21-21 Remote Forestry Operations Project

Summary of Feedback, Responses and Actions

18 June 2021

This project includes the development of two new units of competency for applying a safety mindset within the *FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package*.

Draft units of competency were made available on the [Skills Impact website](#) for stakeholder review from 18 May to 17 June 2021. Please visit the website to view a full list of the documents that were submitted for consultation during these phases.

Feedback was received from a variety of stakeholders around the country via email, the Skills Impact Feedback Hub, webinars, via phone and email, as follows:

	ACT*	NSW	NT*	Qld	SA*	Tas	Vic	WA*	National*
Industry (employer / employee)		🟩				🟩	🟩		🟩
Industry association**									
Union**									
Registered Training Organisation (RTO)						🟩	🟩		
Government department				🟩					

* Feedback has been received from a national forestry service provider organisation. No specific feedback received from ACT, NT, SA, or WA because the ACT has no forestry sector, the NT has a very small forestry sector while all other jurisdictions were represented by Subject Matter Experts during the development stage. The participants were kept informed of the public consultations but provided no additional comments at this stage.
** Industry associations and the Construction Forestry Maritime Mining and Energy Union have been kept informed but have not provided any specific feedback on components at this stage.

Feedback received during the 'drafts available' period for the units of competency has been positive, with minor changes or updates suggested by stakeholders.

Below is a summary of the feedback raised for the draft units of competency developed and reviewed for the Remote Forestry Operations project, and how these have been dealt with. This involves a consideration of the information provided, views of industry stakeholders and from people who are part of the Subject Matter Expert Working Group (SMEWG) process. Resolutions are constructed to consider the needs and views of stakeholders to the extent possible, and to comply with the *Standards for Training Package 2012*. The resolutions may represent a compromise on one or more stakeholder views with the aim of a workable outcome for industry, State and Territory Training Authorities (STAs) and training providers.

Acronyms - PC – Performance Criteria, PE – Performance Evidence, KE – Knowledge Evidence, AC – Assessment Conditions, SMEs – Subject Matter Experts

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Summary of Feedback on Draft Units of Competency

New Units of Competency

General Feedback

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
Industry (National)	Thanks for this, and I must say I have certainly enjoyed being a part of this process. The units are looking very good. I am looking forward to seeing them rolled out with the relevant training guides and material.	We appreciate your comments and participation in this project.
Industry (VIC)	All the [safety] units look good to me.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
Government Department (QLD)	I have reviewed the units of competency and think the mapping of the skills and knowledge has been done very well.	Thank you for your feedback and support.

FWPCOT3XXX Apply situational awareness and a safety mindset in operational forestry roles

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
Government Department (QLD)	Could not see any reference to First Aid onsite? Even if First Aid certificates have been removed from the core, their still needs to be a reference to First aid kits onsite.	Thank you for your comment. Suggestion adopted - PC 1.4 has been amended as follows: *1.4 Confirm location and procedures for accessing First Aid kit on site*
Industry (VIC)	Regarding PC 5.1, some awareness training on the effects of drugs, alcohol, sleep, mindfulness, fatigue required here.	Thank you for your comments. Suggestion adopted – renumbered PC 5.1 has been amended as follows: *5.1 Comply with workplace procedures for reducing the workplace health and safety risks associated with fatigue, stress, drugs and alcohol, sleep deprivation and remoteness*
	Regarding Foundation Skills, recognise here that some timber industry workers struggle with aspects of LLN	Thank you for your feedback and suggestion adopted - FS amended to indicate routine reading, numeracy and writing skills. See example below:

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
		Read routine workplace instructions and interpret workplace safety signage

	Regarding KE (bullet point 9 to 14), how will this be conveyed to learners? Will there be a mental health and wellness awareness session included in the delivery? Could be very difficult for a learner to demonstrate knowledge and competence with statements like this that aren't measurable.	Thank you for your feedback. KE items have been amended as follows:
		
		• *reasons for following safe work procedures*
		• *hazards and associated risks in forestry operations*
		• *types of risk control measures used in forestry operations*
		• *principles of situational awareness*
		   • *shows vigilance when approaching known hazards*
		   • *identifies potential problems from available information*
		   • *monitors changes in work environment*
		   • *resolves uncertainty by seeking further information*
		   • *verifies assumptions before proceeding*
		• *principles of effective team work*
		• *types and operation of electronic communication systems*
		• *safe procedures for working in isolated, remote or out of line of sight situations*
		• *characteristics of being fit for work*
		• *reasons for reporting physically and psychologically fit for work*
		• *signs of stress and fatigue in self and others*
		• *techniques appropriate for operators for avoiding, reducing and coping with stress, remoteness and fatigue*
		• *techniques for maintaining personal effectiveness and concentration under periods of stress and high workload*
		• *techniques for identifying personal limitations.*
		
		Decisions about the mode of delivery are made by the training provider. In each of the KE points, it is required that the training provider uses specific and appropriate techniques for addressing each of the knowledge requirements.

