

CS18 Production Manager

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	Cross-sector
Job role	CS18 Production Manager
Job role description	Leads and manages manufacturing operations across textile, clothing and footwear production / processing environments. The Production Manager is responsible for planning, coordinating and controlling production and processing activities to ensure production targets, quality standards and delivery schedules are achieved. The role manages production teams, equipment and materials while maintaining safe operations and efficient workflow across production and processing stages.
Performance expectations	• Deliver production targets for quality, efficiency and output. • Manage teams across production lines or departments. • Ensure products meet technical specifications and quality standards. • Coordinate production schedules and resource allocation. • Monitor manufacturing performance and implement improvements. • Maintain compliance with WHS, environmental and regulatory requirements. • Develop workforce capability and operational leadership. • Drive continuous improvement and cost efficiency.
Specialisation	Production / processing management across TCF production in specific sectors.
Application in other TCF sectors	• Textile mills and fabric manufacturing facilities. • Knitwear production factories. • Footwear and leather goods manufacturing. • Garment repair and alteration production operations. • Other manufacturing industries with multi-stage production processes.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Plan and manage daily production / processing operations. • Allocate labour, equipment and materials across production lines. • Monitor production output, efficiency and quality performance. • Coordinate production schedules with supply chain and logistics teams. • Implement quality assurance and process control systems. • Lead production supervisors and team leaders. • Analyse production performance data and identify improvements. • Ensure safe and compliant production environments.
Critical work functions	• Ensuring production targets and delivery schedules are met. • Maintaining consistent product quality across manufacturing stages. • Optimising utilisation of labour, machinery and materials. • Preventing production delays and bottlenecks. • Supporting continuous improvement of manufacturing systems. • Maintaining safe and compliant production environments.

3. Technical skills

Manufacturing management	Manage multi-stage TCF production / processing operations.
Production planning	Coordinate production schedules and manufacturing capacity.
Quality management	Implement quality assurance systems and product standards.
Process optimisation	Improve workflow efficiency and manufacturing productivity.
Resource management	Allocate labour, materials and equipment effectively.
Production performance monitoring	Analyse output, efficiency and defect rates.
Manufacturing technology	Understand machinery and production/processing systems used in TCF manufacturing.
Workplace safety management	Ensure compliance with WHS and safe operating procedures.

4. Generic Skills

Leadership	Lead production teams and supervisors effectively.
Strategic thinking	Align production operations with business objectives.
Communication	Coordinate with management, supply chain and production teams.
Problem solving	Resolve operational issues affecting production.
Decision making	Make operational decisions to maintain production flow.
Team development	Develop workforce capability and succession planning.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Digital manufacturing systems and production analytics. • Advanced manufacturing technologies and automation. • Sustainable and circular manufacturing practices. • Integration of supply chain and production management systems. • Data-driven operational performance management.
-----------------	--

6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST40122 Certificate IV in Textile Design and Technology or equivalent.
Advanced development	MSM50316 Diploma of Production Management or equivalent.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Production Team Leader → Production Supervisor → Production Manager → Operations Manager / General Manager.
--------------------------	---

8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 4-6.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 1.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	132232 Production Manager - [Manufacturing] Specialisation: Clothing or Textile Production Manager.



Skills Insight is a Jobs and Skills Council funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.