

## Classification Codes

Our December 2008 Newsletter explained how to change classification codes. Something that you may have to do as a result of the letter from TEC dated 26 November 2008 announcing a new Classification Code for Vocational Training.

Now that some of our clients are actually making the change an interesting question has arisen – if the classification code for a course changes to 22.1, as TEC is requiring, does the funding category code also change?



This matter doesn't seem to have been addressed in TEC's correspondence to providers and if you look at the funding rate table published by TEC you will see that the classification 22.1 is associated with not one, not two, but six funding categories!

But, however tempting it may be to move those courses which were classified as 03/A1 to

22.1/L1 and score another \$3,757 per EFTS, it is probably safe to assume that the funding category does not change. So a course that was 03/A1 becomes 22.1/A1.

One has the feeling, though, this is another instance which demonstrates that the entire funding mechanism – never very robust – is now about to tumble over.

## Take2 and PEPi Systems

You will have received our media release in December concerning Meta Office and PEPi Systems working together and we thought you may be interested in an update and more detail. Overleaf you can find more information about the PEPi product itself and on this page our plans for the next few years.

Currently Meta Office is a reseller of the PEPi student portal software which is being integrated with Take2. The student portal software is a component of the full PEPi

system that allows students to view their data and maintain details such as address, phone number, etc. In its full implementation the portal also provides for on-line enrolments.

The development of a combined Take2/PEPi product is being conducted by the two organisations working together. PEPi systems has primary responsibility for development, making use of specifications provided by Meta Office. Meta Office will market the product as an upgrade to existing Take2 clients and as an alternative SMS for other tertiary education organisations. PEPi will support the marketing effort.

PEPi systems and Meta Office will both be involved in implementation. First line user support for the combined products will be provided by Meta Office, whilst most technical support will be handled by PEPi Systems.

Our timeframe for the introduction of Take2 powered by PEPi is to release a first version in late 2009. Early indications are that a number of Take2 clients will be eager to upgrade seeing the browser interface in particular as an attractive and useful feature.

However, we recognise that not all our clients will be so eager – some being cautious of being “first adopters” and others being content to stick with what they have. Accordingly we will continue to support the existing Take2 product throughout 2009 and 2010. It is possible that support will continue into 2011, depending on the number of clients remaining with the original product and what compliance changes (e.g. SDR) come into effect.

Existing clients that take up the new product will be offered a licence upgrade at a rate considerably below the licence fee applicable to new clients. Clients that continue with the existing Take2 product will continue to pay a support fee in 2010 in line with the current fee adjusted for inflation since the fee was last revised.

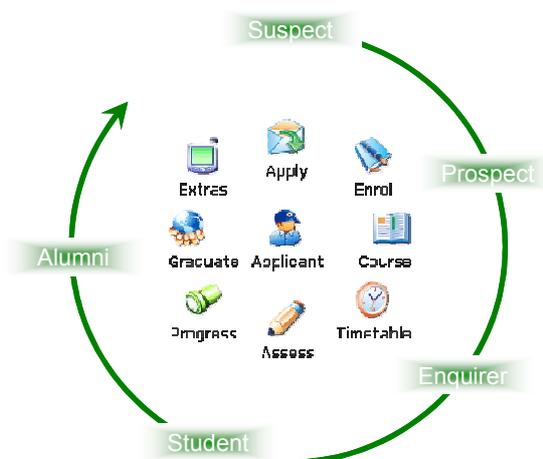
We believe that combining Take2 with PEPi will provide our clients with the best of both worlds: an application which is .NET-based and browser-based, and an application which includes all the compliance functionality that is specific to the New Zealand tertiary environment.

## **PEPi**

PEPi, an Australian product, is a business solution designed by industry professionals to help tertiary education organisations to improve their business through greater efficiency and effectiveness. Despite being a relative newcomer in the Australian market PEPi has an increasing number of clients including large organisations with multiple campuses. Clients include the Australian Film Television and Radio School, Melbourne Education Group and Navitas, College of Law (in New Zealand already serviced by Take2), Australian Institute of Management, Southern Cross College, etc.

PEPi meets an organisation's end-to-end business needs:

- Student management, marketing (customer relationship management) and learning management functionality works together to provide a 360° customer view.
- Integrates with your finance system.
- Handles the full range of post secondary education providers needs (community, vocational, further, and higher education) and you can turn on and off the parts you don't use.
- PEPi with Take2 will handle all compliance reporting and mechanisms:
  - Single Data Return
  - National Student Index
  - Reporting to NZQA and ITOs
  - Electronic Receipting System
  - Students Online
  - KPI reporting
  - Verification of Study
- PEPi systemises and automates processes:
  - Use system alerts, escalations and workflow so the system reminds you to follow up fees, student debts, etc.
  - Automate programme completion, credit application, application for recognised prior learning, programme stage progression, graduation, etc.
  - Programme and unit management, application management, course enrolment, escalation rules, automatically send e-
- PEPi is built on modern technology:
  - 100% web-deployed and is configured to meet your specific needs with configurable views, business rules, colours, etc.
  - Uses Microsoft Server and SQL.
  - Local install OR we provide remote hosting for you.
- PEPi offers encrypted security with role-based access:
  - Encrypted data transfer for added security.
  - Different users have different levels of access, and can do and see different things.
  - Restrict new users to different roles, etc.
- The PEPi system includes customer-specific configuration at implementation and ongoing updates and professional support by experienced industry experts:
  - You don't change to fit PEPi, PEPi is configured to suit you.
  - Supported customers get regular access to updates to keep abreast of government reporting changes.
  - Professional, dedicated support personnel who understand your business.



**PEPi provides a 360° view of the student life cycle**