

**e-qual**  
*paperless portfolio*

# Centre Manager guide

[www.e-qualportfolio.co.uk](http://www.e-qualportfolio.co.uk)

© 2009 DDL Ltd  
[www.ddluk.com](http://www.ddluk.com)

# E-qual Paperless Portfolio | Centre Manager guide

The centre manager.....	3
Login .....	3
Select role.....	3
Menu .....	4
Manage Portfolios .....	4
Forums .....	4
Resources.....	5
Manage Users .....	6
Viewing portfolios.....	7
Portfolio menu .....	7
Discussions.....	7
Planning.....	7
General Documents .....	8
Portfolio Evidence .....	8
Matrix .....	9
Completion.....	9

## The centre manager

The centre manager is an approved worker for the centre who is able to view all the work that is carried out in all portfolios within that centre. The centre manager has the ability to view reports about users within E-qual.

Each centre manager has access to all of portfolios for each qualification the centre is assigned to. Each of these portfolios belongs to a candidate and contains all the work that the candidate and assessor between them have created to help meet the requirements of the qualification.

Each portfolio has a portfolio team. This can consist of any combination of assessor, trainee assessor, internal verifier, external verifier and expert witness advisor. Remember however, these roles could have different names in your portfolios. Each role name can be customised but their range of permissions and abilities in these roles remains the same.

Within each portfolio are various predefined areas containing relevant documents. These documents have been attached by the candidate or a user in the assessing roles and then commented on. The resulting portfolio of evidence can be accessed, reviewed and sampled at any time by the other members of the portfolio team.

Centre managers also have administration privileges within the Forums and Resources areas of E-qual Paperless Portfolio.

The sections below describe each of the areas of the portfolio that can be accessed in the centre manager role and how to use them. Online help is also available in the software itself by clicking the **View help** button at the top right of each page.

## Login

To login to E-qual paperless portfolio, enter your username and password into the relevant boxes and click on the **Login** button.

If you cannot remember your username or password, click on the **Forgotten Username or Password** link. This will take you to a page where you can enter the email address that you have in your E-qual account. Your login details will be emailed to this address.

If you require further help with your login to E-qual, contact your administrator.

## Select role

It is possible, within your E-qual account, to work with more than one role. If you have 2 or more roles assigned to you, you can use this page to select which of your roles you wish to login as.

In this case we are logging in as the centre manager role, so click the **Select** button next to Centre Manager.

If you wish to return to this screen to login using an alternative role, click on the **Change my role** link at the top right of any screen.

## Menu

This screen gives you can access all of the centre manager's pages of E-qual.

If you have more than one role assigned to your E-qual account you can click the **Change my role** link at the top right to return to the Choose role page and enter E-qual as another role.

You can change your password and personal details by clicking the **Change my details** link. This will take you to a page that allows you to edit your those details.

Click the **Logout** link at any time to leave the E-qual system and return to the login page.

## Manage Portfolios

This page allows you to access details about candidates in your centre and allows you access to their portfolios.

When you first access this page, all candidates are displayed with various details about them. You can filter these candidates to show only candidates fulfilling certain criteria. For example, you can view only the candidates for a certain internal verifier by selecting that IV from the Internal Verifier dropdown. Only candidates who have that IV allocated to their portfolio will then be visible. You can further filter by selecting more criteria from the dropdown menus.

You can change the order in which the candidates are displayed on the page by clicking on the column titles. For example, you can change the order of the displayed candidates using the Percentage Complete column. The candidates can be order by ascending or descending percentages by clicking the column title.

Click the **View portfolio** button to access a portfolio.

## Forums

Forums are an area where you can share conversations, opinions, work and documents with other E-qual users.

As a centre manager you have administration access to all forums that have been created by users in your centre. You can select which forums you want to view using the dropdown menu at the top of the Forums area.

You can create a new forum that can contain a group of topics by clicking the **Create forum** button. You can then give the forum a name, a description and decide whether to allow users to add new topics in this forum or restrict it so that only you can add new topics.

Once a forum has been created you can add users to it by clicking the **User groups** button. This will open a pop-up containing a list of all your user groups that you can add to the forum. Tick the group(s) you want to add and click **Close**. If you have not set up any user groups click the **Manage users** button. See **Manage Users** for more details about this feature.

These forums contain topics. You can create a topic by clicking the **Add topic** button. Enter your topic title and description into the pop-up window. To view the contents of a topic click the title.

As a forum administrator you are able to edit and delete forums and topics as you see fit. Care must be taken however, as once you have deleted a forum, all the topics, discussions and posts will be removed permanently.

## Topic

The topic page contains a list of all the discussions within the topic you have selected. It gives you details such as who started this discussion, when the last post was added and how many posts there are in total.

You can read the posts within a discussion by clicking the discussion title.

You can return to the forums level by clicking **My forums** at the top left of the forums area or by clicking the **Go back** button.

