

SSDCL07 Dry Cleaning Automation / Systems Technician

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	Dry Cleaning and Laundry Services
Functional area	Engineering and Maintenance
Job role	SSDCL07 Dry Cleaning Automation / Systems Technician
Job role description	Installs, configures, maintains and troubleshoots automated systems used in dry cleaning operations, including conveyor systems, garment tracking systems, Programmable logic controller (PLC)-controlled equipment and integrated plant controls to ensure efficient and reliable production performance. In the Australian dry cleaning industry—where operations must comply with workplace health, safety and environmental requirements—the Automation / Systems Technician supports system integration, minimises downtime and optimises workflow through effective management of digital, electrical and control systems.
Performance expectations	• Diagnosing faults in PLC-controlled systems, sensors and automation equipment. • Maintaining conveyor systems, sorting systems and garment tracking technologies. • Configuring and testing automated systems to ensure reliability and performance. • Ensuring integration between mechanical, electrical and digital systems. • Maintaining system uptime and minimising operational disruptions. • Ensuring compliance with workplace health, safety and electrical standards. • Maintaining system documentation, configurations and updates. • Supporting staff in effective use of automated systems.

	Contributing to continuous improvement in automation performance and workflow efficiency.
Specialisation	PLC systems, garment tracking automation, conveyor systems, system integration, digital workflow systems.
Application in other TCF sectors	- Commercial laundry and linen services supporting automation of sorting, washing and finishing systems. - Textile manufacturing and finishing supporting automated production lines and control systems. - Apparel production and garment finishing supporting automated garment handling and tracking systems. - Technical textile and specialty services supporting integration of advanced automated equipment. - Textile restoration services supporting digital workflow tracking and system integration. - Leather and suede processing supporting control systems for specialised treatment processes. - Manufacturing and processing industries supporting PLC systems, automation and integrated production technologies.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Inspecting automated systems to identify faults and performance issues. - Diagnosing PLC, sensor and control system faults. - Configuring and maintaining system parameters and automation settings. - Maintaining conveyor and automated garment handling systems. - Testing and calibrating sensors, actuators and control components. - Updating system software and maintaining configuration records. - Supporting integration between systems and production processes. - Following workplace health, safety and electrical procedures.
Critical work functions	- Diagnosing automation faults accurately to minimise downtime. - Maintaining integration between mechanical, electrical and digital systems. - Ensuring safe operation of automated systems. - Maintaining system performance and reliability. - Ensuring compliance with safety and electrical standards. - Coordinating with production and maintenance teams.

3. Technical skills

PLC systems	Configuring and maintaining programmable logic controllers and automation systems.
Automation systems	Maintaining conveyors, sorters and automated garment handling equipment.
Electrical systems	Diagnosing wiring, sensors and control circuits.
Digital systems	Managing garment tracking and integrated workflow platforms.

Control interfaces	Operating and configuring human-machine interface (HMI) systems and control panels.
Sensors and actuators	Testing and calibrating system components.
System integration	Ensuring connectivity between machines and control systems.
Diagnostics tools	Using digital tools to identify and resolve system faults.

4. Generic Skills

Problem solving	Diagnosing complex system faults and implementing effective solutions.
Communication	Communicating technical information with operational teams.
Teamwork	Working collaboratively with maintenance and production staff.
Time management	Managing system maintenance and response priorities.
Attention to detail	Ensuring accuracy in system configuration and diagnostics.
Adaptability	Responding to evolving technologies and system upgrades.
Safety awareness	Applying safe practices in electrical and automated environments.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Adopting Industry 4.0 technologies and smart automation systems. • Applying IoT-based monitoring and predictive diagnostics. • Using data analytics to optimise system performance. • Implementing cloud-based system management platforms. • Supporting energy-efficient and sustainable automation systems. • Integrating advanced digital workflow technologies.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MEM30219 Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade or equivalent.
Advanced development	MEM40119 Certificate IV in Engineering or equivalent.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Automation Technician → Senior Automation Technician → Systems Engineer → Maintenance Manager → Operations Manager.
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 3-5.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 2.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	313999 Engineering Technician nec OSCA Specialisation Automation Technician.



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