



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PRMCL33B Plan for safe and efficient cleaning activities

Release: 1

PRMCL33B Plan for safe and efficient cleaning activities

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor

This unit of competency covers the skills and knowledge required to plan for safe and efficient cleaning activities. This unit covers general issues that need to be addressed in each work site to ensure maximum safety and efficiency of each cleaning activity.

The unit requires the ability to assess cleaning tasks, associated hazards and security issues on the work site, maintain personal safety and to select safe and efficient cleaning methods.

These work functions are performed each time a cleaner enters a work site and are carried out within company guidelines.

Application of the Unit

Not Applicable

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not Applicable

Pre-Requisites

Not Applicable

Employability Skills Information

Not Applicable

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Not Applicable

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 Assess the cleaning situation | 1.1 Review <i>work order</i> in accordance with <i>company requirements</i>
1.2 Assess <i>work site</i> in accordance with <i>environmental, legislative, occupational health and safety (OHS)</i> and <i>company requirements</i>
1.3 Check <i>work order</i> to determine staffing and time allocation for the cleaning operation(s) in accordance with <i>company requirements</i>
1.4 Determine access to <i>equipment, chemicals, consumables</i> and <i>personal protective equipment (PPE)</i> suitable for the implementing the <i>work order</i> in accordance with <i>environmental, legislative, OHS</i> and <i>company requirements</i>
1.5 Clarify any issues arising with <i>appropriate person(s)</i> in accordance with <i>company requirements</i>
1.6 Amend work schedules to reflect changed situation in accordance with <i>company requirements</i>
1.7 Identify and report any pre-existing damage at the work site to the <i>appropriate person(s)</i> in accordance with the <i>work order</i> and <i>company requirements</i> |
| 2 Assess hazards | 2.1 Identify <i>hazards</i> in the work site in accordance with <i>legislative, OHS</i> and <i>company requirements</i>
2.2 Control risks arising from <i>hazards</i> in the work site in accordance with <i>legislative, OHS</i> and <i>company requirements</i> |
| 3 Assess work site security risk | 2.3 Report any ongoing <i>hazards</i> remaining in the work site area to the <i>appropriate person(s)</i> in accordance with <i>legislative, OHS</i> and <i>company requirements</i>
3.1 Identify and implement security arrangements on work site in accordance with the <i>work order</i> and <i>OHS</i> and <i>company requirements</i>
3.2 Review emergency response and evacuation procedures in accordance with <i>OHS</i> and <i>company requirements</i>
3.3 Operate security alarm systems in accordance with client specifications, <i>work order</i> , |

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- manufacturers' specifications and OHS and company requirements*
- 4 Select suitable work methods
- 4.1 Select safe and efficient cleaning methods in accordance with *work order and environmental, legislative, OHS and company requirements*
- 4.2 Use *signage and barriers* to maximise public safety during the cleaning operation in accordance with *work order and OHS and company requirements*
- 4.3 Arrange cleaning activity to minimise disruption to all *personnel* in accordance with the *work order and company requirements*
- 4.4 Use *equipment* in accordance with *manufacturers' specifications and legislative, OHS and company requirements*
- 4.5 Prepare *chemicals* in accordance with *manufacturers' specifications and legislative, OHS and company requirements*
- 4.6 Report changes to *work order* due to *work restrictions* that affect safety or performance to the *appropriate person(s)* in accordance with *OHS and company requirements*

Required Skills and Knowledge

Refer to Evidence Guide

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide identifies the requirements to be demonstrated to confirm competence for this unit. Assessment must confirm sufficient ability to use appropriate skills and knowledge to plan for safe and efficient cleaning activities. Assessment of performance should be over a period of time covering all categories within the range statement that are applicable in the working environment.

Critical aspects of competency

- Assessing the cleaning task.
- Assessing the hazards on the work site.
- Assessing effectiveness of work site security arrangements.
- Selecting suitable cleaning methods.
- Compliance with company and legislative/regulatory requirements.

Knowledge needed to achieve the performance criteria

Knowledge and understanding are essential to apply this unit in the workplace, to transfer the skills to other contexts and to deal with unplanned events. The knowledge requirements for this unit are listed below.

- Equipment types and functions.
- Product knowledge including manufacturers' specifications for products being used.
- Hazards of storing, preparing, using and disposing chemicals.
- First Aid and emergency response procedures.
- Awareness of applicable legislation, regulations, codes of practice and industry advisory standards.
- Awareness of OHS legislation and procedures.
- Communication and negotiation techniques.
- Company management structure and reporting procedures.
- Company procedures and practices.
- Emergency response and evacuation procedures.
- Injury, dangerous occurrence and incident reporting.
- Knowledge of biological and viral control procedures.
- Routes of entry and potential symptoms of exposure from chemicals.

Specific skills needed to achieve the performance criteria

To achieve the performance criteria, some complementary skills are required. These are:

- applying correct manual handling techniques
- communicating clearly and concisely using written and verbal modes
- customer service
- displaying team leadership
- reading, interpreting and responding appropriately to directions and safety instructions in equipment manuals, MSDS and on chemical labels
- handling and disposal of chemicals safely
- handling and disposal of contaminated and toxic waste
- performing the mathematical calculations required for the dilution and mixing of chemicals as specified on product labels
- planning
- problem solving

- reading and writing to prepare legible job cards, timesheets and incident reports
- requesting advice or further information
- seeking and receiving feedback
- sourcing, organising and recording information
- working on an individual basis and within a team.