You can add a new discussion to this topic by clicking the **Add discussion** button. You can then enter the title of the discussion, the text that will be the first post in this discussion and if you want to, attach a document. Click **Save** when you are finished. Your discussion will be created with your post as the first post.

As a forum administrator you can edit and delete discussions as appropriate. Care must be taken however, as once you have deleted a discussion all posts will be removed permanently.

## Discussion

This is the post level of the forums. It is where new messages are added to create a conversation in this discussion area. You can read the posts that have been created and reply to an existing post or create a new post.

To reply to an existing post, click the **Reply** button below the relevant post, this will open a pop-up window. In this window you can edit the title of your post, enter your post text and attach a file if required. You will notice that because you choose to reply to an existing post, the text from the first post is added to the post in [quote] tags.

To post a new, relevant post in this discussion, click the **Add post** button. This will open a pop-up that will allow you to add a title and the text of your post. You can also attach a document.

You can add styling to your post by using the **Bold** and **Italic** buttons. Select the text you wish to style in the post window and click the **Bold** and/or **Italic** buttons. This will place the relevant tags in your text which will display with the correct styling when you save your post.

You can use the navigation links on the left to move around the forums or click the **Go back** button to move up to the discussions level.

As a forum administrator you can edit and delete posts as appropriate. If you edit a post, a line will be added to the post to show this. If you choose to delete a post, only the text content of the post will be removed and will be replaced with a message stating that you have deleted the post.

## Resources

The Resources area is where you can add documents, links, learning and other content to be shared among E-equal users and also view resources that have been assigned to you.

As a centre manager you have administration access to all resources that have been added by users in your centre. You can select which resources you want to view using the dropdown menu at the top of the Resources area.

To access an individual resource, click the **Open resource** button. This will open the resource in a new window.

Resources can be individual files, groups of files or learning materials or a link to another web site.

To add a resource, click the **Add resource** button. A pop-up will appear allowing you to name your resource, give it a description and then specify what type of resource you want to create. If you tick a web link, a box will appear for you to enter the link for the resource. If the resource is a single file, a **Browse** button will appear for you to find and upload the file. If the resource is a collection of documents and files you will first have to create an E-equal Resource Package (ERP) and upload that package file. To do this you will need access to the ERP tool. The ERP tool has its own guidance for use.

Once you have created a resource you can assign a group, or groups, of users to it. To do this click the **User groups** button. A pop-up will appear containing a list of all your user groups that you can add to the resource. Tick the group(s) you want to add and click **Close**. If you have not set up any user groups click the **Manage users** button. See *Manage Users* for more details about this feature.

## Manage Users

This area is for the creation of user groups and is applicable to Forums and Resources. Click the **Manage users** button to open the popup. Although Forums and Resources both use an identical process for creating groups, the groups that you create are independent to either Forums or Resources.

To add a group, click the **Create group** button. A pop-up will appear where you can give the group a name and a description. Once you have clicked **Save** you can begin to add users to this group.

To add users click the **Add users** button. In the Add users window select the role of the user(s) you want to add from the dropdown menu. Find the user you want to add to the group and tick the box to include them in the group. Continue to add users as required, you can add users from any role. Click **Save** to add the selected users.

Once you have finished creating your group you can return to the Forums or Resources page and assign it by clicking the **User groups** button and selecting that group.

You can return to a group and add or remove users at any time or delete the group completely. If you remove users from a group, they will no longer see the forums or resources that the group is assigned to.

## Viewing portfolios

As a centre manager you are able to view the portfolios of all candidates in your centre.

The sections below describe each of the areas of the portfolio that can be accessed once you have clicked the **View portfolio** button in the Manage Portfolios area, and how to use them.

## Portfolio menu

This menu screen gives you access to all areas of the portfolio. To visit a particular area of the portfolio click the relevant menu button.

At the bottom of the menu screen are the details of the Portfolio Team. These are the people are working on this portfolio.

Just above the portfolio team area is the percentage complete figure. This is the amount of the portfolio that has been locked by the assessor(s) and is considered 'finished'.

To the right of the page is the discussion area. See **Discussions** for help with using this feature.

To return to the Manage portfolios page, click **Exit this portfolio** in the top menu bar or the **Exit portfolio** button.

## Discussions

The portfolio menu contains a Discussions area. This is where you can read discussions between users of the portfolio. The Discussions area is also accessible from each page of the portfolio using the **Discussions** button in the Tools panel.

At the top of the discussions area is a dropdown menu containing a list of all the discussions you can read. Click on the menu and select the discussion you would like to read.

## Planning

This area is used by the assessor to select the parts of a qualification to be undertaken by the candidate and as a place to store assessment planning documentation. The page contains an area where planning documents are added to the left and the standard for the qualification as a tree structure to the right.

A file can be viewed by selecting the filename in the **Attached planning documents** area and clicking the **Open file** button.

