

SSMTC08 Multi-skilled Fabrication Operator

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Cut and Sewn Products (Non-Garment)
Functional area	Textile Fabrication - Sewing, Welding and Multi Process Assembly
Job role	SSMTC08 Multi-skilled Fabrication Operator
Job role description	Performs advanced fabrication and assembly operations across the cut and sewn non-garment sector of the Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) industry using multiple specialised fabrication technologies and joining systems. This role is identified within the Production Operations function of the cut and sewn products occupational framework and supports the manufacture of technically complex sewn and fabricated products used in industrial, commercial and technical applications. The Multi-skilled Fabrication Operator works across products such as tarpaulins, transport interiors, industrial covers, tensile structures, upholstery systems, inflatable systems, technical textile assemblies, protective systems, bags, architectural textiles and specialised fabricated products. The role requires competency across multiple fabrication technologies including binding machines, RF (radio frequency) welding systems, heat sealing equipment, ultrasonic welding systems and related assembly equipment. Depending on enterprise requirements, the operator may also work with sewing systems, programmable joining equipment, hot air welders, adhesive bonding systems and specialised edge-finishing technologies. The Multi-skilled Fabrication Operator is responsible for producing high-quality fabricated assemblies that meet technical specifications, dimensional tolerances, strength requirements and functional performance standards. The role requires detailed understanding of textile behaviour, coated materials, thermoplastic materials, reinforcement systems, seam construction and advanced joining technologies. The position works closely with production supervisors, cutting teams, quality personnel, maintenance technicians and technical specialists to maintain production flow, minimise defects and ensure products are manufactured safely, efficiently and consistently.
Performance expectations	Producing fabricated assemblies to technical specifications and quality standards

	• Operating multiple fabrication and joining systems safely and efficiently • Maintaining consistency of seams, joins and bonded assemblies • Minimising defects, waste and rework • Supporting production schedules and workflow continuity • Ensuring compliance with technical, quality and safety requirements • Maintaining dimensional accuracy and product integrity • Supporting equipment maintenance and operational readiness • Maintaining traceability and production documentation
Specialisation	Binding operations, RF welding, heat sealing, ultrasonic welding, coated textile fabrication, thermoplastic joining systems and advanced fabricated assemblies
Application in other TCF sectors	Architectural textiles, transport interiors, marine fabrication, defence systems, inflatable structures, industrial textiles, signage systems, protective equipment and technical textile manufacturing

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Operating binding machines for edge finishing and reinforcement application • Operating RF welding systems for thermoplastic material joining • Performing heat sealing and hot air welding operations • Operating ultrasonic welding equipment for specialised seam construction • Preparing materials and assemblies for fabrication processes • Monitoring seam quality, alignment and bond integrity • Adjusting machine settings according to material and product specifications • Performing routine cleaning, calibration and minor maintenance • Inspecting fabricated products for defects and compliance • Recording production, quality and traceability information
Critical work functions	• Ensuring integrity and durability of fabricated joins and seams • Maintaining compliance with product specifications and performance requirements • Preventing seam failures, delamination and fabrication defects • Supporting efficient workflow across fabrication and assembly operations • Maintaining safe operation of specialised fabrication equipment • Supporting consistency and repeatability of production outcomes • Ensuring traceability and quality documentation accuracy • Contributing to productivity, operational reliability and customer satisfaction

3. Technical skills

Fabrication equipment operation	Operating RF welders, ultrasonic welders, heat sealers and binding systems
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Material knowledge	Understanding coated fabrics, thermoplastics and technical textiles
Seam and joining systems	Applying advanced joining and reinforcement techniques
Machine setup and calibration	Adjusting parameters for material compatibility and performance
Dimensional accuracy	Maintaining tolerances and assembly consistency
Quality inspection	Assessing seam strength, bond quality and finish standards
Basic maintenance	Performing cleaning, inspection and minor servicing tasks
Documentation and traceability	Maintaining production and quality records

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Maintaining seam accuracy and fabrication quality
Communication	Working with supervisors and production teams
Problem solving	Resolving fabrication and equipment issues
Teamwork	Supporting integrated production workflows
Time management	Meeting production schedules and throughput targets
Adaptability	Working across multiple fabrication technologies
Reliability	Maintaining consistent operational performance
Professionalism	Following operational, quality and safety standards

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Automated welding and robotic fabrication systems - Digital fabrication workflow integration - Smart manufacturing and Industry 4.0 production systems - Advanced composite and thermoplastic joining technologies - Sustainable fabrication materials and recyclable joining systems - Integration of CAD/CAM and programmable fabrication technologies
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST20722 Certificate II in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles or equivalent
Advanced development	MST30222 Certificate III in Manufactured Textile Products or equivalent

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Fabrication Assistant → Multi-skilled Fabrication Operator → Senior Fabrication Operator → Fabrication Supervisor → Production Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 2-3
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 3
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Multi-skilled Fabrication Operator - Cut and Sewn Products (Non-Garment)



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