

ABSTRACT

The Relevance of the Electrical Curriculum at Aqua Vocational Centre to the Needs of the Industry

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This study assessed the relevance of the electrical curriculum to the needs of the industry for a reduction in the mismatch between skills and experience, at a vocational centre in Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through interviews with nine participants (three instructors, one Registrar, one Quality Assurance Officer, one Coordinator, and three employers). Other data were obtained through the administration of three lessons, as well as through artefact and document analysis. The findings revealed that the graduates were not fully equipped with the skills and competencies to function in the workplace because the curriculum was not wholly relevant to the needs of the industry. It was also found that assessment procedures were inconsistent with industry requirements and there was no partnership linkage. Moreover, the curriculum design was not based on occupational standards.

Keywords: Technical and vocational education and training; Case studies; Curriculum evaluation; Electrical technology; Education and employment; Trinidad and Tobago