



Australian Government

MEA708 Select and test avionic engineering materials

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1 - New unit of competency

Application

Applications of this unit of competency include selecting engineering materials and materials tests, sourcing materials data; ensuring appropriate performance and physical standards for avionic applications; documenting materials tests, ensured calibration standards; interpreting and documenting materials data sheets as appropriate for mass production, batch production, jobbing shop, and prototyping applications.

Activities may be performed as a member of a design and development or engineering support team.

This unit is used in workplaces that operate under the airworthiness regulatory systems of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

Pre-requisite Unit

Competency Field

Engineering science

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

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

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| 1. Identify classes of materials, based on properties and materials tests relevant to avionic engineering | 1.1 Identify classes of materials, based on properties, required for particular avionic engineering applications |
| | 1.2 Relate material properties to common production and construction methods and processes |
| | 1.3 Identify common characteristics, faults or flaws in materials and components or product in particular engineering applications |
| | 1.4 Identify test methods for materials and components or product in particular engineering applications |
| | 1.5 Identify specific industrial test standards/codes, |

			calibration requirements, regulations and authorities related to selection of materials and products for particular engineering applications
		1.6	Investigate the role of Australia's national measurement system
2.	Identify and use sources of information on engineering materials, materials tests and test equipment	2.1	Identify and use appropriate sources of information on materials
		2.2	Identify and use appropriate sources of information on methods of testing of properties of materials to ensure suitability for a particular application
		2.3	Identify and use appropriate sources of information on materials, materials tests, test calibration, test certificates, regulations, standards, and standards councils/societies/authorities/regulatory bodies
		2.4	Investigate and report on the use of standards and codes
		2.5	Identify and use appropriate sources of information on material safety data sheets (MSDS)
3.	Specify and implement materials for particular avionic engineering applications	3.1	Select materials in given avionic engineering applications based on relevant test information
		3.2	Incorporate materials and components into avionic and manufacturing processes in accordance with design functional requirements
4.	Specify and implement methods used to test or obtain the properties of engineering materials	4.1	Specify and implement tests of materials to ensure quality, safety or suitability for a range of applications
		4.2	Ensure traceability of measurement standard
		4.3	Obtain test sheets/certificates for appropriate materials for applications in accordance with organisational procedures and/or codes and regulations
		4.4	Obtain appropriate MSDS for applications in accordance with organisational procedures and/or codes and regulations
5.	Report on and record materials design data and methods and results of materials tests	5.1	Report and record materials selections against design functional requirements in accordance with organisational procedures, codes and regulations, including environmental impact and sustainability assessment

- 5.2 Report and record materials tests and test sheets/certificates in accordance with organisational procedures, codes and regulations
- 5.3 Ensure appropriate calibration and traceability
- 5.4 Report and record appropriate MSDS for applications in accordance with organisational procedures, codes and regulations

Foundation Skills

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.

- Classes of materials include:**
- Non-ferrous metals and alloys - copper, aluminium, zinc, lead, tin, titanium and their alloys
 - Ferrous metals - carbon steels, alloy steels and cast irons
 - Non-metallic - composite materials, bearing materials, lubricants, ceramics, polymers and fabrics, and adhesives
 - Electrical and electronic - electrical insulation materials; thermal conductors and insulators; electrical conductors, including gold and silver; semiconductors and insulators; and printed circuit board matrix materials
- Properties of materials include:**
- Strength, elasticity, plasticity, malleability, toughness, brittleness, fatigue endurance, mouldability, weldability, machinability, formability, resistance to creep and stress relaxation, resistance to degradation (e.g. use of plastic fillers to enhance UV resistance), adhesion, electrical, magnetic, thermal, chemical and optical, material structure and effect on properties
- Other factors include:**
- Corrosion and corrosion protection methods.
 - The effect of manufacturing and construction processes on material properties.
 - The effect of property enhancement on design (e.g. adhesives plus sintering replacing some forging and machining of gears on shafts)

Costs include:	• Manufacture of material and source of material • Typical applications and possibilities
Avionic engineering refers to:	• The engineering discipline concerned with the conceptual development, research, design, manufacture, implementation, installation, commissioning and maintenance of aerospace electrical, instrument, radio and electronic systems and components and related test equipment for civil and military applications
Australia's national measurement system includes:	• National Measurement Institute (NMI) • National Association of Testing Authorities • Standards Australia • Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand
Sources of information include:	• Reference texts • Manufacturer's catalogues and industrial magazines • Websites • Use of phone, email and fax information gathering
Standards councils/societies/ authorities/regulatory bodies include:	• Australian Standards (AS) • American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) • US Military Specification (MIL Spec.) • American Society of Manufacturing Engineers (ASME) • International Standards Organisation (ISO) • CASA • ADF • United States Federal Aviation Authority • European Aviation Safety Authority
Standards and codes include:	• Non-destructive testing (NDT) and mechanical test standards • Chemical test standards • Electrical test standards • Compliance test standards for components
Tests of materials include:	• Destructive, including tensile, compression, impact, hardness, fatigue, corrosion, stress relaxation and creep, and peel resistance (adhesives) • Non-destructive, including hardness, ultrasonics, X-ray, magnetic particle, dye penetrant, eddy current, surface friction, conductivity, heat expansion, photoelastic, heat capacity refractive index, and magnetic hysteresis loop
Traceability includes:	• Test calibrations that can be traced back to the relevant base unit in the relevant measurement system

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1 – supersedes and is equivalent to MEA273A Select and test avionic engineering materials

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ce216c9c-04d5-4b3b-9bcf-4e81d0950371>