



Australian Government

FWPCOT3301 Trim trees using a pole saw

Release: 1

FWPCOT3301 Trim trees using a pole saw

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 6.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to use a fuel or battery powered pole saw to trim tree branches within safe height and angle limits.

The unit applies to individuals who operate pole saws to trim tree branches as part of arboriculture, forestry, agriculture, conservation and land management, local government, emergency services and other government agency operations.

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

Common Technical (COT)

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 trimming	1.1 Determine job requirements from work order or instruction and, where required, seek clarification from appropriate personnel 1.2 Confirm safety and environmental requirements for the task according to workplace procedures 1.3 Identify, assess and take actions to mitigate risks and hazards

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	associated with using pole saw to trim branches 1.4 Plan trimming activities according to workplace procedures 1.5 Consult with team members and other appropriate personnel to ensure that work is coordinated effectively with others in the workplace 1.6 Obtain pole saw and other support equipment needed for the work 1.7 Select, fit and use personal protective equipment 1.8 Conduct pre-start-up checks of pole saw to determine serviceability according to manufacturer instructions
2. Assess trees	2.1 Identify and assess tree type, location and stability for safe working conditions 2.2 Plan trim of tree according to workplace procedures and environmental conditions 2.3 Identify trees unsafe to be trimmed, and refer to supervisor 2.4 Identify hazards in immediate vicinity of the tree to be trimmed, and refer to supervisor 2.5 Determine whether the height of branches to be trimmed is within safe reach and safe working angle when using the pole saw 2.6 Establish general falling direction of branches to be trimmed, and identify clear escape routes
3. Trim trees	3.1 Trim accessible branches within safe height and angle limits according to work order or instructions and manufacturer recommendations 3.2 Monitor location and movement of people in work area to ensure work site is safe 3.3 Undertake sequence of cuts to trim tree branches 3.4 Operate pole saw according to workplace procedures and manufacturer instructions, adjusting technique in response to condition of the tree 3.5 Identify unexpected tree characteristics during trimming operations, and review tree assessment if required 3.6 Complete cutting once initiated to minimise splitting 3.7 Clear cut branches from the site according to workplace procedures and environmental requirements

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Conduct operator maintenance	4.1 Follow workplace safety procedures and manufacturer instructions to lock out equipment 4.2 Inspect condition of pole saw and other equipment on completion of trimming activities 4.3 Clear pole saw of dust, shavings and debris, and check for serviceability 4.4 Remove, sharpen, adjust or replace chain and other components according to manufacturer recommendations 4.5 Recycle, re-use or dispose of blunt or damaged chain and other components according to workplace procedures and environmental requirements 4.6 Record and report equipment faults and maintenance activity

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 workplace documentation to determine requirements
Writing	Use technical and workplace specific vocabulary to accurately and legibly complete workplace records and forms
Oral communication	Ask questions and actively listen to clarify contents of work plans

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
FWPCOT3301 Trim trees using a pole saw	FWPCOT3238 Operate a pole saw	Retitled Minor updates to Application, Performance	Equivalent

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
		Criteria and Knowledge Evidence Added new Performance Criteria Updated Foundation Skills, Performance Evidence and Assessment Conditions	

Links

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

Assessment Requirements for FWPCOT3301 Trim trees using a pole saw

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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:

- assessed, planned and conducted the trimming of the accessible branches of six trees within safe height and angle limits using a pole saw
- followed workplace policies and procedures, current workplace health and safety legislation, regulations and related industry standards and codes of practice in completing the tree trimming work
- inspected and carried out routine operator maintenance on one pole saw on one occasion, including removing, sharpening, replacing and adjusting the chain, according to manufacturer requirements.

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:

- types and components of pole saws
- uses of pole saws to trim trees
- procedures for pole saw operations
- risks and hazards associated with trimming trees with a pole saw
- characteristics of trees and timber defects
- trimming sequence and pole saw cutting techniques for trimming trees
- safe height and angle limits for pole saw use when trimming trees
- criteria for assessing condition of pole saw chain
- procedures for removing, sharpening, adjusting or replacing pole saw chain and other components
- established communication channels and protocols for trimming trees with a pole saw
- problem identification and resolution strategies related to trimming trees with a pole saw

- procedures for recording and reporting workplace information related to trimming trees with a pole saw.

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 the workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - an industry standard fuel or battery powered pole saw
 - tools and equipment used to maintain pole saws
 - consumable pole saw parts, oil and fuel
 - personal protective equipment required in pole saw operations
- specifications:
 - access to workplace safety and environmental policies and procedures applicable to use of pole saws for trimming branches
 - access to workplace procedures and forms for recording pole saw maintenance and faults
 - access to workplace standard operating procedures or operator manual for pole saws.

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

Links

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