**Examination report – December 2010 series**

Paper no 2730 – 018 Programming Principles

| Section 1 – Areas of good performance (question no/syllabus topic or reference) |
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| Syllabus sections: 1.5, 1.6, Basic knowledge - On the whole, this question was answered satisfactorily. Some candidates failed to indicate data directions on the block diagram iSolutions to part b) were often vague or inaccurate.<br><br>Syllabus sections: 1.9, 1.10, Basic knowledge - Solutions to this question were very good.<br><br>Syllabus section: 1.22, Basic programming concepts - In part b) most of the candidates were unable to provide two ways to provide repetition within a program.<br><br>Syllabus section: 1.28, Basic programming concepts - On the whole solutions were very good. Sometimes the flowcharts in part b) lacked detail.<br><br>Syllabus sections: 1.31, 1.32, 1.39, Basic programming concepts - This question was answered satisfactorily. Many of the candidates were unable to provide four OOP **benefits** in part b). |
| Section 2 – Areas for development (question no/syllabus topic or reference) |
| Syllabus section: 1.16, Basic knowledge - Solutions to this question were very poor. In part c) very few candidates accurately described the operation of the program.<br><br>Syllabus section: 1.21, Basic programming concepts - This was the least popular question. Candidates had little or no idea as to what a program structure was.<br><br>.Syllabus section: 1.24, Basic programming concepts - Very disappointing results for this question. Candidates had very little idea of what the components of program design were.<br><br>Syllabus section: 1.27, Basic programming concepts - Although most candidates knew what an algorithm was, very few could write one in part b).<br><br>Syllabus sections: 1.45, 1.46, Basic programming concepts - In part a) explanations were often inaccurate and vague. In part b), candidates knew the basic structure required for HTML coding but were unable to use the FRAME tags to subdivide the page area. |
| Section 3 - Additional comments |
| Candidates need to improve their knowledge of the following areas.<br><br>● Analysis of high level programs.<br>● High level program structures.<br>● Program design components.<br>● HTML coding. |