

August 2007

Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you of a new National Occupational Standards (NOS) project for the development of NOS in the expeditions & exploration sub-sector of the outdoors. NOS exist in most other industry areas, including outdoor education, recreation and development training. For the expeditions & exploration area, this will be the first set of NOS ever produced.

The purpose of this email is three-fold:

- To inform you of this important project;
- To invite you to become involved in the central grouping that will, with expert support and guidance, develop the draft standards (see attachment)
- To ask for your assistance in disseminating this email and the attachment to as wide an audience of potentially interested employers and related individuals and organisations, through your networks and groups.

NOS focus on the roles and performance required by individuals in the workplace, looking at the skills, knowledge and understanding required to operate to the correct standard in employment. This is different, yet complementary to recent developments by BSI and EPA, and we will certainly be taking these new developments on board, along with all relevant others, in the work of the project.

The attachment is a short bulletin that gives basic information on the project, its background and how to get involved. We want to form a **Technical Expert Group (TEG) of individuals from employers and related organisations** which is representative of the diverse scope of the expeditions and exploration sub-sector. Details about the TEG group are in the bulletin, but can I just say that the **first meeting of the TEG will be in London on Thursday 27 September** and that travel expenses are available for members.

Please have a read through the bulletin and get back to us ^ contact details are included. **We would need to hear of your interest by Thursday 20 September** at the latest.

In the meantime, thank you for your help in this exciting new development and please feel free to contact me if I can clarify anything further at this stage.

With best wishes

Peter Thompson

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