

SSAPP40 Digital Textile Printer

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Apparel production
Functional area	Manufacturing – Printing, Decoration and Surface Finishing
Job role	SSAPP40 Digital Textile Printer
Job role description	Operates digital textile printing systems to produce printed garments and textile products aligned with design specifications, production requirements and quality standards. In apparel production—where digital printing enables flexible, short-run and customised manufacturing—the Digital Textile Printer prepares artwork files, configures printing systems, operates DTG, DTF or direct-to-fabric equipment and ensures consistent, high-quality output. The role supports integration with digital workflows, e-commerce systems and on-demand production models.
Performance expectations	- Producing prints that meet design specifications and colour accuracy standards - Maintaining consistency in print quality, alignment and durability - Operating digital textile printers efficiently and safely - Preparing garments and materials correctly for printing - Minimising defects, rework and material waste - Meeting production targets including short-run and customised orders - Ensuring correct file preparation, colour profiles and print settings - Maintaining equipment performance and reporting faults - Following workplace safety and operational procedures - Supporting efficient and digitally integrated production workflows
Specialisation (optional)	DTG printing, DTF printing, direct-to-fabric printing, sublimation printing, colour management, digital workflow integration
Application in other Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) sectors	- Apparel production supporting garment printing and customisation - Textile manufacturing supporting printed fabrics and materials - Footwear production supporting printed components and branding - Leather goods production supporting surface printing and decoration - Promotional product manufacturing supporting customised printed products - Uniform and workwear production supporting branding and identification

	Manufacturing industries supporting digital textile printing applications
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2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Preparing and processing digital artwork files for printing - Setting up and operating digital textile printing equipment - Loading garments or fabrics onto printing systems - Adjusting printer settings including resolution, colour and alignment - Monitoring print quality and making real-time adjustments - Inspecting printed products for defects and consistency - Maintaining printers and performing basic troubleshooting - Integrating printing processes with production and digital systems
Critical work functions	- Ensuring accuracy of printed design, placement and colour - Maintaining consistency in output across production runs - Preventing defects such as misprints, colour variation or fabric damage - Meeting production deadlines and efficiency targets - Maintaining quality control across all printed products - Supporting short-run, customised and on-demand production - Ensuring safe and compliant operation of equipment

3. Technical skills

Digital printing systems	Operating DTG, DTF and direct-to-fabric printers
Artwork and file preparation	Preparing files using appropriate formats and resolution
Colour management	Applying colour profiles and ensuring colour accuracy
Printer setup and calibration	Adjusting settings for optimal print quality
Fabric and material handling	Preparing garments and textiles for printing
Machine maintenance	Maintaining and troubleshooting digital printing equipment
Workflow integration	Integrating printing systems with production and order systems

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring accuracy in print quality and design execution
Technical aptitude	Working with digital systems and printing equipment
Time management	Meeting production deadlines and order timelines
Problem solving	Resolving print and machine issues
Communication	Coordinating with design, production and dispatch teams
Quality focus	Maintaining high standards of output

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Using advanced RIP software and automated workflows • Integrating digital printing with e-commerce and on-demand systems • Operating high-speed industrial digital textile printers • Applying sustainable inks and low-impact printing processes • Using real-time production monitoring systems • Supporting Industry 4.0 digital manufacturing environments
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	ICP20120 Certificate II in Printing and Graphic Arts or equivalent
Advanced development	ICP31220 Certificate III in Printing or equivalent

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Production Assistant → Digital Textile Printer → Senior Print Technician → Production Supervisor → Production Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 2-3
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 3
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Textile or Garment Worker - Digital Printing



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