DRS

On-Screen Marking:

Transforming the future of examination marking.

Ensuring fair outcomes for all candidates taking examinations and assessments.

Providing real-time information and vital reporting functions.

Reducing turnaround times and improving marking quality.

Enabling greater cost efficiency in exam processing.

DRS

TESTIMONIALS

"Manual marking generally takes much longer, and, given the huge numbers it's simply no longer possible, or credible."

Dr Tulasi Ram Das, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, India

"Before, the old conveyor belt system (of manual marking) took 12 to 14 days per subject. With DRS e-Marker®, it takes just 3 to 4 days per subject."
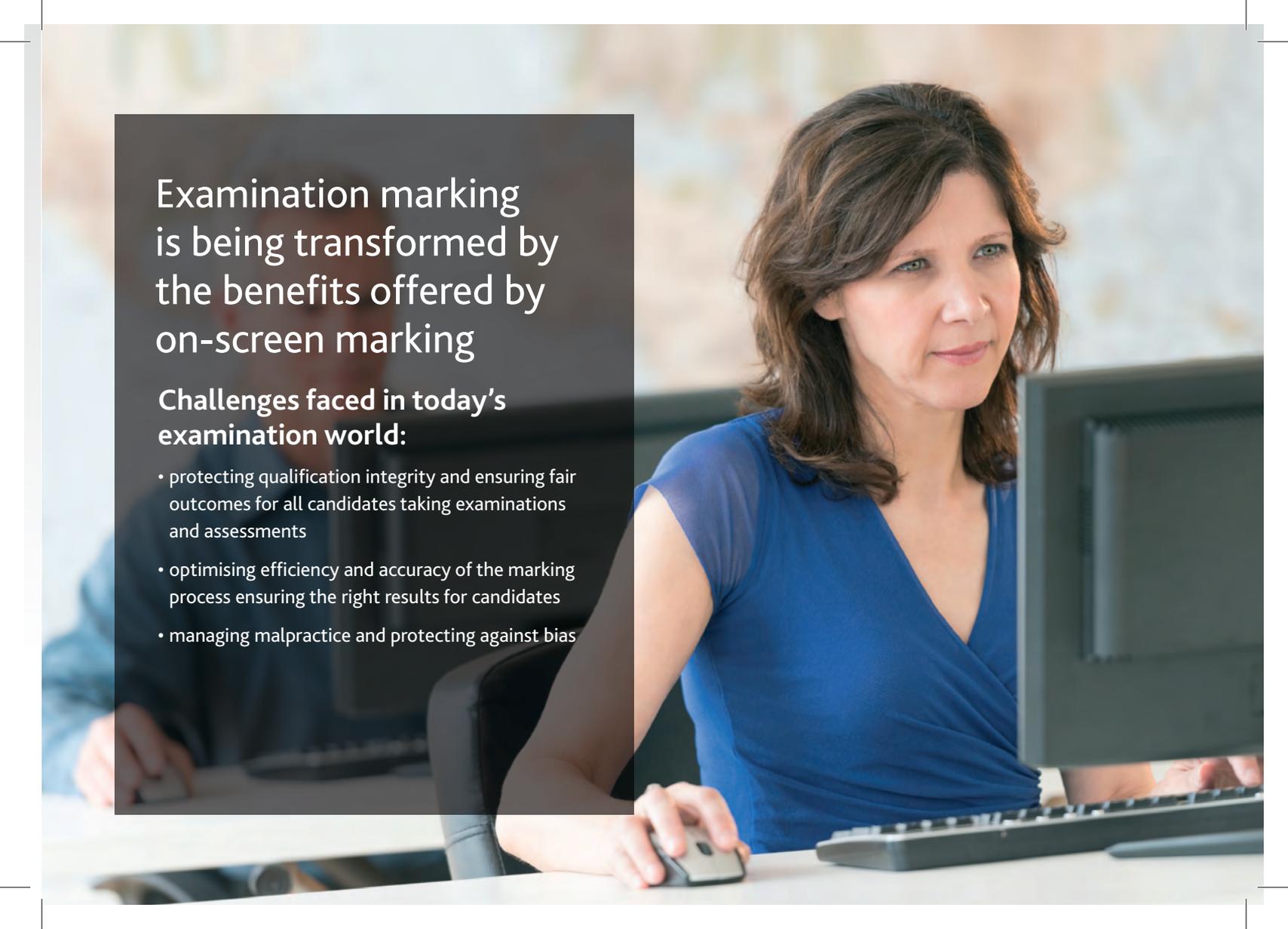
John Maramba, the Deputy Director, Zimbabwe School Examinations Council

"e-Marker® was primed to deliver accuracy and thoroughness - the system ensures that you are marking according to the guide. It has an in-built detector checking what you are doing, and as you are marking, the scores are going back to the cloud."

