

SSWOL02 Process Worker / Production Hand

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	Wool Scouring
Functional area	Production Operations
Job role	SSWOL02 Process Worker / Production Hand
Job role description	Supports wool scouring operations by assisting with material handling, plant operation tasks and general production activities to ensure continuous processing of raw wool. In the Australian wool scouring sector—characterised by high mechanisation and lean staffing—the Process Worker / Production Hand provides essential operational support across the scouring line. This includes feeding materials, assisting operators, maintaining cleanliness and supporting plant efficiency. The role works closely with the Scour Plant Operator and maintenance teams to ensure smooth workflow, minimise downtime and maintain safe and efficient production environments.
Performance expectations	- Supporting continuous operation of the scouring plant. - Handling raw and processed wool safely and efficiently. - Maintaining clean and organised work areas. - Assisting with plant operation and monitoring. - Minimising waste and contamination. - Following instructions and standard operating procedures. - Maintaining safety and environmental compliance. - Recording basic production information as required.
Specialisation	Material handling, plant support operations, cleaning and maintenance assistance, production line support.
Application in other TCF sectors	- Textile fibre processing. - Food and agricultural processing. - Manufacturing production support roles. - Recycling and materials handling industries. - General process plant operations.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Feeding raw wool into processing systems. • Assisting operators with plant monitoring. • Moving materials between process stages. • Cleaning equipment and work areas. • Removing waste and contaminants. • Supporting minor maintenance tasks. • Recording basic production information. • Following instructions from operators and supervisors.
Critical work functions	• Ensuring uninterrupted material flow through the plant. • Supporting efficient plant operation. • Maintaining workplace cleanliness and hygiene. • Preventing contamination and material loss. • Supporting safe work practices. • Assisting in maintaining production efficiency. • Providing operational support to key plant personnel.

3. Technical skills

Material handling	Handling raw and processed wool safely.
Process support	Assisting in operation of scouring systems.
Workplace cleaning	Maintaining plant cleanliness and hygiene.
Basic equipment use	Using tools and basic machinery.
Waste handling	Managing waste and by-products.
Process awareness	Understanding production flow and stages.
Basic troubleshooting	Identifying simple issues and reporting.
Documentation	Recording simple production data.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring cleanliness and correct handling.
Problem solving	Identifying and reporting issues.
Time management	Maintaining workflow efficiency.
Communication	Following instructions and reporting to operators.
Teamwork	Working with operators and support staff.
Physical capability	Performing manual handling tasks.
Safety awareness	Applying WHS and environmental procedures.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Familiarity with automated plant systems. • Digital reporting and data entry tools. • Improved material handling technologies. • Environmental awareness and sustainability practices. • Basic understanding of process optimisation. • Integration with automated monitoring systems.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MSM20116 Certificate II in Process Manufacturing or equivalent.
Advanced development	MSM30116 Certificate III in Process Manufacturing or equivalent.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Process Worker / Production Hand → Scour Plant Operator → Senior Operator → Production Supervisor.
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	Level 2.
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 5.
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	839133 Fibre and Textile Factory Worker.



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