

SSCAR003 Production Operator – Finishing

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	Carpet and Textile Floor Covering Manufacturing
Functional area	Carpet Manufacturing Operations
Job role	SSCAR003 Production Operator – Finishing
Job role description	Operates and monitors finishing processes that prepare coated carpet for final use, including trimming, shearing, inspection, rolling, cutting and packaging. In Australia's carpet manufacturing industry, the Production Operator – Finishing ensures that carpet products meet final quality, dimensional and presentation standards before distribution. The role involves working with automated finishing lines and inspection systems to identify defects, ensure consistency and prepare products for dispatch. The operator works closely with upstream tufting and backing/coating operations, ensuring that finished products meet customer and regulatory requirements while maintaining efficiency in high-volume production environments.
Performance expectations	- Producing finished carpet that meets quality and presentation standards. - Ensuring accurate cutting, trimming and rolling. - Identifying and removing defective product. - Operating finishing equipment safely and efficiently. - Maintaining consistent output and throughput. - Minimising waste and rework. - Recording production and inspection data. - Following WHS and operational procedures.
Specialisation	Carpet tile finishing, broadloom rolling and cutting, automated inspection systems, edge trimming and shearing processes. Finishing processes in artificial grass [synthetic turf] manufacturing.
Application in other sectors	- Textile finishing operations. - Synthetic turf finishing and preparation.

	• Automotive textile finishing. • Industrial textile processing. • Packaging and product preparation industries.
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2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Operating finishing line equipment. • Trimming and shearing carpet surfaces. • Inspecting carpet for defects and quality issues. • Cutting carpet to required dimensions. • Rolling, stacking or packaging finished product. • Labelling and preparing for dispatch. • Recording production and quality data. • Cleaning and maintaining finishing equipment.
Critical work functions	• Ensuring final product meets quality and specification requirements. • Identifying and removing defective material. • Maintaining consistent finishing processes and presentation. • Supporting efficient product flow to dispatch. • Minimising waste and rework. • Ensuring safe operation of cutting and finishing equipment. • Maintaining traceability and documentation.

3. Technical skills

Finishing equipment operation	Operating trimming, shearing, cutting and rolling machinery.
Product inspection	Assessing carpet quality and identifying defects.
Cutting and measurement	Ensuring accurate dimensions and specifications.
Material handling	Handling finished carpet safely and efficiently.
Process control	Maintaining consistent finishing quality and throughput.
Machine setup	Adjusting finishing equipment settings.
Maintenance and troubleshooting	Performing routine checks and resolving minor issues.
Production documentation	Recording inspection and production data.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring final product quality and defect detection.
Problem solving	Resolving finishing and equipment issues.
Time management	Maintaining production flow and meeting deadlines.
Technical aptitude	Working with automated finishing systems.
Communication	Coordinating with production and dispatch teams.
Teamwork	Working effectively in production environments.
Safety awareness	Applying WHS procedures, particularly for cutting equipment.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Automated inspection and vision systems. - Digital quality tracking and traceability systems. - Integration with enterprise resource planning (ERP) and logistics systems. - Sustainable packaging and waste reduction practices. - Advanced cutting and robotic handling systems. - Data-driven process optimisation.
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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 → Finishing Operator → Production Operator - Finishing → Senior Operator → Team Leader → Production Supervisor.
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 2-4
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 4
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	731432 Textile or Footwear Production Machine Operator



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