



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
FWPCOT3325 Operate four wheel drive  
vehicle on unsealed roads**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for FWPCOT3325 Operate four wheel drive vehicle on unsealed roads

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                          |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 7.0. |

## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has performed each of the following tasks while driving a four wheel drive vehicle on unsealed roads:

- driven three separate ascents and three separate descents less than 15 degrees. In conducting this task, the individual has:
  - selected appropriate range and gearing
  - used foot brake effectively to control descent speed
  - used vehicle hill descent or similar function where available
  - used the most appropriate wheel placement
- used on one occasion traction aids and brakes when driving ascents and descents less than 15 degrees
- performed on two occasions a forward and a reverse stop start recovery on an incline according to the type of transmission
- demonstrated on one occasion the setting of vehicle controls for operation on unsealed roads. This may include:
  - the use of free wheel hubs if fitted
  - selection of low range in either manual or automatic vehicles
  - use of terrain selection system if fitted
  - use of differential locks if fitted
  - activation of traction control or terrain selection mode if fitted and where effective
- driven vehicle and operated vehicle controls and technology to avoid traction loss on unsealed roads in three of the following conditions:
  - loose gravel
  - ruts
  - loose material in centre and sides of track
  - corrugations

- mud
- rocky
- sand
- snow
- side slopes
- rutted
- water crossing
- fitted and used personal protective equipment (PPE).

## Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- structural differences between conventional two wheel drive and a four wheel drive, including:
  - purpose and use of front wheel hubs
  - factors affecting tyre selection and pressure
- environmental protection requirements affecting four wheel drive operations
- common unsealed road surface hazards:
  - loose gravel
  - ruts
  - loose material in centre and sides of track
  - corrugations
- pre-start checks for four wheel drive vehicle
- types of communication equipment, including:
  - personal location beacon (PLB)
  - phone
  - radio
  - vehicle/personnel tracking devices
- safe operating conditions for a four wheel drive vehicle:
  - interpreting weather conditions to determine suitability for driving
  - selecting routes to minimise damage to the environment
  - visibility
  - loading of four wheel drive, including techniques to reduce overloading
  - braking techniques
  - cornering techniques
- types of environmental risks and hazards associated with operating a four wheel drive vehicle on unsealed roads, including:
  - rocks and other unexpected obstacles
  - damage to vehicle
  - animals and objects in vehicle path

- slippery surfaces
- overhead tree limbs
- other vehicles
- fallen trees, limbs and logs
- flood
- poor visibility
- tyre pressure management principles for varying terrain types
- principles for effective self-recovery of vehicle via driving skills (not the use of recovery equipment such as straps or winches)
- communication channels and protocols
- techniques for travelling in convoy
- procedures for recording and reporting workplace information.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - skills must be demonstrated in a work environment or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - site with access to unsealed roads
  - manual or automatic four wheel drive vehicle or all-wheel drive vehicle
  - PPE required for operating a four wheel drive on unsealed roads
  - relevant personnel for the purposes of communicating information
- specifications:
  - workplace safety and environmental policies and procedures applicable to forestry operations.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47>