

**NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY AND POLYTECHNIC  
QUALIFICATIONS IN INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

**PRESCRIPTION: PS600 PROBLEM SOLVING**

AIM OF MODULE:	To enable students to understand the concepts of problem solving, and to gain experience in solving a wide variety of problems. Students will learn the theory and practice of the necessary skills, and will learn how to become effective problem solvers.
CREDITS:	7
STUDENT LEARNING HOURS:	70
CONTENT REVISED:	Pre 1996
PRESCRIPTION EXPIRY DATE:	November 2013

**Level and Assessment Schedule**

TOPICS	Highest Skill Level				Suggested Assessment Percentage
	R	C	A	P	
1. Principles of problem solving		*			50
2. Solution of example problems				*	50
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## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The students will:

### **1 IDENTIFY AND EXPLAIN:**

- Characteristics of problems
- Characteristics of people as problem solvers
- Processes for problem solving
- Problem solving tools
- Steps to recognise and overcome blocks
- Opportunities for improving problem solving ability
- Opportunities for problem avoidance

1.1 Study example problems.

### **2 IDENTIFY THE CHARACTERISTICS OF PROBLEMS**

2.1 Use suitable problem solving processes.

2.2 Use suitable problem solving tools.

2.3 Recognise and overcome blocks.

2.4 Devise effective solutions.

2.5 Record solutions in a problem log.

2.6 Identify opportunities for improving problem solving ability.

2.7 Identify opportunities for problem avoidance.