

**Specification of Competency Standards**  
**for the Printing & Publishing Industry**  
**Unit of Competency**

Functional Area - Operation and Management

Title	Understand the system and development of printing standards
Code	106240L5
Range	Europe and the USA started to take printing standards seriously in the 1980s. The International Standards Organization (ISO)'s Technical Committee (TC) put printing standards back on the table at the end of 1980s, a time when Japan and China also embarked on their own standardisation effort. The scope of standardisation runs the gamut of printing-related aspects, covering everything from printing materials to machinery, technology, workflow, quality and management. These aspects have seen great advancement in terms of practicality and refinement as the standards continue to mature. Major countries have also developed different systems of printing standards, in addition to international standards. By studying the development and features of different systems of standards, the printing company can make better plan for the development of its internal standards.
Level	5
Credit	3 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Know the background to the development of standardisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the 1980s, the USA started working on the development of SNAP and SWOP standards. At the same time, Fogra of Germany was pushing the same thing in Europe. As the ISO/TC130 meetings were reconvened at the end of 1980s, Japan established a national committee to pursue the same goal.</li> <li>• Know the organisational structure and scope of responsibilities of the National Technical Committee 170 on Printing of Standardization Administration of China (SAC/TC170) established in the 1990s, and the role of printing companies.</li> <li>• Know how international printing standards are developed and printing standards (such as ISO12647, ISO3664, ISO2846, GRACoL, SWOP, ICC, etc.) and certification system (such as G7, PSO, PSA etc.) related to print production workflows, and know the nature of the organisations behind these standards and their relationship with ISO/TC130.</li> </ul> <p>2. By understanding the development and features of different systems of standards, the printing company can make plans for developing its internal standards for different aspects of production.</p> <p>3. Be able to know to choose the appropriate certification system for the company.</p>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirement of this unit of competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the overall scope of standardisation through different systems of printing standards.</li> <li>• Know the maturity of standardisation from the development of printing standards.</li> </ul>
Remark	