents 50, at Levels 1 and 2, a GCSE represents 20%.

Unfortunately, there are a number of inconsistencies that we have been unable to resolve so care must be taken when running the PI collation and calculation process because a specific grade awarded at a specific level will not necessarily correspond to a specific points score.

The majority of the issues that have been identified revolve around the three variants of the Level 3 Diploma. It seems that the basedata issued in July still retains the level designations from the previous September and these cannot be edited through Examinations Organiser. To enable you to correct these issues, we have compiled a list of instructions for you to implement.

Editing the PI Equivalence Data

- The first step is to apply this patch to update the Exam_PI_Equivalence table. Please refer to *Applying the Patch* on page 5 for detailed instructions.

Identify the elements in your basedata that are affected by the misapplied designations detailed in the table on page 2. It appears that D13 is most affected although the variants of the Level 3 Diploma have also been identified as inaccurate. The affected variants can be identified by reference to the gradeset:

- SD3s (= 1 A level) and are assigned to 3
- True D13s (= 2 A level) and are assigned to 18
- ED3s (= 3 A level) and are assigned to 19.
- Open the 07B11_15 file in Notepad and use the CTRL and F keys to locate these items in the file. The element code can be found immediately after the initial characters O5, as numbers 3-8. The level code can be found as numbers 19-21 and the gradeset as numbers 94-97.
- Overtyping the affected characters only and ensure that the column alignment is not affected. Save the amended 07B11_15 file.
- Refresh the basedata for the affected items by applying the amended 07B11_15 file.
- Run the PI collation and calculation process to correct the points values for all levels that have been by the patch.

The **Notes** column in the following table indicates cases where we have identified variant threshold contributions and points for the same combination of level and grade. If you become aware of a BTEC qualification for which you have results whose equivalence differs from the default indicated in the table, you must use the **Edit PI Values** routine to edit the values for each individual result. If no discount code is present, the system makes the **Edit** control inactive (the pencil) because one of the key identifiers is missing, and unfortunately BTEC basedata does not provide them. Therefore, a discount code must be supplied. There are two ways to achieve this.

- If you know what the discount code is (it appears in the RRO as the 'Barring Code' or 'Barring Classification Code'), it can be inserted in the appropriate record in the 07B11_15 file just before the QAN, overtyping the 4 spaces at positions 31-34. If the code is less than 4 characters long, make sure the unused spaces are still there.

Example:

```

O5TU636ATU636 BTECCE2C      E      50071427PERFORMING ARTS
(PRODUCTION) (QCF) N00000      13      01
becomes
O5TU636ATU636 BTECCE2C      ELA    50071427PERFORMING ARTS
(PRODUCTION) (QCF) N00000      13      01
    
```

Then refresh the updated items from the revised basedata and run the PI collation and calculation process again. The system retrieves the previously unknown code from the Census QAN tables and adds it to the Exams lookup.

- Alternatively, using the Element properties form, select the nearest equivalent from the known QCA codes and save. Re-collation will pick this up and the incorrect records will then be editable.



IMPORTANT NOTE: All manual corrections must take place after collation, because the collation process will reset all values to the defaults for the level and grade.

PI Values for BTEC Levels

Name	New Code	Base data	Grade set	Contr.	Points	Notes
Level 3 Extended Diploma	ED3	DI3	19	150%	D1 (D*D*D*) = 810 D2 (D*D*D) = 765 D3 (D*DD) = 720 D4 (DDD) = 675 D5 (DDM) = 645 D6 (DMM) = 615 M1 (MMM) = 585 M2 (MMP) = 555 M3 (MPP) = 525 P1 (PPP) = 495	
Level 3 Diploma	DI3	DI3	18	100%	D1 (D*D*) = 540 D2 (D*D) = 495 DD = 450 DM = 420 MM = 390 MP = 360 PP = 330	
Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma	SD3	DI3	3	50%	D* = 270 D = 225 M = 195 P = 165	If the results do not appear in the Edit PI Data routine, please run this patch.
Level 3 Certificate	CE3	CE3	3	25%	D* = 135 D = 112.5 M = 97.5 P = 82.5	Some have only P/F, where P = 105 pts.
Level 3 Award	AW3	AW3	M	10%	D = 54 M = 45 P = 33	Some have only P/F, and a threshold contribution of either 5% or 10%, and points of 21 or 42.
Level 2 Diploma	DI2	DI2	3	80%	D* = 232 D = 208 M = 184	

