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LEADING UK HAIRDRESSING TRAINER LAUNCHES THEIR OWN E-PORTFOLIO FOR ASSESSING NVQS, BASED ON AXIA INTERACTIVE MEDIA'S NVQnow

Reflections Training Academy recently decided to work with AXIA Interactive Media on creating an e-portfolio for the assessment of all their hairdressing students. Their e-portfolio is based on AXIA Interactive Media's own e-portfolio, NVQnow but it will be customised to reflect the requirements of a training organisation within the Haircare industry.

One of the features of the e-portfolio for the assessment of NVQs, developed by AXIA Interactive Media, is the capacity for organisations to create their own e-portfolio site. This extends beyond branding, by allowing centres to reflect their existing assessment practice by making textural changes to the e-portfolio and assessment plans and by adding their own learning materials and documentation. The core e-portfolio and audit trails, which have been approved by awarding bodies, remain the same however; other functionality can be easily adjusted.

A number of national organisations have already developed their own e-portfolio based on NVQnow. These include Ufi/Learndirect and Council for Administration whose version of the e-portfolio is *Forward e-portfolio PLUS*. Reflections Training Academy is the second of a growing number of locally assessment centres who are attracted to having their own e-portfolio site.

This is because it increases ownership of the site by the organisation that adopts it and minimises the disruption felt by their staff that are able to use documentation with which they are familiar.

Chris Peat, Customer Services Director commented:

"We are delighted that, following a rigorous process of evaluating our NVQ e-portfolio against other similar products, the Reflections training academy have chosen to work with us. Within a month of that decision being made, they have a live site on which many of their staff have already been trained and we are in the final stages of modifying the site to reflect their excellent assessment practice."

During March, the first candidates will be registered on the Reflections site and there is real confidence amongst all those who have worked on this project, that a site will be created that will prove to be an example of best practice for those engaged in training the hairdressers of the future.

Reflections Training Academy is one of the largest privately owned training companies within the UK and has over 20 years experience with teaching hairdressing apprenticeships. They recently celebrated gaining Grade 2's from the Adult Learning Inspectorate rating them as excellent and good across both Academies, which are located in Bristol and Birmingham.