Dr O Dacosta, Deputy Registrar, West African Examinations Council, Nigeria

"The DRS e-Marker® system allows markers to concentrate on what they're paid to do - mark. Once the markers actually use the system, they are usually converted very quickly. In some subjects we are now able to complete the marking within a reduced timescale."
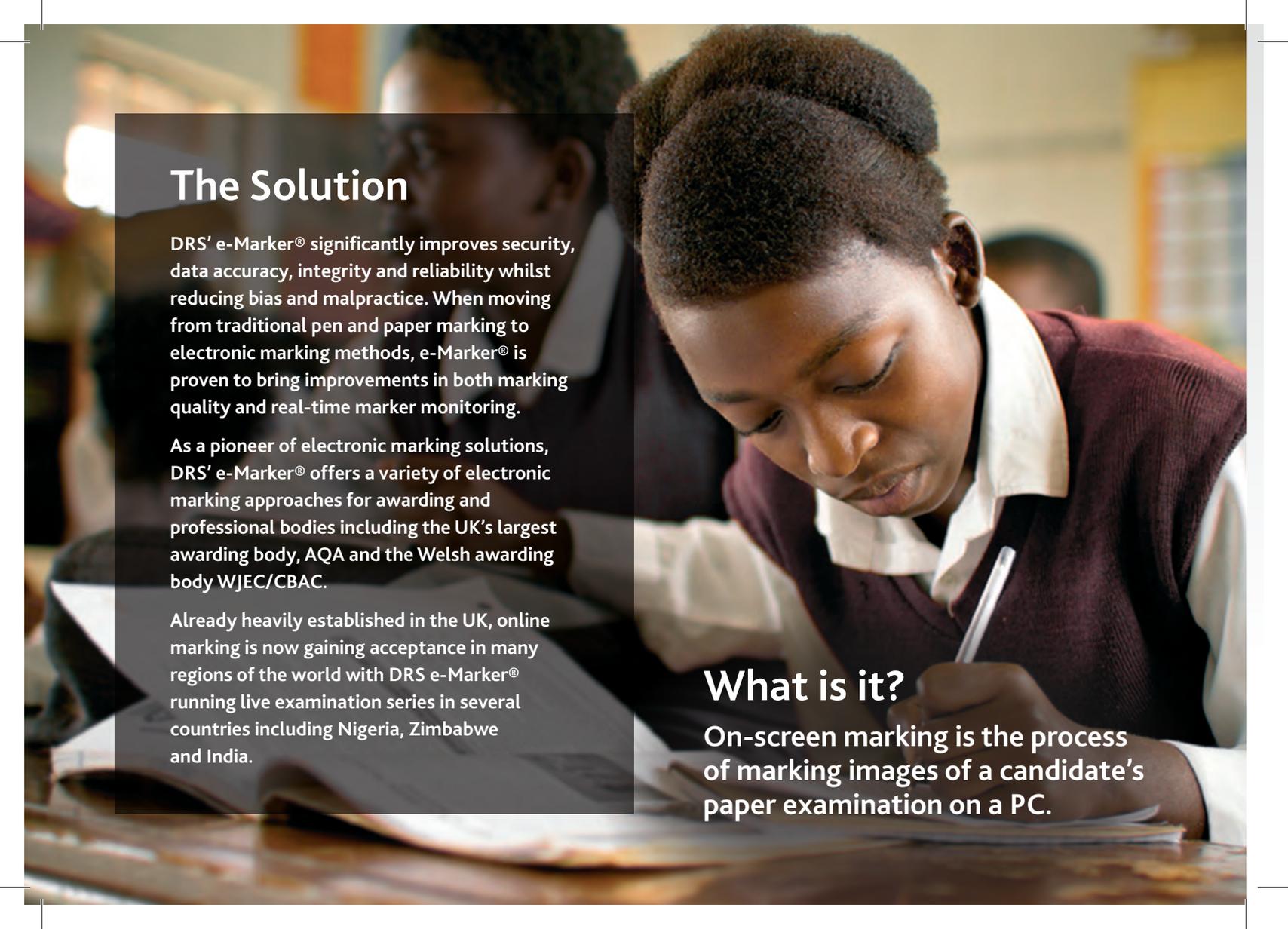
Hugh Lester, Assistant Director, WJEC/CBAC, Welsh Examination Board