Name	New Code	Base data	Grade set	Contr.	Points	Notes
					P = 160	
Level 2 Extended Certificate	EC2	EC2	3	40%	D* = 116 D = 104 M = 92 P = 80	Some like DiDA EC2, are worth 3 GCSEs.
Level 2 Certificate	CE2	CE2	3	20%	D* = 58 D = 52 M = 46 P = 40	
Level 2 Award	AW2	AW2	M	10%	P = 23	Some are 5% and 11.5 points.
Level 1 Certificate	CE1	CE1	M	20%	P = 25	
Level 1 Award	AW1	AW1	M or D	10%	P = 12.5	Some are 5% and 6.25 points.
Level 1 Diploma	DI1	DI1	M	80%	P = 100	

Additional Changes for Level 3 at Key Stage 4

Previously, earlier iterations of the RRQ, under NDAQ, included recognition of Level 3 achievements in Key Stage 4. This no longer appears to be the case for Performance Measures and it seems that within GCE, only single AS grades are now eligible and not full A grades or double AS grades. Advanced FSMQ grades are still applicable as an AS proxy grade and ASSET languages are also applicable at Advanced level. All other Level 3 qualifications have been set to zero for Key Stage 4 equivalences.

Please refer to <http://register.ofqual.gov.uk> for further information regarding the Register of Regular Qualifications.

How PI Works Now

You can now include non EDI results by using the Edit PI Data routine in Examinations Organiser. This enables you to intervene if the PI collation and calculation process does not recognise matches or non matches of discount codes, resulting in a failure to discount or the application of a false discount.

The PI collation and calculation process comprises the following activities:

- Identification of all eligible candidates.
- The collation of their eligible results, both current and past, into the PI Result table in Examinations Organiser. The table contains a record of the year of compilation for each eligible result, i.e. a GCSE result achieved in 2010 is mirrored for both 2010 and 2011, when, typically it is included in calculations.



NOTE: As part of the collation process, any results that were copied from the Assessment Result table but have since been deleted from there, are deleted from the PI Result table.

- Processing of the PI Result table to identify any discounted results.
- Manually correct, add or refine the contents of the PI Result table.
- The calculation of summary values for each eligible candidate from the contents of the PI Result table.

Applying the Patch

The patch is delivered and applied using the SIMS Online Update Service (SOLUS), which enables a customer to receive SIMS updates and patches directly from the Internet. This is achieved using the SOLUS wizard, which guides you through the upgrade process.

For full instructions on using the SOLUS wizard, please refer to the *SIMS SOLUS 2 User Guide*, which is available from the SOLUS Help webpage (<http://home.capitaes.co.uk/solus/help.asp>).

The wizard can be accessed via the Taskbar by selecting **Start | All Programs | SIMS Applications | Update and Run SOLUS** or from within SIMS via the **Tools | Check for Updates** menu option.

Verifying that this Patch has been Applied

To check if this Patch has been applied to your SIMS system, run the SOLUS wizard again.

When the **Welcome to the SIMS .net Online Update Service Wizard** page is displayed, log in using your User Name and Password.

Click the **SIMS Information** button to open the **Information about your System** dialog. Scroll down the dialog and check whether or not this Patch ID is displayed in the list of applied patches.

This patch has been released in conjunction with KB112390 and is also available on request from the SIMS Service Desk.