



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for MSL975009 Apply routine chromatographic techniques

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSL975009A Apply routine chromatographic techniques

Performance Evidence

Evidence of competence in this unit must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria, and include demonstration of:

- applying routine chromatographic techniques on at least three (3) occasions to obtain valid and reliable data
- establishing client needs for routine and non-routine samples
- accurately interpreting client requests, test methods and procedures
- preparing samples using at least three (3) different processes
- preparing standards
- safely setting up, operating and shutting down equipment
- checking calibration and qualification status of equipment
- installing and maintaining a variety of chromatographic columns
- choosing and optimising procedures and equipment settings to suit sample/test requirements
- making approved adjustments to procedures for non-routine samples
- interpreting data, recognising atypical test data and results and making relevant conclusions
- troubleshooting common analytical procedure and equipment problems
- preparing and using calibration charts and standards
- identifying and calculating potential sources of uncertainty
- calculating results using appropriate equations, units, uncertainties and precision
- recording and reporting data and results in accordance with workplace procedures
- maintaining security, integrity and traceability of samples and documentation
- following workplace safety procedures.

Knowledge Evidence

Must provide evidence that demonstrates knowledge of:

- chromatographic principles and concepts related to instrumentation operation, material preparation and testing
- use of different chromatographic methods for qualitative and quantitative analysis and preparation of specific samples relevant to job role
- handling of unstable or hazardous chemicals and samples, and the fragile/labile nature of biological material
- sample preparation procedures
- functions of key components of the instruments and effects on outputs and results of modifying instrumental variables, such as injection temperature, gas flow rate, column pressures, column type and detector type
- procedure for optimising separation through changing operation parameters, such as injection technique, solvent type, sample size and sample preparation
- basic procedure and equipment troubleshooting techniques
- common procedure and equipment problems, including:
 - problems with interfering substances
 - poor resolution of peaks
 - inappropriate selection of column or operating parameters (flow rate and temperature)
 - unsuitable substrate or support solvent
 - lack of suitable reference standards
- calculation steps to give results in appropriate accuracy, precision, uncertainty and units
- workplace and/or legal traceability requirements
- basic equipment maintenance procedures
- relevant hazards, work health and safety (WHS) and environment requirements.

Assessment Conditions

- Judgment of competence must be based on holistic assessment of the evidence. Assessment methods must confirm consistency of performance over time, rather than a single assessment event.
- This unit of competency is to be assessed in the workplace or a simulated workplace environment, and assessment evidence must be relevant to the particular workplace context. A simulated workplace environment must reflect realistic operational workplace conditions that cover all aspects of workplace performance, including the environment, task skills, task management skills, contingency management skills and job role environment skills.
- Foundation skills are integral to competent performance of the unit and should not be assessed separately.
- Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.
- Knowledge evidence may be collected concurrently with performance evidence or through an independent process, such as workbooks, written assessments or interviews (provided a record is kept in each case).
- This unit of competency may be assessed with:
 - MSL925001 Analyse data and report results
- Holistic assessment methods include:
 - review of test data and results obtained by the candidate over time to ensure accuracy, consistency and timeliness of results
 - inspection of test records and workplace documentation completed by the candidate
 - feedback from peers and supervisors
 - observation of candidate applying a range of routine chromatographic techniques
 - oral or written questioning of chemical principles and concepts, chromatographic techniques and workplace procedures.
- Access is required to instruments, equipment, materials, workplace documentation, procedures and specifications associated with this unit, including, but not limited to:
 - a standard laboratory equipped with routine chromatographic equipment, laboratory reagents and equipment
 - standard operating procedures (SOPs) and test methods.
- Assessors must satisfy the assessor competency requirements that are in place at the time of the assessment as set by the VET regulator.
- The assessor must demonstrate both technical competence and currency.
- Technical competence can be demonstrated through:
 - relevant VET or other qualification/Statement of Attainment AND/OR
 - relevant workplace experience.
- Currency can be demonstrated through:
 - performing the competency being assessed as part of current employment OR
 - having consulted with a laboratory about performing the competency being assessed within the last twelve months.

Links

MSA Training Package Implementation Guides - <http://mskills.org.au/training-packages/info/>