

CS22 Quality Control Inspector

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	CS22 Quality Control Inspector
Job role description	Conducts in-process and final inspections of products to verify compliance with technical specifications and quality standards. Focuses on product-level inspection and defect identification, supporting the Quality Assurance Coordinator who oversees systems and process compliance.
Performance expectations	- Identify and document product defects accurately. - Ensure only compliant products proceed to next stage or dispatch. - Maintain consistent inspection standards. - Minimise rework and returns through early defect detection. - Provide clear feedback to production teams. - Maintain accurate inspection records.
Specialisation	- In-process inspection. - Final product inspection and release. - Defect categorisation and reporting.
Application in other TCF sectors	The skills described in this profile are transferable across multiple sectors of the TCF industry and may also be applied in other manufacturing and product-based industries where similar capabilities are required.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Inspect components and finished footwear for defects. - Measure dimensions against technical specifications. - Check stitching, bonding and finishing quality. - Verify labelling, packaging and presentation standards. - Record inspection results and defect data. - Segregate non-conforming products. - Provide feedback to supervisors and QA personnel.
Critical work functions	- Ensuring adherence to product specifications. - Detecting defects at earliest possible stage.

	• Maintaining consistency of inspection criteria. • Supporting production without causing delays. • Providing accurate data for quality trend analysis. • Preventing non-conforming products reaching customers. • Supporting corrective action processes.
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3. Technical skills

Inspection techniques	Conduct visual and tactile inspections of TCF producers.
Measurement tools use	Use callipers, gauges and measurement devices.
Defect classification	Categorise cosmetic, functional and structural defects.
Specification interpretation	Read technical drawings and product specifications.
Bonding and stitching assessment	Assess integrity of assembly processes.
Documentation and reporting*	Record findings in digital or manual systems.
Sampling procedures	Apply sampling plans where required.
WHS awareness	Follow safe inspection practices in production areas.

*Technical skills identified as emerging skills in TCF industry.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Identify minor defects accurately.
Objectivity	Apply inspection standards consistently.
Communication	Provide clear feedback to operators and supervisors.
Time management	Complete inspections within production timelines.
Problem awareness	Recognise recurring defect patterns.
Teamwork	Collaborate with QA and production staff.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Digital inspection and quality reporting tools. • AI-assisted visual defect detection systems. • Real-time production quality monitoring. • Barcode and traceability systems. • Data-driven defect trend analysis. • Sustainability quality checks.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST20722 Certificate II in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles or equivalent.
Advanced development	MST31022 Certificate III in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles or equivalent.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Quality Control Inspector → Senior Inspector → Quality Assurance Coordinator → Quality Manager.
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 2-3.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 4.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	839231 Product Examiner.



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