

SSMTC01 Project Manager [Fabrication and Systems]

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	Cut and Sewn Products (Non-Garment)
Functional area	Project Delivery
Job role	SSMTC01 Project Manager [Fabrication and Systems]
Job role description	Leads and manages end-to-end fabrication and systems-based projects within the cut and sewn non-garment sector of the TCF industry, ensuring that products, materials, structures and assemblies meet design intent, performance specifications and regulatory standards. In the Australian TCF industry, this role applies to sectors producing non-garment sewn products such as upholstery systems, automotive interiors, technical textile assemblies, defence equipment, industrial covers, architectural fabrics and composite textile structures. The Project Manager is responsible for coordinating all phases of product realisation including design translation, materials selection, fabrication processes, testing, compliance and delivery. A critical responsibility of this role is ensuring that fabrics, reinforcements, seams and structural systems comply with relevant Australian and international standards, including strength, durability, fire resistance, environmental exposure, safety and performance requirements. This includes overseeing testing, certification and documentation processes. The role involves managing cross-functional teams including designers, engineers, production supervisors, quality specialists and external suppliers. It requires strong capability in planning, scheduling, risk management, cost control and stakeholder communication to ensure projects are delivered on time, within scope and to required quality standards.
Performance expectations	- Delivering projects on time, within scope and budget. - Ensuring all materials and fabricated systems meet required standards and specifications.

	• Coordinating design, engineering, fabrication and testing activities. • Managing project risks, issues and change processes. • Ensuring compliance with regulatory, safety and quality requirements. • Maintaining documentation and traceability across project lifecycle. • Optimising resource allocation and workflow efficiency. • Supporting continuous improvement in fabrication systems and project delivery. • Maintaining effective communication with stakeholders and project teams.
Specialisation	Fabrication systems, textile structures, project delivery, compliance management, technical textiles, sewn product engineering.
Application in other TCF sectors	Automotive interiors, marine fabrication, defence systems, industrial textiles, architectural fabric structures, upholstery and furnishing systems, transport and infrastructure applications.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Planning and managing fabrication and systems-based projects from concept to completion. • Translating design specifications into fabrication and production requirements. • Coordinating material selection, sourcing and validation. • Ensuring fabrics, seams and structures comply with standards and specifications. • Managing testing, certification and compliance processes. • Overseeing fabrication, assembly and installation processes. • Monitoring project timelines, budgets and resource allocation. • Managing risks, issues and change control processes. • Maintaining project documentation and reporting systems. • Liaising with internal teams, suppliers and clients.
Critical work functions	• Ensuring structural integrity and performance of fabricated systems. • Maintaining compliance with relevant standards and regulations. • Preventing defects, failures and non-compliance issues. • Ensuring alignment between design intent and fabricated output. • Supporting safe and effective use of finished products. • Maintaining traceability and accountability across project lifecycle. • Optimising efficiency and coordination of multi-stage processes. • Delivering consistent and reliable project outcomes.

3. Technical skills

Project management	Planning, scheduling, budgeting and resource coordination.
Fabrication knowledge	Understanding cut and sewn construction methods and systems.

Material specification	Selecting and validating fabrics, reinforcements and components.
Standards compliance	Applying Australian and international standards for textiles and structures.
Testing and validation	Coordinating performance testing and certification.
Process integration	Aligning design, fabrication and assembly processes.
Risk management	Identifying and mitigating project and technical risks.
Documentation	Maintaining project records, specifications and compliance documentation.

4. Generic Skills

Leadership	Managing teams and coordinating stakeholders.
Communication	Facilitating clear communication across project teams.
Problem solving	Resolving technical and operational challenges.
Decision making	Making informed project and technical decisions.
Teamwork	Working across cross-functional environments.
Time management	Managing schedules and deadlines.
Adaptability	Responding to project changes and challenges.
Professionalism	Maintaining accountability and compliance standards.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Digital project management and collaboration platforms. - Advanced textile composites and structural materials. - Simulation and modelling of fabric performance. - Integration of smart textiles and embedded systems. - Sustainable materials and lifecycle design. - Industry 4.0 integration in fabrication processes.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	BSB40920 Certificate IV in Project Management Practice or equivalent.
Advanced development	BSB50820 Diploma of Project Management or equivalent.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Project Coordinator → Project Manager → Senior Project Manager → Program Manager → Operations or Technical Director.
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 4-5.
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Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 2.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	132232 - Production Manager (Manufacturing) OSCA Specialisation Clothing or Textile Production Manager.



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