

SSFOT15 Technical Developer

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Footwear Production
Functional area	Product Design and Technical Development
Job role	SSFOT15 Technical Developer
Job role description	Transforms footwear design concepts into manufactured products by creating detailed technical specifications, construction standards and production documentation. Ensures design intent is accurately translated into repeatable manufacturing processes, aligned with cost, quality, compliance and performance requirements.
Performance expectations	- Produce accurate and production-ready technical specifications - Ensure alignment between design intent and manufacturing capability - Maintain compliance with safety and performance standards - Support efficient sample-to-production transition - Control technical changes and version documentation - Minimise production errors through detailed specification control
Specialisation	- Athletic and performance footwear construction standards - Safety and compliance-focused technical documentation - Automation-ready production specification development
Application in other Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) sectors	Transferable to technical development roles in leather goods, apparel and advanced manufacturing sectors.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Develop detailed technical packs and construction specifications - Define materials, components and bills of materials (BOM) - Prepare stitching, lasting and assembly standards - Coordinate prototype testing and validation - Resolve technical construction issues prior to bulk production - Manage technical revisions and change documentation - Collaborate with design, CAD and production teams
Critical work functions	- Ensuring accuracy and clarity in technical documentation - Balancing design aesthetics with manufacturability - Maintaining cost and margin targets during development - Supporting quality assurance integration - Aligning specifications with automation systems - Managing risk during scale-up to bulk production - Maintaining compliance with regulatory standards

3. Technical skills

Footwear construction expertise	Advanced knowledge of upper assembly, sole attachment and finishing processes.
Technical specification development	Create comprehensive and production-ready design packs.
Bill of materials management*	Develop and manage detailed BOM documentation.
Production process mapping*	Translate product design into structured workflow processes.
Compliance standards awareness	Understand relevant Australian safety and product standards.
PLM and ERP integration*	Manage digital technical documentation systems.
Quality assurance coordination	Ensure specifications align with inspection criteria.
Cost control alignment	Develop technical solutions within cost parameters.

*Technical skills identified as emerging skills in TCF industry.

4. Generic Skills

Generic Skill	Brief description
Attention to detail	Ensure technical accuracy and documentation integrity.
Problem solving	Resolve construction and specification challenges.
Communication	Coordinate technical information across teams.
Organisation	Manage revisions and development timelines.
Learning	Adapt to new manufacturing technologies.
Teamwork	Collaborate across design and production functions.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• 3D digital technical specification systems • Automation-integrated construction documentation • Sustainable materials lifecycle compliance tracking • Digital twin production modelling • Advanced PLM system integration • Data-driven production optimisation tools
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST40316 Certificate IV in Custom-Made Footwear or equivalent.
Advanced development	MST50122 Diploma of Apparel, Fashion and Textiles or bachelor's program in product design or industrial design or equivalent.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Possible job progression: Technical Officer → Technical Developer → Senior Technical Developer → Technical Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 5-7 (enterprise dependent)
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 2-3 (Technical and Production Specialists)
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Technical Developer - Footwear Manufacturing context



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