



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

ICAA5150C Evaluate vendor products and equipment

Release: 1

ICAA5150C Evaluate vendor products and equipment

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor	This unit defines the competency required to evaluate a range of vendor products and equipment against a client's business requirements. No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.
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Application of the Unit

Application of the unit	
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Licensing/Regulatory Information

Refer to Unit Descriptor

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units		

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills	This unit contains employability skills.
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Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.
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Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Establish business requirements	1.1. Identify and prioritise business requirements 1.2. Identify conflicting or overlapping business requirements 1.3. Specify budget and available resources 1.4. Validate business requirements , budget and resource needs with client
2. Identify vendor products and equipment	2.1. Investigate a representative range of vendor products and equipment 2.2. Identify and document interdependencies 2.3. Specify and document technical alternatives available to the business 2.4. Determine and document availability of products and equipment
3. Evaluate vendor products, services and equipment	3.1. Rate vendor products for quality and support 3.2. Rate vendor products for fit with client needs 3.3. Establish product limitations, performance, integration capabilities and costs 3.4. Prepare cost-benefit analysis
4. Prepare evaluation report	4.1. Document product information in order of preference 4.2. Recommend preferred product, including the reasoning behind recommendations 4.3. Prepare a report containing solution details 4.4. Submit report to client for approval

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- Identification of key sources of information
- Understanding specification sheets
- Accurately summarising and documenting information
- Understanding conflicts and integration capabilities between diverse equipment

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Understanding importance and relevance of product information
- Communicating with vendors effectively
- Organising performance deviations

Required knowledge

- Relevant knowledge of current and future technical systems
- Features and function of relevant hardware components
- Features and function of relevant software products
- Interaction between relevant hardware and software products
- Broad knowledge of the client business domain (e.g. when confirming system components to acquire and agreeing on methods for acquiring components)
- Current industry-accepted hardware and software products with knowledge of general features and capabilities and detailed knowledge in some areas
- Broad knowledge of vendor product and international standards
- Copyright and intellectual property
- Australian Computer Society Code of Ethics

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Evidence of the following is essential:

- Assessment must confirm the ability to evaluate a range of vendor products and equipment against a client's functional requirements.

To demonstrate competency in this unit the following resources will be needed:

- Client functional requirements
- Hardware and software specifications from vendors

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Evaluation of vendor products is critical for reducing costs, improving quality and ensuring better internal processes.

Planning and evaluation of vendor products uses skills and knowledge applications across a broad range of technical and management requirements, evaluation and coordination.

Vendor product evaluation may include participation in teams, including those concerned with planning and evaluation functions.

The breadth, depth and complexity covering planning and initiation of alternative approaches to skills or knowledge applications across a broad range of technical and/or management requirements, evaluation and coordination would be characteristic.

The demonstration of competency may also require self-directed application of knowledge and skills, with substantial depth in some areas where judgement is required in planning and selecting appropriate

EVIDENCE GUIDE	
	equipment, services and techniques for self and others. Assessment must ensure: • Applications involve participation in development of strategic initiatives as well as personal responsibility and autonomy in performing complex technical operations or organising others. It may include participation in teams including teams concerned with planning and evaluation functions. Group or team coordination may also be involved.
Method of assessment	The purpose of this unit is to define the standard of performance to be achieved in the workplace. In undertaking training and assessment activities related to this unit, consideration should be given to the implementation of appropriate diversity and accessibility practices in order to accommodate people who may have special needs. Additional guidance on these and related matters is provided in ICA05 Section 1. • Competency in this unit should to be assessed using summative assessment to ensure consistency of performance in a range of contexts. This unit can be assessed either in the workplace or in a simulated environment. However, simulated activities must closely reflect the workplace to enable full demonstration of competency. • Assessment will usually include observation of real or simulated work processes and procedures and/or performance in a project context as well as questioning on underpinning knowledge and skills. The questioning of team members, supervisors, subordinates, peers and clients where appropriate may provide valuable input to the assessment process.
Guidance information for assessment	The interdependence of units for assessment purposes may vary with the particular project or scenario. Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role is recommended. An individual demonstrating this competency would be

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	able to: • Demonstrate understanding of a broad knowledge base incorporating theoretical concepts, with substantial depth in some areas • Analyse and plan approaches to technical problems or management requirements • Transfer and apply theoretical concepts and/or technical or creative skills to a range of situations • Evaluate information, using it to forecast for planning or research purposes • Take responsibility for own outputs in relation to broad quantity and quality parameters • Take some responsibility for the achievement of group outcomes • Maintain knowledge of industry products and services
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Range Statement**RANGE STATEMENT**

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

<i>Business requirements</i> may be in reference to:	• business • system • application • network • people in the organisation
<i>Client</i> may include but is not limited to:	• internal departments • external organisations • individual people • employees
<i>Rate</i> - this process may include:	• evaluation of customer testimonies and support documents
<i>Solution</i> may include but is not	• new hardware

RANGE STATEMENT	
limited to:	• hardware upgrades • new software • software upgrades • user training • implementing a new system
Standards may include:	• ISO/IEC/IEEE/IETF/ITU/AS standards • organisational standards • project standards

Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	Analyse and Design
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Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		

Competency field

Competency field	
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