



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

# **RTC1701A Follow basic chemical safety rules**

**Release: 1**

## **RTC1701A Follow basic chemical safety rules**

### **Modification History**

Not applicable.

### **Unit Descriptor**

This competency standard covers the functions of a person working in an enterprise which uses chemicals and who needs to be aware of their use. Skills and knowledge include awareness of the use of chemicals, how they are handled, stored and transported, recognition of safety issues surrounding chemical use, and the ability to use personal protective equipment when instructed. It requires awareness of the duty of care to self, to others, and to the environment concerning chemicals. This person will be under close supervision in the workplace and will be required to follow instructions at all times.

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### **Application of the Unit**

Not applicable.

### **Licensing/Regulatory Information**

Not applicable.

### **Pre-Requisites**

Not applicable.

### **Employability Skills Information**

Not applicable.

### **Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content**

Not applicable.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

### Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance Criteria
1 Follow workplace requirements and instructions concerning chemicals	<p>1.1 <b>Roles and responsibilities</b> of people in the workplace are identified.</p> <p>1.2 <b>Safety procedures</b> involved in chemical handling and use are recognised and followed as required.</p> <p>1.3 OHS hazards are identified and reported to the supervisor.</p> <p>1.4 <b>Organisational procedures</b> are followed with regard to chemicals.</p>
2 Recognise risks associated with chemicals	<p>2.1 <b>Functions</b> of chemicals in the workplace are recognised.</p> <p>2.2 Chemical labels and symbols are recognised and hazards identified.</p> <p>2.3 Chemical storage locations are identified.</p> <p>2.4 Instructions for transport, handling and storage of chemicals are recognised and observed.</p> <p>2.5 Instructions for use, maintenance and storage of <b>personal protective equipment</b> and <b>application equipment</b> are identified and observed.</p>
3 Follow chemical handling and storage rules	<p>3.1 Chemical handling and storage instructions on labels are followed.</p> <p>3.2 Safety rules are followed when working in areas where chemicals are stored.</p> <p>3.3 Appropriate personal protection equipment is obtained and used when working in areas where chemicals are used or stored.</p> <p>3.4 <b>Procedures</b> are followed in the event of an accident or spillage.</p>

## Required Skills and Knowledge

Not applicable.

## Evidence Guide

### What evidence is required to demonstrate competence for this standard as a whole?

Overall competence in this standard requires evidence that a person working in an agricultural or horticultural environment is aware of the use of chemicals in the workplace, why they are used, where they are stored and how they are transported, and the safety requirements for handling chemicals. Evidence must demonstrate the ability to follow instructions and report concerns if unsafe practices, equipment or environmental conditions are observed. The skills and knowledge covered must be **transferable** to other work environments. For example, a person who has been inducted into the use of chemicals in a particular workplace should be able to transfer that knowledge and skill to another workplace, although different chemicals may be present.

### What specific knowledge is needed to achieve the performance criteria?

Knowledge and understanding are essential to apply this standard in the workplace, to transfer the skills to other contexts and to deal with unplanned events. The knowledge requirements for this competency standard are listed below:

Basic Occupational Health&Safety rules required to work near and around chemicals.

Level of hazard and the Poisons Schedule in the relevant State or Territory.

Chemicals being used for the control of pests and weeds.

Personal protection equipment and when and how it should be used, stored and maintained.

Correct wearing/fit of personal protective equipment.

Environmental impacts of chemical use.

**What specific skills are needed to achieve the performance criteria?**

To achieve the performance criteria, appropriate literacy and numeracy levels as well as some complementary skills are required. These include the ability to:

Communicate information about spillages, accidents or deficiencies in procedures and practice.

Accurately interpret labels and instructions.

Follow workplace instructions and directions from the chemical label or Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs).

### What processes should be applied to this competency standard?

There are a number of processes that are learnt throughout work and life, which are required in all jobs. They are fundamental processes and generally transferable to other work functions. Some of these are covered by the **key competencies**, although others may be added. The questions below highlight how these processes are applied in this competency standard. Following each question a number in brackets indicates the level to which the key competency needs to be demonstrated where 0 = not required, 1 = perform the process, 2 = perform and administer the process and 3 = perform, administer and design the process.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. How can <b>communication of ideas and information (1)</b> be applied?       | Information about procedures or safety may be communicated in the workplace.                              |
| 2. How can <b>information be collected, analysed and organised (1)</b> ?       | Information on labels and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) may be collected, analysed and interpreted. |
| 3. How are <b>activities planned and organised (0)</b> ?                       | Organising activities may not be relevant to this standard.   |
| 4. How can <b>team work (1)</b> be applied?                                    | Working with others when dealing with chemicals.  |
| 5. How can the use of <b>mathematical ideas and techniques (1)</b> be applied? | Interpreting volumes and measurement requirements on labels may require mathematical ideas to be applied. |
| 6. How can <b>problem-solving skills (1)</b> be applied?                       | Action to take in the event of an accident or spillage may require problem solving.                       |
| 7. How can the <b>use of technology (1)</b> be applied?                        | Using relevant personal protection equipment may require the use of technology.                           |

### Are there other competency standards that could be assessed with this one?

This competency standard **could** be assessed on its own or in combination with other competencies relevant to the job function.

There is essential information about **assessing this competency standard for consistent performance and where and how it may be assessed**, in the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package. All users of these competency standards must have **access** to both the **Assessment Guidelines** and the relevant **Sector Booklet**.



## Range Statement

### Range of Variables

The Range of Variables explains the contexts within which the performance and knowledge requirements of this standard may be assessed. The scope of variables chosen in training and assessment requirements may depend on the work situations available

What **roles and responsibilities** may be relevant in the workplace with regard to chemicals?

Roles will include own role and may include the supervisor, farm manager, team leader, owner or external contractor, and external emergency contact organisations.

What **safety procedures** are relevant to this standard?

Safety procedures may include compliance with safety instruction on the label, information contained in Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) such as use, maintenance and storage of personal protective equipment, first aid, systems of transport, storage and handling, procedures for the protection of environment and protection of others.

What **organisational procedures** are relevant to this standard?

Procedures must include storage, transport, mixing, loading, application, emergencies, recording, cleaning and disposal of chemicals.

What **legislation and regulations** are relevant to this standard?

Legislation may include Pesticides Acts, Occupational Health and Safety Acts and associated Hazardous Substances Regulations/ Codes of Practice, Dangerous Goods Acts, Poisons Act or Protection of the Environment Acts.

What **personal protective equipment** may be relevant to this standard?

Equipment may include hats, face shields, goggles, respirators, overalls, aprons, chemical resistant gloves and footwear.

What **application equipment** may be relevant to this standard?

Knapsacks or hand held pneumatic sprayers, drench guns and spot on applicators.

What **procedures** must be in place in the event of an accident or spillage?

Procedures may involve reporting the spillage and assisting with clean up.

For more information on contexts, environment and variables for training and assessment, refer to the Sector Booklet.



## **Unit Sector(s)**

Not applicable.