Assessors can lock documents, to prevent them from being removed, if they are considered to be suitable for inclusion in the final portfolio. Locked documents cannot be removed from the portfolio.

The qualification the candidate is attempting is represented as a tree structure. The plus (+) and minus (-) icons allow the tree to be opened and closed to show more or less nodes. Clicking on node text selects that statement, indicated by a highlight around the statement. Each node also contains an area for the assessor to enter a start date, a proposed completion date and an actual completion date.

**Start Date** is a date when work on the particular statement will start.

**Proposed Completion Date** is a date when work on the particular statement is planned to end.

**Actual Completion Date** is a date when work on the particular statement has been completed.

The selected tick box (**SEL**) allows the assessor to choose which parts of the qualification structure the candidate should attempt. Any statements selected here will become visible and available to attach evidence to in the Portfolio Evidence area.

The Tools area at the bottom of the page gives you access to your discussions. Click the **Discussions** button to open them in a popup window. See **Discussions** for help with using this feature.

## General Documents

This area is designed to contain general documents that are part of the portfolio but not necessarily documents that contribute to the main qualification structure. They could be documents that contain details about the candidate, items such as a CV or certificates, or general portfolio administration documents and induction documentation.

A file can be viewed by selecting the filename in the **Attached general documents** area and clicking the **Open file** button.

Assessors can lock documents, to prevent them from being removed, if they are considered to be suitable for inclusion in the final portfolio. Locked documents cannot be removed from the portfolio.

The Tools area at the bottom of the page gives you access to your discussions. Click the **Discussions** button to open them in a pop-up window. See **Discussions** for help with using this feature.

## Portfolio Evidence

This page is the main area of the portfolio, used to attach evidence and comments to the appropriate parts of the qualification structure.

The standard for the qualification is shown on the left in a tree structure. The tree only contains the parts of the qualification that have been selected in the Planning area. The plus (+) and minus (-) icons allow the tree to be opened and closed to show more or less nodes.

Alongside each branch of the tree there may be several icons displayed. These are intended to provide information about the status of the node.




The small document icon indicates that there is evidence attached to that statement.



The small bubble icon indicates that a comment has been attached to that statement.



The padlock icon indicates whether a node has been locked. A node can be locked to prevent changes to the attached items if the documents and comments are satisfactory to complete that part of the qualification. When a node has been completed the padlock becomes a 'Completed' icon 

To the right of the tree is the **Documents attached to selected node** area and the **Comments attached to selected node** area. This is where documents and comments are added and displayed as part of the completed portfolio.

A file can be viewed by selecting the filename in the **Documents attached to selected node** area and clicking the **Open file** button.

The Tools area at the bottom of the page contains buttons to access useful additional tools.

Click the **Discussions** button to open the Discussions area in a pop-up window. See **Discussions** for help with using this feature.

You can see a tabular view of the evidence and comments and where they have been attached by clicking the **Matrix** button. See **Matrix** for help with using this.

## Matrix

The matrix is a tabular representation of where documents and comments are attached to the qualification structure.

The qualification structure is represented as a tree diagram showing two levels at a time - the nodes you are wanting to show documents for, and their parent node. The matrix always opens at the top level of the qualification structure. That is, showing the short name of the qualification as the parent node and then the collection of child nodes below.

Down the left of the matrix is a list of all documents that are attached at that level of the qualification structure and any levels below. The matrix then shows, by a number of symbols, where each document has been attached.

- ✓ The tick indicates that the document has been attached at this node in the qualification structure.
- ↓ The arrow indicates that the document has been attached at a lower level - a child node of the current node - in the qualification structure
- ✓ ↓ The tick and arrow indicates that the document has been attached at this node of the qualification structure and has also been attached at a lower level - a child node of the current node - in the qualification structure.

Each document listed in the matrix can be opened in its native application by clicking on the document name.

The Comments section of the matrix indicates any comments that have been added at these nodes. Their position in the qualification structure is indicated by a small speech bubble icon in the column of the node they are attached to. Move your mouse over the comment to read the full text.

To navigate up or down the levels of the qualification structure, simply click on the **Up** or **Down** buttons. Alternatively, you can use the 'You are here' links at the top of the matrix to move back up through the levels.

You can print the matrix for easy reference.

## Completion

The Completion page is used for indicating which areas of the qualification have been Completed. The nodes of the qualification structure that require marking as complete are displayed in a tree structure. When a member of the portfolio team is able to make a completion decision on a node, they tick the box under their role name. A date will be displayed next to the tick box and that node is considered Complete.

Once a node has been marked as Completed by the first person in the sequence, that node is locked on the Portfolio Evidence page and the Completion icon is displayed against the nodes and attached documents. Documents and comments cannot be added, removed or edited on that node.

Once the whole qualification has been completed, all documents in all areas of the portfolio are locked.