

SSBIO15 Product Developer

Disclaimer

These Occupational Frameworks and Skill Profiles have been developed as workforce planning, occupational mapping and skills reference resources for the Australian textile, clothing and footwear (TCF) industry. They are intended to describe the typical functions, responsibilities, skills and capabilities associated with occupations across the industry.

These documents are not intended to replace or override industrial instruments or employment arrangements, including awards, enterprise agreements, employment contracts, position descriptions, classification structures, licensing or regulatory requirements, or other statutory obligations. Where differences arise, the relevant industrial, legislative or regulatory requirements take precedence. The Skill Profiles should be used as complementary reference documents to support workforce planning, career development, training and skills recognition.

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Biomedical Textiles
Functional area	Research and Product Development
Job role	SSBIO15 Product Developer
Job role description	Leads the planning, coordination and lifecycle management of biomedical textile products from concept through commercialisation, ensuring products meet customer, clinical, manufacturing, commercial and regulatory requirements. In the Australian biomedical textiles sector, the Product Developer identifies market opportunities, translates customer and clinical needs into product requirements, develops product specifications, coordinates multidisciplinary development activities and manages products through development, manufacture and market release. The role works closely with Product Development Engineers, clinicians, textile technologists, regulatory affairs specialists, manufacturing personnel and marketing teams to ensure products are commercially successful, technically feasible and compliant with regulatory requirements. While the Product Developer manages the overall product development process, engineering design, validation and technical approval remain the responsibility of the Product Development Engineer.
Performance expectations	- Identifying customer and clinical requirements - Developing product specifications - Managing product development projects - Coordinating multidisciplinary development teams - Maintaining product development schedules - Managing product documentation and product lifecycle - Supporting successful commercialisation - Managing product changes throughout the product lifecycle

	- Aligning customer, manufacturing and regulatory requirements - Supporting continuous product improvement
Specialisation	Product development, product lifecycle management, clinical product planning, innovation management, commercialisation, customer requirements management.
Application in other TCF sectors	- Apparel and performance wear design - Technical and industrial textile development - Defence and protective equipment design - Research and development environments - Medical device product development

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Researching customer and clinical requirements - Preparing product requirement specifications - Developing product business cases - Managing product development projects - Coordinating engineering, regulatory and manufacturing activities - Monitoring product development milestones - Supporting regulatory submissions - Managing product lifecycle documentation - Coordinating product launch activities - Managing post-market product improvements
Critical work functions	- Ensuring products satisfy customer and clinical requirements - Maintaining alignment between market needs and technical development - Coordinating product development across multiple disciplines - Supporting commercial success - Managing product risk throughout the lifecycle - Maintaining product documentation - Supporting regulatory approval activities - Managing product changes following market release

3. Technical skills

Product planning	Defining product requirements and development objectives
Product lifecycle management	Managing products from concept through market release
Customer and clinical requirements	Translating user needs into product specifications
Market analysis	Evaluating customer needs, competitors and market opportunities
Product specification	Preparing functional product specifications
Commercialisation	Supporting market introduction and product launch
Regulatory compliance	Coordinating regulatory documentation and approvals
Project coordination	Managing timelines, milestones and development workflows

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring accuracy in design and specifications
Stakeholder engagement	Identify, educate and communicate with internal and external stakeholders throughout product lifecycle
Communication	Working with clinicians, engineers and production teams
Problem solving	Resolving design and development challenges
Teamwork	Supporting cross-functional collaboration
Time management	Managing development timelines and deliverables
Adaptability	Responding to changing requirements and technologies
Professionalism	Maintaining compliance and documentation standards

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• AI assisted product management • Customer analytics • Smart biomedical textiles and wearable medical devices • Advanced biomaterials and bioengineered textiles • Personalised medical products • Sustainable and circular products
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST40122 Certificate IV in Textile Design or equivalent in Product Development or Manufacturing
Advanced development	Bachelor's degree in Textile Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Industrial Design or related field

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Product Development Assistant → Product Developer → Senior Product Developer → Product Development Manager → Technical or Innovation Director
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 4-6
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 1-2
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	149999 Specialist Managers nec.



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