

SSDCL09 Sustainable Cleaning Systems Specialist

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	Sustainability
Job role	SSDCL09 Sustainable Cleaning Systems Specialist
Job role description	Designs, implements and optimises environmentally sustainable cleaning systems and processes within dry cleaning operations, including wet cleaning / liquid carbon dioxide, silicone based solvent and biodegradable solvent systems and energy-efficient equipment. Applies knowledge of textile care, chemical systems and environmental practices to reduce impact while maintaining cleaning performance. In the Australian dry cleaning industry—where operations must comply with environmental regulations and sustainability expectations—the role supports reduced emissions, improved resource efficiency and responsible chemical use, working closely with production, maintenance and management teams.
Performance expectations	- Evaluating cleaning processes to identify opportunities for sustainability improvements. - Implementing environmentally sustainable cleaning systems including wet cleaning and alternative solvents. - Optimising water, energy and chemical usage across operations. - Maintaining cleaning performance while reducing environmental impact. - Ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and standards. - Monitoring system performance and sustainability metrics. - Supporting staff in adopting sustainable practices. - Contributing to continuous improvement in environmental performance and operational efficiency.
Specialisation	Wet cleaning systems, alternative solvents, water recycling systems, energy efficiency systems, chemical management,

	environmental compliance, waste reduction systems, carbon reduction, sustainable equipment, circular economy practices, sustainability monitoring.
Application in other TCF sectors	- Commercial laundry and linen services supporting sustainable washing, drying and finishing processes. - Textile manufacturing and finishing supporting environmentally responsible chemical and water usage. - Apparel production and garment finishing supporting sustainable garment processing and finishing methods. - Technical textile and specialty services supporting low-impact cleaning and processing systems. - Textile restoration services supporting environmentally responsible restoration practices. - Leather and suede processing supporting reduced-impact treatment and finishing systems. - Manufacturing and processing industries supporting sustainable production and resource efficiency practices.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Assessing current cleaning systems for environmental impact and efficiency. - Implementing wet cleaning and alternative solvent systems. - Optimising equipment settings for reduced energy and water consumption. - Monitoring emissions, waste and chemical usage. - Coordinating installation of sustainable equipment and technologies. - Maintaining documentation of environmental performance and compliance. - Training staff in sustainable cleaning practices. - Following environmental, health and safety procedures.
Critical work functions	- Ensuring cleaning performance while reducing environmental impact. - Managing sustainable use of chemicals, water and energy. - Maintaining compliance with environmental regulations. - Monitoring and improving system efficiency. - Coordinating sustainability initiatives across operations. - Supporting integration of sustainable technologies.

3. Technical skills

Wet cleaning systems	Implementing and maintaining water-based cleaning technologies.
Alternative solvents	Managing environmentally friendly solvent systems.
Energy systems	Optimising energy use in cleaning equipment.
Water management	Managing water usage and recycling systems.
Chemical management	Selecting and handling low-impact chemicals.
Environmental monitoring	Tracking emissions, waste and resource usage.
Equipment optimisation	Adjusting systems for efficiency and performance.

Compliance systems	Ensuring adherence to environmental standards.
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4. Generic Skills

Problem solving	Identifying sustainability improvements and implementing solutions.
Communication	Communicating sustainability practices with staff and stakeholders.
Teamwork	Working collaboratively across operational teams.
Time management	Managing sustainability projects and tasks.
Attention to detail	Ensuring accuracy in monitoring and reporting.
Adaptability	Responding to new technologies and environmental requirements.
Safety awareness	Applying safe practices in chemical and system management.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Adopting circular economy practices in textile care. • Applying advanced water recycling and filtration systems. • Using data analytics for sustainability performance tracking. • Implementing carbon reduction and energy management strategies. • Integrating renewable energy solutions into operations. • Supporting sustainable supply chain practices.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST30622 Certificate III in Laundry Operations or equivalent.
Advanced development	MSS40122 Certificate IV in Sustainable Operations or diploma or bachelor's degree in environmental management, sustainability or engineering.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Sustainability Technician → Senior Sustainability Specialist → Environmental Manager → Operations Manager.
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 3–6.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 2.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	313999 Engineering Technicians nec.



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