



Australian Government

MSMWHS503 Maintain WHS management system

Release: 1

MSMWS503 Maintain WHS management system

Modification History

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSAPMOHS503A Maintain the workplace OHS management system

Application

This unit of competency covers the skills and knowledge required to maintain and improve an established work health and safety (WHS) management system.

The WHS management system will already have been developed by persons with the relevant specialist knowledge and skills.

This unit of competency applies to personnel with a specialised responsibility for maintaining the WHS management system. Depending on the organisation this might be an owner, manager, team leader, WHS officer/manager, a technician with particular WHS responsibilities, or someone in a similar role. The competency applies within the area of managerial responsibility, which may be an entire organisation or department of an organisation.

The work will be carried out with the support of other team members.

Management must be aware that, while employees have WHS responsibilities, line managers are ultimately responsible, under both WHS legislation and common law duty of care, for the safety of the workplace, including ensuring that employees comply with documented work procedures. This legislation includes general WHS legislation as well as that for hazardous substances, dangerous goods and major hazard sites.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Work health and safety

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----|---|
| 1 | Manage WHS information in the workplace | 1.1 | Take action to ensure that requirements for WHS record keeping and reporting are implemented according to workplace procedures and legislative requirements |
| | | 1.2 | Access sources of WHS information and evaluate for application to the workplace |
| | | 1.3 | Collect and collate data and information to provide information to managers and stakeholders on WHS requirements, trends and risk controls |
| | | | |
| 2 | Support implementation of WHS management system | 2.1 | Determine WHS priorities in consultation with appropriate managers and stakeholders |
| | | 2.2 | Identify WHS training needs for implementation and maintenance of the WHS management system |
| | | 2.3 | Develop action plans taking account of priorities and training needs |
| | | 2.4 | Monitor achievement of action plans and update plans accordingly |
| | | | |
| 3 | Support WHS participative arrangements | 3.1 | Ensure WHS information and documentation is understandable and accessible to all |
| | | 3.2 | Promptly address WHS issues that may arise within area of authority or refer to appropriate person |
| | | 3.3 | Provide information about the outcomes of WHS consultation in a manner that is accessible to all |
| | | | |
| 4 | Collect data to evaluate currency of WHS management system | 4.1 | Identify, in consultation with stakeholders and, as required expert advisors, internal data and information that provides relevant and reliable information on the performance of the WHS management system |
| | | 4.2 | Conduct workplace inspections on a regular basis. |
| | | 4.3 | Identify workplace WHS implications of any changes to legislation |

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----|--|
| | | 4.4 | Identify any WHS implications to proposed changes to the workplace |
| | | 4.5 | Take action to arrange a WHS management system audit |
| 5 | Analyse data and information to identify areas for improvement | 5.1 | Assess compliance of WHS management system with WHS legislation |
| | | 5.2 | Analyse information collected to identify areas for improvement. |
| | | 5.3 | Consult with stakeholders, key personnel and, as required, WHS advisors |
| | | 5.4 | Document and communicate outcomes of analysis to key personnel and stakeholders in an easily understood format |
| | | 5.5 | Recognise limits of own expertise and seek appropriate advice |
| 6 | Initiate and maintain improvements | 6.1 | Determine priorities for WHS in consultation with stakeholders |
| | | 6.2 | Develop a WHS plan with responsibilities and timeframes and validate the plan with stakeholders |
| | | 6.3 | Identify and source resources required for implementation of plan |
| | | 6.4 | Monitor achievement against plan |
| | | 6.5 | Monitor effectiveness of modifications to WHS management system on an ongoing basis incorporating feedback from stakeholders |

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance.

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

This field allows for different work environments and conditions that may affect performance. Essential operating conditions that may be present (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) are included.

Regulatory framework The latest version of all legislation, regulations, industry codes of practice and Australian/international standards, or the version specified by the local regulatory authority, must be used, and include one or more of the following:

- legislative requirements, including work health and safety (WHS)
- industry codes of practice and guidelines
- environmental regulations and guidelines
- Australian and other standards
- licence and certification requirements

All operations to which this unit applies are subject to stringent health, safety and environment (HSE) requirements, which may be imposed through state/territory or federal legislation, and these must not be compromised at any time. Where there is an apparent conflict between performance criteria and HSE requirements, the HSE requirements take precedence.

Procedures All operations must be performed in accordance with relevant procedures.

Procedures are written, verbal, visual, computer-based or in some other form, and include one or more of the following:

- emergency procedures
- work instructions
- standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- safe work method statements (SWMS)
- formulas/recipes
- batch sheets
- temporary instructions
- any similar instructions provided for the smooth running of the plant

WHS records WHS records include one or more of the following:

- hazard and incident reports
- logs/logs sheets
- inspection/start-up/shutdown checklists
- injury reports
- maintenance records

**WHS
information
sources**

WHS information sources include one or more of the following:

- WHS legislation, codes of practice and Australian and International standards
- WHS regulators
- Safe Work Australia Guides
- industry bodies
- internet sites, journals and newsletters
- manufacturer manuals
- material safety data sheets (MSDS) and registers
- organisation WHS policies and procedures
- internal risk assessments, job safety analyses (JSAs) and workplace inspections
- internal hazard and incident reports

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSAPMOHS503A Maintain the workplace OHS management system

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=d1287d36-dff4-4e9f-ad2c-9d6270054027>