Other units of competency that could be assessed with this unit

Competence in this unit may be assessed in conjunction with:

- PRMCL35B Maintain a cleaning storage area
- PRMCMN201A Participate in workplace safety arrangements.

Resources required to assess this unit

The following resources should be available:

- access to a suitable work site or venue
- access to suitable equipment and chemicals
- access to suitable personal protective equipment
- work order instructions, work plans and schedules
- assessment instruments, including personal planner and assessment record book.

Gaining evidence to assess this unit

For valid and reliable assessment of this unit, the competency should be demonstrated over a period of time and be observed by the assessor.

The competency is to be demonstrated in a range of situations that may include customer/workplace interruptions and involvement in related activity normally experienced in the workplace.

Assessment of competency may be made through practical demonstration in the work environment or in a simulated work environment.

Key competency levels

There are a number of processes that are learnt throughout work and life that are required in all jobs. They are fundamental processes and generally transferable to other work functions. Some of these are covered by the key competencies, although others may be added.

Information below highlights how these processes are applied in this unit of competency.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 Perform the process | 2 Perform and administer the process | 3 Perform, administer and design the process |
|------------------------------|---|---|

How can communication of ideas and information be applied?	1	Confirm own role and responsibilities with colleagues and supervisors to ensure compliance with work order and company requirements such as OHS.
How can information be collected, analysed and organised ?	1	Collect and analyse information regarding work site in line with company procedures.
How are activities planned and organised ?	2	Plan and prioritise work tasks to meet company and client requirements in an efficient and effective manner.
How can teamwork be applied?	1	Provide support and assistance to team members to complete work tasks within designated timelines and to meet company requirements.
How can the use of mathematical ideas and techniques be applied?	1	Calculate area(s) to be cleaned and measure and carry out chemical applications.
How can problem-solving skills be applied?	1	Discuss with management/clients/work site managers, supervisors and team members how to help solve problems that may arise.
How can the use of technology be applied?	1	Record data for future use such as stock control.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement links the required knowledge and organisational and technical requirements to the workplace context. It describes any contextual variables that will be used or encountered when applying the competency in work situations. It allows for different work practices and work and knowledge requirements as well as for differences between organisations and workplaces. The following variables are listed in alphabetical order and may be present for this particular unit.

Appropriate person(s) may include:

- managers
- person(s) in control of work site(s)
- supervisors.

Assess work site may include issues such as:

- amount and type of cleaning required

- client specifications
- health and safety matters
- identifying pre-existing damage
- number and skills of cleaners available
- security procedures
- size and condition of the work site
- type and suitability of equipment.

Chemicals may include:

- acid cleaners
- alkaline cleaners
- neutral cleaners
- solvent cleaners.

Company requirements may include:

- access and equity policy, principles and practice
- business and performance plans
- client communication procedures
- client confidentiality procedures
- client service standards
- communication channels and reporting procedures
- company goals, objectives, plans, systems and processes
- company issued identification badge/card/pass
- company policy and procedures
- company service standards
- dress and presentation requirements
- duty of care, code of conduct, code of ethics
- emergency response and evacuation procedures
- maintenance procedures for equipment and PPE
- OHS control procedures (e.g. health and safety plans, job plans, job safety analysis, risk assessments, safe operating practices/procedures, safe work instructions, work method statements, safe system of work statements)
- OHS policies and procedures
- personnel practices and guidelines
- policies and procedures relating to own role, responsibility and delegation
- quality and continuous improvement processes and standards
- records and information systems and processes
- rights and responsibilities of employees and employers
- training (induction, refresher and new skills) materials
- use of contractors
- work site access security clearance procedures.

Consumables may include:

- air freshener
- hand towel
- liner bags
- soap
- toilet paper.

Environmental requirements may include:

- clean-up, containment and/or isolation
- company policies and guidelines
- environmental protection agency and government department regulations and guidelines
- hazardous materials handling
- local government regulations/bylaws.

Equipment may include:

- access equipment - various types
- bins - various types
- brooms - various types
- buckets
- buffers - various types
- cleaning trolley
- cloths
- cobwebber
- doodle bag holder
- drop sheets
- drying equipment
- dust pans and brushes
- dusters - various types
- extension poles
- extraction units, wand and hand tools
- hoses
- ladders
- mops
- personal protective equipment
- polishers
- pressure-washing equipment and attachments
- safety equipment - various types
- scouring pads
- scrapers
- scrubbers - various types
- sponges
- spray bottles
- squeegee
- steam cleaners
- sweepers - various types
- vacuum cleaners and attachments - various types
- window cleaning equipment
- work site communication devices.

