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NEWEST ADDITION OF SKILL STANDARDS WILL HELP CREATE BETTER TRAINED WORKFORCE FOR PRINT INDUSTRY

MISSISSAUGA – National skill standards and occupational profiles for output and colour specialists were released Friday by the Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council (CPISC) as part of its *Skills for the Future* initiative. Working with key players in the print and graphic communications industry, CPISC's skill standards define what an employee should know and be able to do on the job.

"We are proud to have completed the skill standards for our industry's key process areas of prepress, press, finishing, and bindery," said CPISC co-chair Jeff Ekstein. "The standards will help in creating a better trained, more adaptable workforce that is urgently needed at this time."

"Output and colour specialists are a crucial part of the print production cycle," added fellow CPISC co-chair Duncan Brown. "From using computer software to understanding and analyzing colour measurement, there is a wide array of skills required in ensuring that a print job is completed properly."

The co-chairs also noted that the accompanying occupational profiles will be useful tools for recruitment and training purposes. The profiles outline what is required of the worker in a specific job, the availability of similar jobs in Canada, and the kind of education and personal attributes that best contribute to success in that occupation.

These established skill standards will assist CPISC in developing a national recognition / certification program for the various components of the industry.

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ABOUT CPISC

The Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council, funded by the Government of Canada's Sector Council Program, is a not-for-profit organization responsible for spearheading the human resources strategy of Canada's printing and graphics communication sector.