Industry (National)	Regarding KE (bullet point 9 to 14) - agrees with the stakeholder's comments above.	Thank you for your feedback and KE items have been amended as follows:
		
		• *reasons for following safe work procedures*
		• *hazards and associated risks in forestry operations*
		• *types of risk control measures used in forestry operations*
		• *principles of situational awareness*
		   • *shows vigilance when approaching known hazards*
		   • *identifies potential problems from available information*

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
		• *monitors changes in work environment* • *resolves uncertainty by seeking further information* • *verifies assumptions before proceeding* • *principles of effective team work* • *types and operation of electronic communication systems* • *safe procedures for working in isolated, remote or out of line of sight situations* • *characteristics of being fit for work* • *reasons for reporting physically and psychologically fit for work* • *signs of stress and fatigue in self and others* • *techniques appropriate for operators for avoiding, reducing and coping with stress, remoteness and fatigue* • *techniques for maintaining personal effectiveness and concentration under periods of stress and high workload* • *techniques for identifying personal limitations.*
Industry (NSW)	I don't have any comments all looks good.	Thank you for your feedback and support.
Industry (TAS)	Believe that 'leadership' this out of the scope for an operator, could be reworded safety principles for operation personnel	Thank you for your comment. Suggestion adopted - PC has been amended as follows: *1.6 Share learnings from incidents and near misses with other team members to improve workplace safety*
	Regarding KE (bullet point 9 to 14), agreed - this seems it would be difficult for the learner to demonstrate regardless of who you are. It is very difficult to recognise other people's safety mindsets	KE items amended. Additional information is provided above.
RTO (TAS)	1.4 Identify the current safety mindsets of self, team members and others…. Maybe they could identify their **own** safety mindset – but no idea how they would identify mindset of **team members and others on site** – how can you know what others are thinking/feeling? – you can only make a judgement based on behaviour. And who are the others on site??? A contractor they have only seen once before; a truck driver they see once a day?	PC 1.4 deleted

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	They can certainly implement and monitor procedures to minimise risks, but no idea how they identify a mind set in others	
	5.1 Report physically and psychologically for work: So if they have a sore shoulder that does not impact on their ability to drive a piece of machinery – are they not to report physically fit for work? If they have some psychological issues – family issues, COVID, money stress etc – who judges who is ok to work and who isn't. Or if they turn up and say they are fit for work then you are obliged to let them work, or do all Assessors now complete psychology 101 as well as their assessor quals?	PC 5.1 deleted
	Knowledge evidence: Techniques for recognising other people's safety mindsets: This is a very difficult tasks to verify. Again – you would be looking at behaviours, not attitudes.	KE amended as indicated above.
RTO (VIC)	Regarding "when working alone" in the Application - Assume they are still part of a team or element 3 won't apply, or is this for lone forestry workers?	Thank you for your feedback and suggestion adopted - The wording in Application has been amended as follows: *This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required for applying situational awareness and a safety mindset while performing operational forestry-related tasks in team situations or when working in isolated, remote or out of line of sight situations.*
	Element 1 - Sequencing comment. The learner has an WHS prerequisite. Workers would undertake some kind of job safety analysis for the work area and tasks at the start - identification of hazards and risks etc. as in 2.1.	Thank you for your feedback and suggestion adopted – PC1.1 has been amended as follows: *1.1 Follow safe work procedures and safety instructions from supervisors for controlling risks identified in the work area*

FWPCOT4XXX Apply a safety mindset in forestry operations

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
Industry (NSW)	I don't have any comments all looks good.	Thanks for your feedback.
RTO (VIC)	Regarding the name of Element 5- Use coping techniques? These are in the KE to support the wording	Thanks for your feedback. Suggestion adopted – Element name has been amended as follows: *6. Apply procedures for dealing with stress, remoteness and fatigue*