NZCS SFIA Professional Certification

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Abstract
At the 2008 NACCQ conference, NZCS leadership explained planned use of SFIA. This paper summarizes and comments on the proposed practitioner certification process. It is an unknown road ahead.

Keywords: Certification, Body of Knowledge, SFIA, Computer Society.

1 Introduction
ICT practitioners is emerging internationally. The current NZCS proposal implies a journey of several years. It is hoped to grow and be used on large scale. Some of the shortcomings also makes the approach more acceptable!

2 Overview
Consists of skills areas, each with levels of “maturity”, against which various groups of people/experiences can be assessed systematically.

3 Route for academics
The procedure provides specifically for academics, with clarity due on several matters, such as seniority, who will assess and exactly how. Costs/Fees also possible concern.

4 Conclusion
It is early days.

Comments
• Who will believe or already believe what…?
• Specific examples of details in assessment?
• WIIFM? CV enrich; Self-assessment; Career planning…
• Map the qualifications we teach?
• For students? Baseline; Pathways; Range/Scope
• Use in course and programme review?
• Cost of operations vs value created?
• What if it did not exist…?
• Research opportunities next two years?

5 References
SFIA (Skills Framework for the Information Age). Available at www.sfia.org.uk.