

SSFOT17 Senior Production Technician

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Footwear Production
Functional area	Production Management
Job role	SSFOT17 Senior Production Technician
Job role description	Performs advanced technical production tasks across footwear manufacturing stages and provides technical guidance to production teams. Responsible for complex construction processes, machinery setup, troubleshooting, quality validation and supporting continuous improvement initiatives.
Performance expectations	• Maintain high standards of workmanship and output quality • Resolve complex production issues • Optimise workflow and machine efficiency • Provide technical guidance to production staff • Ensure compliance with safety and quality standards • Support productivity and waste reduction targets
Specialisation	• Advanced upper construction and stitching • Specialist lasting and sole attachment processes • Machinery setup and process optimisation
Application in other Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) sectors	Transferable to senior technical production roles in leather goods, apparel and related sectors.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Perform complex production and assembly tasks • Set up and calibrate specialised footwear machinery • Troubleshoot technical production issues • Conduct quality inspections and validate workmanship • Support training of junior production staff • Monitor production efficiency and suggest improvements • Assist supervisors with workflow coordination
Critical work functions	• Maintain precision in advanced construction processes • Ensure consistent production quality standards • Minimise machine downtime through troubleshooting • Support efficient production flow • Apply technical knowledge to operational challenges • Maintain safe machinery operation • Support continuous improvement initiatives

3. Technical skills

Advanced footwear construction	Expertise in cutting, stitching, lasting and finishing techniques.
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Machinery setup and adjustment	Configure and optimise footwear production equipment.
Technical troubleshooting	Diagnose and resolve mechanical or process issues.
Quality assurance procedures	Apply inspection standards to validate production quality.
Production process knowledge	Understand workflow sequencing and bottleneck management.
Lean improvement techniques*	Contribute to productivity and waste reduction initiatives.
Digital production monitoring systems*	Use digital tools to track output and performance.
Safety compliance awareness	Ensure adherence to WHS standards.

*Technical skills identified as emerging skills in TCF industry.

4. Generic Skills

Generic Skill	Brief description
Problem solving	Resolve complex technical production issues.
Leadership	Provide informal technical guidance to team members.
Communication	Share technical instructions clearly.
Attention to detail	Maintain high workmanship standards.
Teamwork	Collaborate across production functions.
Initiative	Identify opportunities for operational improvement.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Automation-aware machinery operation - Digital workflow monitoring systems - Predictive maintenance awareness - Data-driven efficiency optimisation - Sustainable production techniques - Advanced materials handling technologies
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	No qualification
Advanced development	MSM50316 Diploma of Production Management or equivalent

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Possible job progression: Production Technician → Senior Production Technician → Production Supervisor → Production Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 4–5 (enterprise dependent)
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Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 3-4 (Technicians / Trades)
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Senior Production Technician – Footwear Manufacturing context



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