



ABBE TO DELIVER SECURE TESTING WITH PEARSON VUE

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The Awarding Body for the Built Environment (ABBE) is set to migrate all of its tests to be delivered via a digital platform following a new contract with computer-based assessment company Pearson VUE.

ABBE, the specialist awarding body that provides nationally recognised qualifications for the Built Environment industry, administers tests that cover such disciplines as construction, surveying, plan and project management, home inspection, energy assessment and valuation. These tests are developed to meet industry requirements and prepare people for, or give individuals the opportunity to progress to, specific work roles within the industry.

The first test, Domestic Energy Assessment Diploma Level 3, will be assessed by Pearson VUE in its UK test centre network from April 2010, with the remaining tests to be shifted to a computer based testing platform at a later date.

The contract, which will lead to in excess of 10,000 tests being carried out per year, was awarded following a competitive tender process. Roger Bishop, chief executive officer of ABBE, commented:

"Security is an issue of paramount importance for us, and we must ensure that the awards that we administer are reliable and trustworthy. We offer high-stakes tests that require an independent invigilation process. Because of this, we selected Pearson VUE to deliver the tests based on the company's track record for its effective testing operation."

Suzana Lopes, VP Sales and Marketing EMEA, Pearson VUE added:

"We were selected by ABBE based on our efficient and secure method of delivering scalable, valid and robust testing, and as ABBE continues to grow, we are certain that we can meet all of its testing needs. The network of testing centres across the UK means that we can successfully administer the tests wherever the candidate may be."

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Media contacts: Oliver Cheshier or Lucy Cunliffe at GyroHSR, (+44 161 876 5522),
oliver.cheshier@gyrohsr.com / lucy.cunliffe@gyrohsr.com

Notes to editors: Pearson VUE (www.pearsonvue.co.uk) is a global leader in computer-based testing for information technology, academic, government and professional testing programmes around the world. Pearson VUE provides a full suite of services from test development to data management, and delivers exams through the world's most comprehensive and secure network of test centres in 165 countries. Pearson VUE is a business of Pearson (NYSE: PSO; LSE: PSON), the international media company, whose businesses include the Financial Times Group, Pearson Education and the Penguin Group.