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Mark Whitehouse, City and Guilds of London Institute 1 Giltspur Street, LONDON EC1A 9DD

Dear Mark.

IBM Is a leading employer of college leavers and apprentices that employs over 20,000 people in the United Kingdom working in IT Services supporting clients in all industries and sectors.

I would like to support the following City & Guilds qualification and the 6 pathways within the qualification as being both relevant and significant to the IT Services sector and related digital industries.

- City & Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical extended Diploma in Digital Technologies (720)

## 6 pathways in:

- · systems infrastructure
- · application development
- · web development and social media
- cyber security
- business analysis
- telecoms/unified communications.

The qualification has been developed with the needs of the industry/sector in mind and therefore before advancing onto one of 6 pathways the learner would be expected to achieve all the mandatory subject areas such as:-

- · Project management
- Information security
- Networking fundamentals
- Digital business communication
- · Software development fundamentals
- Collection and analysis of data
- · Enterprise technologies

I have been involved in the design and development of qualifications (teaching and assessment) for a range of City & Guilds Digital Technologies certificates and diplomas. That experience has allowed me to gain a clear understanding of how City & Guilds engage employers and relevant third party organisations (Sector Skills Council, professional bodies, Further Education Colleges) to ensure that qualifications are designed and developed with the needs of employers – delivering skills that are in demand.

I believe that that once the learner has gained this qualification which covers the skills and knowledge needed for the Digital Industry they could take an entry level position as a:

- Network technician
- · Software developer / analyst
- Web developer
- Cyber security co-ordinator
- · Business analyst
- Telecoms (VOIP) technician

Respectfully yours,

Blagger

Paul D Jagger, MSc PgDMS CITP FBCS Business Area Manager for IBM Learning Development (Europe) Certified IBM Professional (Learning & Development)