

SSROP02 Production Operator

[Rope, Cordage & Twine]

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Rope, Cordage and Twine Manufacturing
Functional area	Production Operations
Job role	SSROP02 Production Operator [Rope, Cordage & Twine]
Job role description	Operates machinery and processes involved in the manufacture of rope, cordage and twine products, ensuring consistent product quality, safe operation and efficient production output. In the Australian rope, cordage and twine sector, this role is a core production occupation within a small-scale, multi-skilled manufacturing workforce structure. The Production Operator is responsible for producing a wide range of products including twisted ropes, braided cords, plaited lines and twines used across industrial, marine, agricultural and construction applications. The role involves operating and monitoring machinery such as extrusion lines, twisting frames, braiding machines, winding systems and finishing equipment. The operator must ensure correct material feed, machine settings, product specifications and output quality while maintaining safe and efficient production processes. The position requires a strong understanding of fibre behaviour, yarn construction and rope-making techniques, as well as the ability to identify defects, perform basic maintenance and support continuous improvement in production operations.
Performance expectations	• Operating machinery safely and efficiently • Producing products to specification and quality standards • Maintaining consistency in product construction and performance • Minimising waste, defects and downtime • Monitoring production processes and adjusting settings as required • Maintaining accurate production records and traceability • Following WHS and operational procedures • Supporting team productivity and workflow efficiency • Identifying and reporting equipment or process issues
Specialisation	Rope production, cordage manufacturing, twisting, braiding, extrusion and finishing processes
Application in other TCF sectors	Marine, construction, agriculture, mining, defence, transport, industrial manufacturing

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Operating rope-making machinery including extrusion, twisting, braiding and winding equipment • Loading and handling fibres, yarns and materials • Setting machine parameters to meet product specifications • Monitoring production processes and output quality • Identifying and correcting defects in products • Performing basic equipment maintenance and cleaning • Recording production data and batch information • Following standard operating procedures and safety requirements • Assisting with changeovers and product variations
Critical work functions	• Ensuring products meet required strength, construction and performance specifications • Maintaining consistent production quality and output • Preventing product defects and failures • Ensuring safe operation of machinery and equipment • Supporting efficient production flow and minimal downtime • Maintaining traceability of materials and production batches • Supporting compliance with quality and safety standards • Contributing to continuous improvement in production operations

3. Technical skills

Machine operation	Operating extrusion, twisting, braiding and winding machinery
Material handling	Managing fibres, yarns and finished products
Process monitoring	Observing and adjusting machine settings
Product inspection	Identifying defects and inconsistencies
Basic maintenance	Performing cleaning and minor repairs
Production documentation	Recording batch and production data
Quality awareness	Ensuring products meet specifications
Safety practices	Applying WHS procedures

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring accuracy in production processes
Communication	Working with supervisors and team members
Problem solving	Identifying and resolving production issues
Teamwork	Supporting production operations
Time management	Meeting production targets
Adaptability	Responding to changes in production requirements
Reliability	Maintaining consistent performance

Professionalism	Following workplace standards and procedures
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5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Automation and advanced rope-making machinery - Digital monitoring and control systems - Sustainable fibre materials and recycling processes - Advanced braiding and high-performance fibre handling - Lean manufacturing and process optimisation techniques - Integration of smart technologies in production
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MSM20116 Certificate II in Process Manufacturing or equivalent
Advanced development	MSM30116 Certificate III in Process Manufacturing or equivalent

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Production Assistant → Production Operator → Senior Operator → Production Supervisor → Production Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 2-3
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 4-3
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Production Operator – Rope, Cordage and Twine



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