OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

Monday 21 January 2013 – Morning

GCSE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

B063/02/PRE   ICT in Context

Duration: 1 hour

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- This is a clean copy of the pre-release material which you have already seen.
- You may **not** take your previous copy of the pre-release material into the examination.
- You may **not** take notes into the examination.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This document consists of **2** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER / INVIGILATOR

- Do not send this insert for marking; it should be retained in the centre or recycled. Please contact OCR Copyright should you wish to re-use this document.

OCR is an exempt Charity

Aqua-Inflatables

Aqua-Inflatables is a company specialising in the design and sale of inflatable boats. Based in the UK, the company uses the latest technologies to help design and market the boats worldwide. Boats are sold via an online catalogue supported by blogs and forums. There is also a helpline staffed by non-specialists who have access to an expert system. To promote the boats, the catalogue has a wide range of embedded videos and other resources showing the boats in use. The company was started in 2003 and keeps customer data, including a customer preference survey from 2005.

Due to the specialist manufacturing methods needed to build the boats, the company has to work alongside a large number of smaller, specialist manufacturing companies around the world. The boats are designed by Aqua-Inflatables' staff in the UK using Computer Aided Design (CAD) and are built in China by a number of different manufacturing companies using Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM).

Aqua-Inflatables' staff have to manage the whole design and manufacturing process to ensure that customer orders are fulfilled. The staff use a range of specialist and general project management software to help them with this task. Communication and the sharing of documents between staff and external suppliers are both vital to the business.

The use of ICT to communicate, design, manufacture and project manage the production of the boats is vital to the success of the company. Most members of staff work at home using a variety of software, including open source, licensed and bespoke software.

Candidates need to explore:

- computer hardware specifications for different purposes
- proprietary, open source and commissioned, bespoke software
- legislation regarding software licensing
- project planning methods and software, including the use of Gantt charts
- expert systems
- distributed databases
- the use of language translation software
- the use of CAD/CAM
- methods of document sharing and digital transfer of files
- cloud computing and thin client technology
- working from home, including the benefits and drawbacks
- the ways in which companies use websites, blogs and forums
- online catalogues
- online data security
- embedded sources
- online communication methods between individuals and groups, including appropriate methods for one-to-one, one-to-many and many-to-many communications
- the use of email, including multiple recipients and attachments
- factors affecting the relevance of survey data.