Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with RGR Racing Training Package Version 1.0. |

| RGRPSH201 | Handle racehorses in stables and at trackwork |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to identify; safely catch, handle and control racehorses, and fit with appropriate gear.  The unit applies to individuals employed as stablehands, strappers, trainers and others authorised to handle standardbred or thoroughbred horses in work environments of racing stables, paddocks, yards, race tracks and public areas.  Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit. Users are advised to check with the relevant Principal Racing Authority for current requirements.  Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary in each state/territory jurisdiction. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Performance Horse (PSH) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Identify physical features of racehorses | 1.1 Describe key features used to identify racehorses including body type, height, colour and markings using racing industry terminology  1.2 Recognise individual racehorses features using racing industry standards, terminology, microchips, brands and registration documentation |
| 2. Apply knowledge of racehorse behaviour | 2.1 Describe common behaviours of racehorses and identify common and specific causes of those behaviours  2.2 Observe and interpret basic body language and common behaviours of racehorses in different situations  2.3 Identify responses of different horses to a range of different handling cues  2.4 Identify areas of personal risk, and risks to horses and others in various envrironments, including stables and training and racetracks  2.5 Interpret and respond appropriately to horse body language and behaviours and maintain awareness of all horses at all times |
| 3. Safely approach, catch and lead racehorses | 3.1 Check and clarify supervisor instructions for tasks involving approaching, catching and leading racehorses including raising safety risks or concerns  3.2 Identify known temperament, behaviour and level of education of racehorses prior to handling  3.3 Assess risks associated with catching and leading a variety of racehorses in different environments  3.4 Identify, select and correctly fit appropriate horse gear and personal protective equipment (PPE) for catching and leading racehorses  3.5 Approach, catch and lead racehorses using safe handling practices and body language that minimises adverse horse reactions |
| 4. Select and correctly fit gear to racehorses | 4.1 Select and correctly fit appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) 4.2 Identify and select gear for relevant racing code and check for wear  4.3 Fit horses with nominated approved gear within industry standard timeframes and prepare for work  4.4 Remove, check, clean and store gear according to stable procedures |
| 5. Control racehorses in training at stables and trackwork | 5.1 Assess risks associated with handling racehorses in public areas  5.2 Use safe leading, holding and controlling techniques for racehorses according to industry practices and animal welfare principles  5.3 Lead horses into cross ties and confined spaces and secure using safe handling techniques  5.4 Minimise risk to self and others around racehorses in stables and trackwork environments |

| Foundation Skills  This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Reading | * Interpret stable forms, signage and instructions related to job role including, identification of horses and tasks |
| Oral communication | * Use active listening and questioning techniques to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions * Use industry terminology to describe racehorses and handling gear and equipment |
| Navigate the world of work | * Follow workplace procedures, including safet and animal welfare requirements, relating to own role and work area * Demonstrate a duty of care to self and others when working with racehorses |
| Get the work done | * Assemble resources and follow clearly defined instructions seeking assistance when necessary * Assess safety hazards and risks associated with catching, leading and handling racehorses; monitoring and responding to safety at all times |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| RGRPSH201 Handle racehorses in stables and at trackwork | RGRPSH201A Handle horses  RGRPSH208 Attend horses at trackwork | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  Changes relating to merging two units to refelct job task | No equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for RGRPSH201 Handle racehorses in stables and at trackwork |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has:   * read brands and identified and distinguished at least four individual racehorses correctly using racing industry practices and terminology * confirmed, clarified and followed supervisor instructions * carried out a basic risk assessment prior to handling each racehorse including applying knowledge of horse behaviour and body language * approached, caught, led and controlled, under supervision, three different racehorses, of different ages and temperaments including: * in stables * onto training track * into cross ties * selected and correctly fitted catching and leading gear to four different racehorses, of different ages and temperaments,within industry accepted timeframes and fitted own personal protective equipment (PPE) * hosed and cooled down at least four different horses. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:   * features and basic industry terminology used to identify horses, including: * physical features including colour, makings, brands and size * gender * age - by reading brands * registration documentation * microchip * common racehorse characteristics, including: * temperament, behaviour and social traits, including undesirable traits * body language * response to commonly used cues * specific characteristics and responses of individual horses * racing industry safety requirements for interacting with horses, including: * safe operating procedures * hazard identification and risk control associated with catching and leading horses * applying knowledge of horse behaviour * use of PPE * applying relevant road safety rules * complying with rules of racing, and stable and training track policies, protocols and etiquette * approved working and racing gear and PPE for handler, including: * purpose of gear and PPE * correct fit for safety and comfort * indicators of conditon - wear, or damage * procedures for repair or replacement * basic principles of animal welfare and relevant rules of racing related to own work role and responsibilities in the racing industry * racing industry techniques for: * approaching and catching horses * leading horses * holding and controlling horses * purpose of different items of catching and leading gear and personal protective equipment (PPE) * racing work environments and related risks when handing horses, including in: * stables - stalls, tie-ups and confined spaces * track * public areas * yards * communication procedures within stable and wider racing industry including reporting requirements in relation to handling horses safely. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * safe handling areas, such as racing stables and race tracks * resources, equipment and materials: * a variety of standardbred or thoroughbred horses assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual and the activity * PPE that is appropriate for activity and correctly fitted for individual * gear and tack appropriate for racehorse and activity * specifications: * work instructions and related documentation * relationships with others: * interactions with supervisor * other people and racehorses in the vicinity of the assessment activity.   Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of guidance provided in the Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training.  Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. |

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