Examination marking is being transformed by the benefits offered by on-screen marking

Challenges faced in today's examination world:

• protecting qualification integrity and ensuring fair outcomes for all candidates taking examinations and assessments

• optimising efficiency and accuracy of the marking process ensuring the right results for candidates

• managing malpractice and protecting against bias

The Solution

DRS' e-Marker® significantly improves security, data accuracy, integrity and reliability whilst reducing bias and malpractice. When moving from traditional pen and paper marking to electronic marking methods, e-Marker® is proven to bring improvements in both marking quality and real-time marker monitoring.

As a pioneer of electronic marking solutions, DRS' e-Marker® offers a variety of electronic marking approaches for awarding and professional bodies including the UK's largest awarding body, AQA and the Welsh awarding body WJEC/CBAC.

Already heavily established in the UK, online marking is now gaining acceptance in many regions of the world with DRS e-Marker® running live examination series in several countries including Nigeria, Zimbabwe and India.

What is it?

On-screen marking is the process of marking images of a candidate's paper examination on a PC.

How does it work?

Candidate Answer Booklets are Scanned

Digital versions of all the pages are split into individual questions or groups of related questions known as segments.

Segments are Distributed to Markers

These segments are then distributed to different markers for marking using our specialist e-Marker® software. This is known as item level marking.

Markers Log into e-Marker®

They can do this at home or in marking centres and mark the number of questions allocated to them.

Quality Checks Throughout the Process

During their marking, quality checks are performed that verify that the marker is marking within the parameters outlined in the marking scheme guidance. Senior markers and awarding body staff can monitor the quality checks in real-time and take action if there is concern.

Real-time Management Information

e-Marker® enables the management and tracking at all stages of examination marking providing real-time information and vital reporting functions.

What types of assessments are supported?

Our item level on-screen marking solution supports various types of assessments, but most written tests fall into 2 categories:

• combined question and answer booklets where there is an area for a candidate to write their response

• separate question and answer booklet where a candidate writes in the blank answer booklet, writing the question number against their response

Our solution uses specialised software processes and techniques in order to segment both these types of assessments allowing e-Marker® to process the vast majority of written tests being taken around the world.

The Benefits

Simplifies Processes

• digital images of candidate's answers are securely distributed anywhere around the world allowing markers to mark wherever they may be and at whatever time suits them
• the removal of paper-based processes, not only reduces costs, but also reduces human error
• e-Marker® provides real-time information allowing effective and simple script allocations

Cost Savings

• standardisation: training and support of markers can be provided online
• reduced script movement
• administrative tasks are reduced
• automated checking of mark summation, the eradication of transposition errors and highlighting of missing scripts
• turnaround times for marking are reduced with e-Marker®

Enhanced Quality Control

• item level marking increases consistency
• item level marking removes the "Halo Effect"
• item level marking enables a spread of marking opinion across the script
• marker performance can be automatically monitored via moderated answers
• marking can be sampled automatically and checked by a senior marker
• items can be double marked by a peer and checked by a senior marker
• high degree of configurability in applying marking standards, including sampling interval, tolerance and escalation

Increased Security

• the management of confidential information is vital in the processing of examinations and with four decades of experience in managing worldwide examination data, DRS is fully aware of the appropriate solutions
• e-Marker® ensures candidate anonymity thereby reducing malpractice and item level marking further enhances that benefit

e-Marker® improves quality, reduces turnaround times, improves management information, improves security and delivers candidate anonymity.

Next Steps:

To find out more about how e-Marker® could work for you:

1 Book a one-to-one pre-evaluation demonstration with our technical experts today: **www.drs.co.uk/demo**. We'll focus on areas relevant to your organisation, making the whole process as productive as possible for you.

2 To talk to our experts about examination, assessment processing and electronic marking simply go to: **www.drs.co.uk/about-us/contact-us**.

3 Access our Knowledge Centre: **www.drs.co.uk/knowledge-centre** where you will find case studies that demonstrate DRS' proven track record of delivering high volume, time-critical and secure examination and assessment solutions.

4 Watch our "Introduction to On-Screen Marking using e-Marker®" video at **www.drs.co.uk/knowledge-centre/videos**.

DRS Data Services Limited
1 Danbury Court
Linford Wood
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK14 6LR
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)1908 666088
Fax: +44 (0)1908 607668
Email: enquiries@drs.co.uk

www.drs.co.uk