Hazards may include:

- allergic reactions to chemicals and/or equipment, including latex allergies
- biological waste
- bites and stings
- blood and blood-stained products
- broken glass and other sharp surfaces

- chemical containers and/or decanted chemical storage containers labelled incorrectly
- confined/restricted spaces
- contaminated clothing, chemicals and/or equipment
- damaged or inappropriate equipment
- dust and fibres
- electrical hazards arising from cables, electrical fittings (switches and lights) and untested electrical equipment
- environmental impact
- extremes of heat and temperature
- fatigue
- fire
- gas
- heights
- human waste (faeces, urine, vomit)
- inadequate lighting and ventilation
- infectious and zoonotic diseases e.g. scabies/Q fever
- inhaling chemical fumes
- leaks, spill, splash and spray
- manual handling techniques including awkward and repetitive postures
- mobile/vehicle hazards around plant and vehicles
- moving and/or unguarded machinery and equipment
- noise
- occupational violence and bullying
- poor manual handling techniques
- poor personal hygiene practices
- repetitive motion, force and vibration
- synergistic chemical reactions (hazardous incompatibility or reactivity)
- syringes or other sharps
- ultraviolet light
- underfoot conditions e.g. slippery, uneven and rough surfaces
- unrestricted people access
- waste and waste disposal
- work in isolated/remote environments.

Legislative requirements may include:

- Australian Standards, quality assurance and certification requirements
- award and enterprise agreements
- codes of practice
- national industry standards
- relevant Commonwealth/state/territory legislation and local government regulations that affect company operation:
 - anti-discrimination and diversity
 - availability of chemical registers/manifests
 - chemical controls
 - consumer protection
 - environmental protection issues
 - equal employment opportunity
 - freedom of information

- industrial equipment certificates of competency or licences
- industrial relations
- OHS Acts and regulations
- privacy
- trade practices
- workplace consultative arrangements.

Manufacturers' specifications may include:

- equipment operational manuals
- instructional guides
- material safety data sheets
- other resources supplied by the manufacturer (such as laminated cards notices, wall posters)
- product labels
- safety instructions pre-printed on equipment.

Occupational health and safety* (OHS) requirements may relate to:

- allergic reactions (contact dermatitis, etc)
- communication devices for remote and isolated locations e.g. mobile phone, two-way radio, etc
- dermatological control and prevention measures
- hazard identification and risk assessment mechanisms
- hazard reporting
- hierarchy of hazard control procedures
- injury, dangerous occurrence and incident reporting requirements
- keeping access ways clear from obstruction
- maintaining clear access ways
- maintenance procedures for equipment and PPE
- national industry standards/codes of practice
- OHS control procedures (e.g. health and safety plans, job plans, job safety analysis, risk assessments, safe operating practices/procedures, safe work instructions, work method statements, safe system of work statements)
- protection from hazardous substances, noise and dust
- protection of people in the workplace
- routes of entry and potential symptoms of exposure from chemicals
- safety training (induction and refresher)
- ultraviolet light
- up-to-date electrical test and tag compliance
- use of chemicals in accordance with labels
- use, storage and maintenance of equipment in accordance with manufacturers' specifications and equipment operating manuals
- use, storage and maintenance of personal protective equipment and clothing.

** Also known as occupational safety and health or workplace health and safety*

Personal protective equipment (PPE) may include:

- ear muffs/plugs
- gloves - non-permeable
- goggles
- high-visibility vests/clothing

- overalls and other protective clothing
- respirator
- safety glasses
- safety shoes
- splash-proof face masks
- sun protection
- tongs
- ultraviolet protection
- wet-work clothing.

Personnel may include:

- client's staff
- fellow workers (colleagues)
- general public
- venue/facility/building/shopping centre staff/management.

Rights and responsibilities of employees may relate to:

- confidentiality and privacy rights
- duty of care
- knowing the appropriate personnel for reporting purposes
- knowing the location of manuals and/or related documents
- knowing the terms and conditions of own employment
- knowing the workplace procedures
- protection from discrimination and sexual harassment.

Rights and responsibilities of employers may relate to:

- duty of care
- providing a safe environment free from discrimination and sexual harassment (see relevant state and Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation)
- providing a safe workplace in accordance with OHS legislation, codes of practice, regulations and standards
- providing information and training in work tasks, OHS and other employment related matters
- the right to dismiss you if you (see the Commonwealth *Workplace Relations Act 1996*):
 - are negligent, careless or cause an accident
 - commit a criminal offence
 - commit acts of disloyalty such as revealing confidential information
 - use abusive language.

Work order information may include:

- access to work site and egress points
- completion times/dates
- insufficient people to complete the work task(s)
- job requirements and tasks
- legislative requirements and local government
- OHS requirements and emergency response procedures
- resource requirements - equipment and chemicals

- specific client requirements e.g. relationships with other activities, dress and presentation requirements
- use of signage and barriers
- work schedules
- working in isolated and remote locations
- work site contact person(s).

Work restrictions may include:

- amount of cleaning anticipated
- client activity
- employee(s) level of literacy and/or communication skills
- faulty or inappropriate equipment
- site hazards
- skills of the work unit/team
- staffing resources
- time limitations.
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Unit Sector(s)

Not Applicable

Functional Area:

Functional Area: Core. Cleaning Operations