

CS73 Warehouse Operator

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	CS73 Warehouse Operator
Job role description	Manages the receipt, storage, handling and dispatch of materials and finished goods within TCF manufacturing operations. In Australia's TCF manufacturing industry, the Warehouse Operator plays a critical role in ensuring efficient material flow across production and distribution activities. This includes handling raw materials, work-in-progress goods and finished products, maintaining inventory accuracy and supporting timely dispatch to customers. The role requires coordination with production, procurement and logistics teams to ensure materials are available when required and that goods are stored and transported safely and efficiently within a structured warehouse environment.
Performance expectations	• Receiving and dispatching goods accurately and efficiently. • Maintaining inventory accuracy and traceability. • Ensuring correct storage and handling of materials. • Operating warehouse equipment safely. • Supporting timely production supply and distribution. • Minimising damage, loss and waste. • Maintaining accurate records and documentation. • Following WHS and operational procedures.
Specialisation	Forklift operation, inventory systems, dispatch coordination, materials handling systems, automated warehouse systems.
Application in other TCF sectors	• Manufacturing and industrial warehousing. • Retail and distribution centres. • Logistics and freight operations. • Construction materials handling. • Food and process industry warehousing.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Receiving incoming goods and verifying documentation. • Storing materials in designated locations. • Picking and packing orders for production or dispatch. • Operating forklifts and material handling equipment. • Maintaining inventory records and stock counts. • Preparing goods for shipment. • Labelling and tracking materials. • Maintaining warehouse cleanliness and organisation.
Critical work functions	• Ensuring accurate inventory control and traceability. • Supporting continuous supply to production operations. • Preventing damage, loss and stock discrepancies. • Maintaining efficient warehouse operations. • Ensuring safe handling and storage of materials. • Supporting timely order fulfilment and dispatch. • Maintaining coordination with production and logistics.

3. Technical skills

Material handling	Handling raw materials and finished goods safely.
Inventory management	Maintaining stock records and tracking systems.
Forklift operation	Operating forklifts and lifting equipment (licensed where required).
Warehouse systems	Using inventory and warehouse management systems.
Order picking and packing	Preparing materials and goods for dispatch.
Documentation	Completing delivery, dispatch and inventory records.
Equipment operation	Using scanners, pallet jacks and handling equipment.
Safety procedures	Applying safe work practices in warehouse environments.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring accuracy in inventory and orders.
Problem solving	Resolving stock and logistics issues.
Time management	Meeting dispatch and supply deadlines.
Communication	Coordinating with production and logistics teams.
Teamwork	Working effectively within warehouse teams.
Physical capability	Performing manual handling tasks safely.
Safety awareness	Applying WHS practices consistently.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Automated warehouse systems and robotics.
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	• Digital inventory tracking and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) systems. • Integration with Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and supply chain systems. • Data-driven logistics optimisation. • Sustainable packaging and waste reduction. • Advanced materials handling technologies.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	TLI20421 Certificate II in Supply Chain Operations or equivalent.
Advanced development	TLI30325 Certificate III in Supply Chain Operations or equivalent.

7. Job progression

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

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 2-3.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 4.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	721131 Storeperson.



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