



Australian Government

FWPSAW3257 Operate timber drying kiln

Release: 1

FWPSAW3257 Operate timber drying kiln

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 8.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to dry softwood or hardwood timber in conventional kilns, including batch and continuous drying kilns, or solar assisted kilns, to appropriate moisture contents and stress levels.

The unit applies to individuals who work in timber drying operations in a wood products work environment.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Sawmilling and Processing (SAW)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare for drying timber operations	1.1 Determine job requirements from work order or specifications and, where required, seek clarification from appropriate personnel 1.2 Confirm workplace health and safety requirements for task, including use of personal protective equipment, emergency procedures and kiln operation

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	<p>1.3 Confirm legislation, standards and codes of practice relevant to kiln operations</p> <p>1.4 Identify and assess hazards and take actions to mitigate risks related to kiln operations</p> <p>1.5 Obtain timber racks to be dried and assess racks visually for consistent drying characteristics</p> <p>1.6 Conduct pre-start checks on drying kiln according to manufacturer instructions</p>
2. Load, operate and control kiln conditions	<p>2.1 Load kiln with timber racks selected for drying</p> <p>2.2 Position baffles and/or blankets as required or according to manufacturer instructions and workplace procedures to optimise air flows in kiln</p> <p>2.3 Apply drying and final conditioning schedules by adjusting kiln control settings to optimise kiln drying rate, turnaround time and timber quality</p> <p>2.4 Report kiln charge data to appropriate personnel or enter it into kiln management system</p> <p>2.5 Follow emergency shutdown procedures in the case of alarm being triggered</p>
3. Monitor kiln conditions	<p>3.1 Check characteristics of kiln charge or use kiln output data periodically to determine the end point of drying</p> <p>3.2 Adjust kiln control settings in response to kiln charge characteristics to ensure drying schedules are met</p> <p>3.3 Identify human and equipment faults that may affect timber drying, and take corrective action or report to relevant personnel</p>
4. Check timber quality on completion of drying	<p>4.1 Check characteristics of kiln charge against end product specifications according to workplace procedures</p> <p>4.2 Assess need for reconditioning or high humidity treatment</p>
5. Complete kiln operations and move or store timber	<p>5.1 Observe cooling down period before baffles and/or blankets are removed from timber according to workplace procedure, if required</p> <p>5.2 Identify sub-standard timber and direct for re-use according to workplace procedures</p> <p>5.3 Direct dried timber to storage or processing operations and check that packs are labelled according to workplace procedures</p>

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	5.4 Clean work area according to workplace procedures 5.5 Complete records and forward to appropriate personnel

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret timber drying schedule Use a psychrometric chart to convert temperature and humidity readings to dry/wet bulb temperatures and equilibrium moisture content
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete routine workplace documents related to timber drying operations
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate vocabulary to communicate with supervisors and team members engaged in timber drying operations
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform routine calculations related to quantity, temperature, relative humidity, oven dry moisture content and drying times

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
FWPSAW3257 Operate timber drying kiln	FWPCOT3248 Dry timber in solar assisted kilns	Redesigned unit that includes content from FWPCOT3248 Dry timber in solar assisted kilns, FWPSAW3205 Dry hardwood, FWPSAW3206 Dry softwood and FWPWPP3212 Dry material	Not equivalent

FWPSAW3257 Operate timber drying kiln	FWPSAW3205 Dry hardwood	Redesigned unit that includes content from FWPCOT3248 Dry timber in solar assisted kilns, FWPSAW3205 Dry hardwood, FWPSAW3206 Dry softwood and FWPWPP3212 Dry material	Not equivalent
FWPSAW3257 Operate timber drying kiln	FWPSAW3206 Dry softwood	Redesigned unit that includes content from FWPCOT3248 Dry timber in solar assisted kilns, FWPSAW3205 Dry hardwood, FWPSAW3206 Dry softwood and FWPWPP3212 Dry material	Not equivalent
FWPSAW3257 Operate timber drying kiln	FWPWPP3212 Dry material	Redesigned unit that includes content from FWPCOT3248 Dry timber in solar assisted kilns, FWPSAW3205 Dry hardwood, FWPSAW3206 Dry softwood and FWPWPP3212 Dry material	Not equivalent

Links

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