



Australian Government

AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain chainsaws

Release: 2

AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain chainsaws

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0.
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to safely operate a hand-held chainsaw and maintain it in working condition.

This unit applies to cross-cutting fallen timber using safe cutting techniques.

The unit applies to individuals who apply low risk work procedures and comply with worksite health and safety requirements when operating hand-held chainsaws to carry out routine work.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Machinery operation and maintenance (MOM)

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. Assist in preparation of work-site	1.1 Identify location of worksite and fallen timber from scope of works and confirm with supervisor 1.2 Identify site hazards, assess risks and report to supervisor 1.3 Confirm first aid and emergency personnel, equipment and

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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	procedures 1.4 Document and implement site health and safety in the workplace, environmental and traffic control measures according to workplace procedures
2. Recognise and apply workplace safety procedures	2.1 Identify hazards and risks relevant to the maintenance and operation of chainsaws and implement safe working practices to manage risks 2.2 Select, fit and use personal protective equipment according to workplace safety procedures 2.3 Confirm with supervisor relevant licensing and legislative requirements with regard to the operation of chainsaws 2.4 Transport chainsaw safely according to operation and maintenance manual
3. Check and prepare chainsaw for use	3.1 Select tools and materials required for maintenance 3.2 Conduct routine checks and maintenance prior to operation, according to chainsaw operation and maintenance manual 3.3 Calculate required fuel oil ratios prior to mixing 3.4 Mix fuel and fuel chainsaw according to operation and maintenance manual 3.5 Identify, tag, record and report chainsaw faults or malfunctions to supervisor
4. Operate chainsaw	4.1 Communicate with work team during operations using voice, hand or whistle signals 4.2 Place supports to ensure a stable base for cutting 4.3 Identify materials to be cut and position them for operation 4.4 Visually assess material to be cut for defects and embedded hazards 4.5 Determine cutting methods appropriate to material type and implement risk controls 4.6 Select and use tools associated with chainsaw use 4.7 Operate chainsaw to cross-cut timber using documented low risk work methods 4.8 Identify and report work-site communication issues to supervisor 4.9 Identify and report environmental impacts of chainsaw operation to

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	supervisor
5. Complete and check chainsaw operation	5.1 Record and report chainsaw damage, malfunction and irregular performance according to workplace procedures 5.2 Clean and store chainsaw according to workplace procedures and operation and maintenance manual 5.3 Dispose of debris from operation in accordance with environmental requirements 5.4 Maintain workplace documentation according to workplace procedures

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	Interpret textual information from a range of sources to identify relevant and key information about workplace operations
Writing	Document site health and safety in the workplace, environmental and traffic control measures
Oral communication	- Use clear language to report hazards and risks and to confirm work site, first aid and emergency personnel, equipment and procedures - Participate in verbal exchanges to respond to questions and clarify information
Numeracy	Calculate fuel oil ratios and fuel quantities
Navigate the world of work	Recognise and follow workplace requirements, including safety requirements, associated with own role and area of responsibility
Interact with others	Use verbal and non-verbal communications with work team during operations using voice, hand and whistle signals

Range of Conditions

This section specifies 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.

Personal protective equipment must include:	• safety helmet • mesh visor • gloves • hearing protection • safety glasses or goggles • safety boots.
Routine checks and maintenance must include at least two of the following:	• checking and adjusting bar • cleaning air filter • cleaning and/or replacing spark plug • sharpening chain.
Supports must include at least one of the following:	• fallen timber • saw horse trestle • v-shaped supports.
Cutting methods must include:	• pulling chains cuts (bottom of bar) • pushing chainsaw cuts (top of bar) • bore / plunge cuts (tip of bar).
Tools must include:	• bars • chains • files • plug spanner.

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain chainsaws Release 2	AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain chainsaws Release 1	Minor changes to performance criteria and range of conditions	Equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides are available at VETNet -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCMOM213 Operate and maintain chainsaws

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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 safely operated a hand-held chainsaw at least once, maintained it in working condition and demonstrated the following:

- determined site location for work and work details and clarified with supervisor
- identified site hazards, assessed risks and reported to supervisor
- confirmed work zone with work crew and monitored site
- confirmed first aid and emergency personnel, equipment and procedures
- applied hazard and risk assessment and implemented controls for chainsaw use
- performed routine checks and maintenance for chainsaw usage according to operation and maintenance manual
- identified, tagged and reported chainsaw faults and malfunctions
- recorded and implemented site health and safety in the workplace, environmental and traffic control measures
- used personal protective equipment that complies with Australian Standards
- safely cross-cut fallen timber using compression and tension cuts with a hand held chainsaw
- used appropriate tools and materials to maintain chainsaw
- applied environmentally responsible workplace practices
- applied low risk work practices including stopping, disengaging quickly and dealing with foreign matter
- cleaned and stored chainsaw
- followed workplace procedures relevant to safely operating a chainsaw.

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:

- the principles and practice for operating chainsaws
- chainsaw routine checks and maintenance according to operation and maintenance manual, including:
 - checking and adjusting bar
 - cleaning air filter
 - cleaning and replacing spark plug
 - sharpening chain
- workplace safe operating procedures
- hazards and risks when operating a chainsaw
- relevant Australian Standards concerning chainsaw operation including use of personal protective equipment
- components of chainsaws and their respective functions
- common defects in woody materials
- cutting methods and techniques, patterns and sequence of cuts
- health and safety in the workplace requirements for the operation of a chainsaw including caution and hazard signs and symbols
- environmental impacts associated with operating chainsaws.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
 - personal protective equipment must be worn whilst operating chainsaw
 - individual must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs
 - individual must not be taking any medication (prescribed or otherwise) that may impair judgement
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - chainsaws
 - chainsaw tools
 - wood
 - safety equipment and personal protective equipment applicable to the task being undertaken
- specifications:
 - chainsaw manufacturer specifications and operator manuals
- timeframes:
 - according to the job requirements.

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

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