

Such a Positive Reaction

Since the announcement in May this year that the Institute qualifications had been re-named, there has been an extremely positive reaction among Institute members and organisations generally.

Scott-Grant Limited is the principal approved training provider of the IMS. Based in Manchester, they run open course modules frequently throughout the year and also deliver many in-company courses. They are contacting every business or organisation who had delegates booked on any of the IMS modules, to explain about the change in the names of the qualifications.

Now, anyone successfully completing Modules 1 and 2 will be awarded the IMS Measurement Practitioner in the work measurement option they choose: Time Study, MOST® or Activity Sampling. And when students complete all four modules – and pass the exams – they are awarded the IMS Productivity Analyst qualification, formerly the IMS Certificate.

"We have had a 100% positive reaction to the name changes," said Richard Taylor, Scott-Grant's Managing Director. "Businesses still see them as the international productivity qualifications they always have been but now with more easily identifiable names. We have not met any

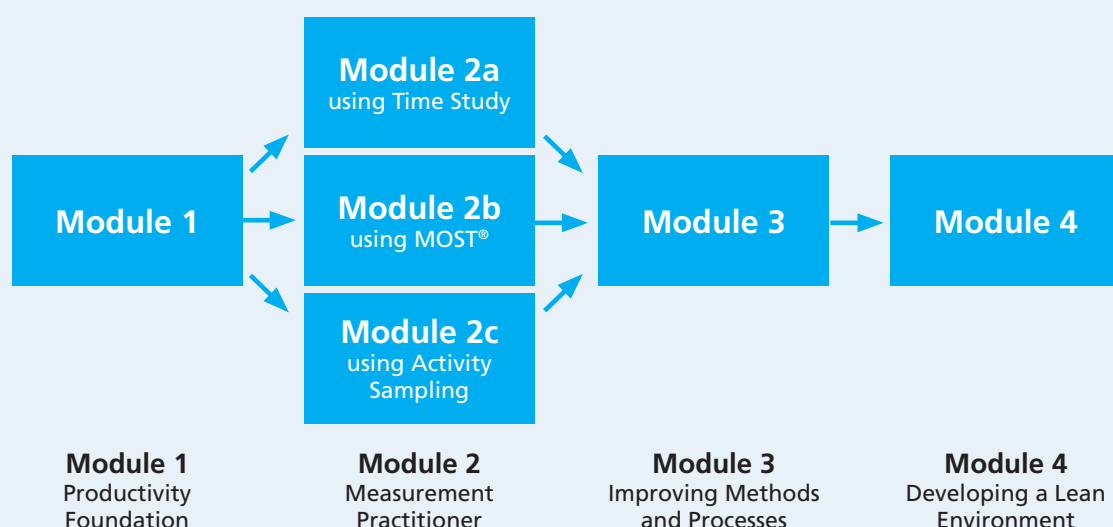
resistance, rather total acceptance – and definite interest in having employees study to attain them."

The First Delegates

The first group of delegates to complete the four week course of study for the new IMS Productivity Analyst, formerly the IMS Certificate, was from Clipper Logistics plc. Eight people from various sites across the UK had been selected by their company to study for the Institute qualifications, as part of an initiative to introduce a software system that would help them become more efficient and better manage workforce performance. Clipper Logistics offer reverse logistics for consumer electronics retailers and manufacturers so that they can effectively handle the return, repair, refurbishment and re-selling of stock.

Their original plans to begin the course in 2020 were delayed because of the COVID lockdowns and indeed they began Module 1 in March this year with Scott-Grant as a remotely managed course. This has been an option offered by Scott-Grant for over two years, initially for overseas customers, using various virtual meeting software options.

IMS Productivity Analyst



These are the first IMS Measurement Practitioner and IMS Productivity Analyst certificates to be issued, so it was a landmark achievement for the eight students.

The remotely managed course delivery worked well for the Clipper Logistics' delegates but they were all happy to go to the recently updated training centre in Manchester for the remaining three modules. As Clipper were the only delegates on the course, it was essentially an in-company course run in two separate rooms. Each was seated at an individual desk in a safe and sanitised setting, where there is an individual temperature device on entry – all in line with government requirements for delegate and instructor peace of mind. Scott-Grant Senior Instructors Steve Heathcote and Ian Winstanley delivered the course simultaneously in adjacent training rooms. The pictures were taken shortly after the delegates had completed their final examination in mid May. Little did they know that every one of them had passed, with some very good results. "They were all very enthusiastic", said Steve Heathcote, "eager to learn and with very good attitudes."

A Landmark Achievement

These are the first IMS Measurement Practitioner and IMS Productivity Analyst certificates to be issued, so it was a landmark achievement for the eight students. Their company is planning to present them with their certificates. Each will be Associate Members of the IMS and Life Members too – and now can add the letters AMS after their name.

A spokesman from Clipper Logistics said, "We are delighted with the success and enthusiasm of our first eight people to attain these productivity qualifications. We are planning to select more to attend and to see the effectiveness of the application of their practical knowledge in our business, with the help of Scott-Grant."

"Our training courses are in full flow" said Richard Taylor, "as we deliver them in our training centre in Manchester and in-company at other suitable locations. For over two years we have been running Remotely Managed courses for overseas customers, using various virtual meeting software options. During 2020 we began to extend this option to UK businesses to address the need to renew the annual Performance Rating certification for work measurement analysts and for various short courses, such as Lean and other productivity principles. When courses are fully booked, we look to run



Delegates from Clipper Logistics complete their four week course of study with Senior Instructors Steve Heathcote (left of top image) and Ian Winstanley (right of above image).

extra courses, where possible, for more capacity. I believe we can confidently find a way to deliver effectively our range of training courses in overseas and UK locations.

"The IMS qualifications are attractive to every business sector. They provide a great grounding in a range of productivity tools, techniques and principles. Our delegates are always so enthused to get back to their workplace and apply what they've learnt, to measure, to review, to challenge and to improve methods and processes. The IMS Productivity Analyst qualification is the ideal starting point for all productivity professionals."

Scott-Grant also runs a number of productivity appreciation courses that they can tailor to the needs of an organisation. These enable managers or supervisors to understand the kind of data that can be produced by a qualified analyst and how it can help them in more strategic decision making.

"We are surprised with the very wide range of businesses and organisations, including new customers, that are pursuing productivity projects and training to help them recover, adapt and progress with their new market challenges" Richard added. "I don't think there is one industry that can afford to ignore the need to reduce costs, increase capacity and/or improve response on an ongoing basis."

If readers have any queries about the productivity qualifications, please send an email to productivity@scott-grant.co.uk or call +44 (0)161 234 2121.