



Australian Government

PMAOPS318 Conduct artificial lift

Release: 1

PMAOPS318 Conduct artificial lift

Modification History

Release 1. Unit code and Application changed. Performance Criteria changed. Range of Conditions removed. Assessment Requirements changed. Supersedes and is equivalent to PMAOPS320 Conduct artificial lift.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to control the artificial lift of fluids from operating wells either onshore or offshore using pumps, valves and compressors. Fluids may be oil, condensate, gas or water.

This unit applies to autonomous operators who are required to demonstrate a significant understanding of the process and the equipment operation in a plant with local control, or in liaison with the control-room operator in a plant with a centralised control panel. In the case of a large, complex plant, the operations technician would be part of a team during startup and shutdown procedures.

This unit applies to an individual working alone or as part of a team or group, and working in liaison with other shift team members and the control-room operator, as appropriate. It does not require the operation of a central control panel.

No licensing or certification requirements exist at the time of publication. Relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice within Australia must be applied.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Competency Field

Operations

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. Operate lifting and production equipment to produce product according to procedures	1.1 Receive and give shift handover 1.2 Communicate with personnel to identify and coordinate work requirements 1.3 Identify, control and report hazards 1.4 Check for recent work undertaken on artificial lift equipment and

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	address outstanding and incomplete work 1.5 Check operational status of artificial lift equipment 1.6 Perform routine checks and complete logs and paperwork, taking action on unexpected readings 1.7 Adjust artificial lift equipment according to agreed operational parameters
2. Identify and respond to abnormal situations during operation	2.1 Monitor artificial lift equipment frequently and critically throughout shift using own senses, and measured and indicated data 2.2 Monitor field data and instrumentation to ensure that product remains on specification 2.3 Identify impacts of changes upstream and downstream 2.4 Identify actual and developing situations that may require action 2.5 Take action to remedy abnormal situations according to operating procedures 2.6 Complete required documents outlining abnormal situation management and corrective action taken
3. Shut down and prepare artificial lift equipment for maintenance	3.1 Prepare artificial lift equipment to be shut down according to operating procedures 3.2 Complete pre-shutdown checks according to operating procedures 3.3 Shut down artificial lift equipment according to operating procedures 3.4 Identify, control and report shutdown hazards 3.5 Monitor shutdown and identify abnormal situations that may require action 3.6 Take action to remedy abnormal situations according to operating procedures 3.7 Shut down and changeover duty and standby equipment according to operating procedures 3.8 Isolate artificial lift equipment from energy sources
4. Prepare and start up artificial lift equipment	4.1 De-isolate and prepare artificial lift equipment to be returned to standby or service 4.2 Complete pre-start checks according to operating procedures 4.3 Start up artificial lift equipment according to operating procedures

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	4.4 Identify, control and report startup hazards 4.5 Monitor startup and identify abnormal situations that may require action 4.6 Take action to remedy abnormal situations according to operating procedures

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance.

- Learning skills to follow instructions, monitor process and select appropriate procedure.
- Reading skills to follow written procedures and documentation.
- Writing skills to complete workplace documentation.
- Oral communication skills to liaise and coordinate with team members and the control-room operator.
- Numeracy skills to monitor field data, instrumentation and process parameters.

Other foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to PMAOPS320 Conduct artificial lift.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=9fc2cf53-e570-4e9f-ad6a-b228ffdb6875>

Assessment Requirements for PMAOPS318 Conduct artificial lift

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Performance Evidence

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

- at least 2 times, each in a separate work context.

Knowledge Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has knowledge of:

- all items on a schematic of the production unit, including:
 - principles of operation of plant and equipment, including well bore hydraulics, reservoir formation, pumping/compressor efficiencies, production volumes and product capacities
 - interactions between plant items and processes
 - operating parameters and integrity limits, and product specifications and tolerances including temperature, pressure and flow
 - procedures for starting, stopping, operating, controlling and isolating artificial lift equipment
 - emergency shutdown procedures
 - function of major components and troubleshooting techniques
- physics and chemistry to the level of being able to provide an overview of the science of the artificial lift process
- local lease and well operations requirements and constraints
- basis of the process used in the well operation
- impact of external factors, including variations in weather and feed
- abnormal situations and required actions, including but not limited to:
 - lift gas variations
 - instrument failure and wrong reading
 - electrical failure
 - mechanical failure
 - operational problem
- hierarchy of control
- artificial lift hazards:
 - possible causes

- potential consequences
- appropriate risk controls
- reporting and escalation procedures.

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:
 - industrial-type wellhead and artificial lift
 - operating procedures
- abnormal situations must be relevant to the artificial lift process.

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

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