



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for MSL975054 Perform physical examination of forensic samples

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version was released in <i>MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Release 2.0</i>. Supersedes and equivalent to MSL975026 Perform physical examination of forensic samples. Foundation skill information added. Range of conditions removed. Assessment requirements amended. Equivalent outcome.

Performance Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has completed the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit, and:

- safely performed physical examination and testing of at least 3 different forensic samples to produce valid and reliable results.

Knowledge Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has knowledge of:

- terminology, concepts and principles related to preparation, physical examination and testing of forensic samples/evidence
- legal, regulatory, policy, procedural and quality system requirements for the collection, preservation, security, continuity and disposal of samples and evidence (exhibits), forensic examinations and analyses
- potential limitations of own specialist knowledge and when to seek advice from other services
- services available to assist laboratory examination and interpretation of physical evidence
- peer review processes for examination of test findings
- typical samples:
 - fingerprints
 - firearms and tool marks
 - ammunition
 - ballistics
 - vehicles
 - documents and handwriting

- physical tests and examinations:
 - precise measurement of position, orientation and dimensions (e.g. particle size)
 - mass, density and specific gravity (e.g. compaction)
 - thermal tests (e.g. combustion properties)
 - optical tests (e.g. colour matching)
 - acoustic tests (e.g. loudness)
 - electrical tests (e.g. insulation)
 - magnetic tests (e.g. intrinsic induction)
- validation checks and/or calibration standards:
 - positive and known positive controls
 - negative controls (e.g. substrate blanks)
 - recovery check controls
 - certified reference materials
- methods to reviewing laboratory methodology and test results:
 - assessing the methodology for appropriate application to evidence
 - assessing chain of custody and sample handling to ensure integrity
 - assessing testing procedures for compliance with quality system and judicial requirements
 - evaluating interpretation of test results for validity
- principles and purpose of test methods implemented (why they are used and what they demonstrate)
- technological advances that include automation
- awareness of environmental sustainability issues as they relate to the work task
- legal, ethical and work health and safety (WHS) requirements specific to the work task including traceability, confidentiality and security requirements of all client information, and laboratory data and records.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions and contingencies. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
 - a standard laboratory
 - relevant equipment and instruments for the physical examination of forensic samples, laboratory reagents and equipment, standard operating procedures (SOPs) and test methods.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

Links

Training Package Companion Volumes -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c63a03b-4a6b-4ae5-9560-1e3c5f462baa>