



Australian Government

PMAOPS336 Operate and troubleshoot fixed-bed adsorption system

Release: 1

PMAOPS336 Operate and troubleshoot fixed-bed adsorption system

Modification History

Release 1. Unit code and title changed. Application and Performance Criteria changed. Range of Conditions removed. Assessment Requirements changed. Supersedes and is equivalent to PMAOPS327 Operate fixed bed adsorption unit.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to operate a fixed-bed adsorption system that includes a dehydration unit to produce a product. Fixed-bed dehydration units may be molecular sieves or other packed-bed adsorption units.

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 fixed-bed adsorption unit 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 process system hazards

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.4 Check for recent work undertaken on adsorption system and address outstanding and incomplete work 1.5 Check operational status of process system 1.6 Perform routine checks and complete logs and paperwork, taking action on unexpected readings 1.7 Adjust process system according to agreed operational parameters
2. Identify and respond to abnormal situations during operation	2.1 Monitor adsorption system 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 fixed-bed adsorption system for maintenance	3.1 Prepare process system to be shut down according to operating procedures 3.2 Complete pre-shutdown checks according to operating procedures 3.3 Shut down process system 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 process system from energy sources
4. Prepare and start up fixed—bed adsorption system	4.1 De-isolate and prepare process system to be returned to standby or service 4.2 Complete pre-start checks according to operating procedures 4.3 Start up process system 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.
- 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 PMAOPS327 Operate fixed bed adsorption unit.

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 PMAOPS336 Operate and troubleshoot fixed-bed adsorption system

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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 fixed-bed adsorption system, including:
 - type of adsorber, the component plant items and their functions
 - principles of operation of dehydrator, gas treatment and extraction, including hydrate formation, adsorption and desorption
 - operating parameters and integrity limits, product specifications and tolerances including temperature, pressure and flow
 - procedures for starting, stopping, operating, controlling and isolating the system
 - emergency shutdown procedures
 - function of major components and troubleshooting techniques
 - process control philosophies and strategies
 - interactions between plant items and processes
- physics and chemistry to the level of being able to provide an overview of the science of the fixed-bed adsorption process
- adsorption abnormal situations and required action, including but not limited to:
 - variation and loss of feed
 - unstable control of pressure, temperature level and flows
 - control equipment failure
 - process plant trips
 - change in atmospheric conditions (rain, temperature, wind, lightning)
 - emergency situations
 - desiccant contamination
 - desiccant damage and bed collapse (over pressuring)
 - poor regeneration (flow, heat, cooling)

- problem with major component
- hierarchy of control
- adsorber system 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:
 - fixed-bed adsorption system
 - operating procedures
- abnormal situations must be relevant to fixed-bed adsorption systems.

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

Links

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