### Evidence Guide

**What evidence is required to demonstrate competence for this standard as a whole?**

Competence in assisting in preparing facilities for shearing and crutching requires evidence of the ability to work under direction of owner/classer, and clean and maintain shearing facilities to industry standards. It also requires the ability to arrange materials and supplies, and carry out minor repairs. Evidence must also be demonstrated in the employment of safe workplace and positive environmental practices. The skills and knowledge required to assist in the preparation of facilities for shearing and crutching must be transferable to a different work environment. For example, this could include different shearing sheds, owner/classers, and enterprise procedures.

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<tr>
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<th>Are there other competency standards that could be assessed with this one?</th>
<th>Assessment guide</th>
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| Knowledge and understanding are essential to apply this standard in the workplace, to transfer the skills to other contexts, and to deal with unplanned events. The knowledge requirements for this competency standard are listed below:  
- maintenance and hygiene requirements of shearing sheds, boards and catching pens  
- OHS legislative requirements  
- National codes of practice for the Shearing Industry (Health, Safety and Welfare standards). | To achieve the performance criteria, appropriate literacy and numeracy levels as well as some complimentary skills are required. These include the ability to:  
- maintain contamination and hazard-free environment for shearing and wool handling  
- recognise and report OHS hazards  
- carry out minor maintenance and repairs to equipment and facilities as directed  
- disposal of waste in an environmentally responsible manner as directed  
- communicate verbally with owner/classer and follow instructions. | This competency standard could be assessed on its own or in combination with other competencies relevant to the job function. | There is essential information about assessing this competency standard for consistent performance and where and how it may be assessed, in the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package. All users of these competency standards must have access to the Assessment Guidelines. Further advice may also be sought from the relevant Sector Booklet. |

**Key Terms and Concepts**

- animal welfare
- catching pens
- cleaning and maintenance
- contaminants
- environmental requirements
- equipment and machinery
- fleece
- hazard identification
- hygiene
- malfunctions
- manual handling
- occupational health and safety (OHS)
- personal protective equipment (PPE)
- pre-shearing audit
- risk assessment
- shearing shed facilities
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|  |  |  |  | • waste disposal  
• wool clip  
• wool harvesting Total Quality Management systems  
• wool packs |
<table>
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<th>Performance Criteria</th>
<th>Range of Variables</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prepare equipment</td>
<td>Facilities are inspected with owner/classer to determine the degree of preparation required.</td>
<td>The Range of Variables explains the range of contexts within which the performance and knowledge requirements of this standard may be assessed. The scope of variables chosen in training and assessment may depend on the work situations available. For more information on contexts, environment and variables for training and assessment refer to the Sector Booklet. What types of facilities may be inspected and assessed? Facilities may include shearing and wool handling area of the shearing shed. It may also include bin labelling for fleece and non-fleece types. What types of equipment might be checked? This may include wool tables, wool pack holders, brooms/scrapers and wool presses.</td>
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<td>1.1</td>
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<td>1.2</td>
<td>Facilities and equipment are cleaned to industry standards and hazards are eliminated according to OHS requirements, and as directed.</td>
<td>What cleaning may be required? Hygiene of the shearing shed and wool handling areas must be strictly controlled and will require the removal of all pieces of fleece/fibre, dirt, dust and any propylene fibre. What OHS requirements may be applicable to this standard? Safe systems and procedures for: • hazard and risk control measures • manual handling, including lifting and carrying • fleece/fibre handling and harvesting</td>
<td>Learning experiences for the HSC must address: Cleaning and maintenance of equipment and facilities including: • removal of contaminants including dirt, dust, contaminant fibres, rubbish, baling twine, fertiliser and feed bags • storage of unnecessary equipment • elimination of identified hazards • lubrication and maintenance of machinery. Safe use of cleaning agents according to manufacturers specifications: • product labels • Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).</td>
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<td><strong>Contaminating</strong> substances are identified, removed and disposed of according to enterprise and environmental requirements, and as instructed.</td>
<td>• the protection from electrical hazards, hazardous noise and organic and other dusts &lt;br&gt; • the handling and storage of hazardous substances &lt;br&gt; • the appropriate use of personal protective equipment.</td>
<td>Safe work practices including: &lt;br&gt; • risk assessment &lt;br&gt; • hazard reduction &lt;br&gt; • manual handling procedures including lifting and carrying &lt;br&gt; • personal protective equipment (PPE).</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
<td>What fleece/fibre contaminants might be identified for removal? &lt;br&gt;This may include burrs and vegetable matter, shed debris, dust, chemicals, dark or medullated fibre, non-animal fibrous material (polypropylene, jute, other rope, strings), non-sheep fibres (feathers, dog, rodent, cattle or goat hair), solid objects and rubbish. &lt;br&gt;What enterprise requirements may apply to this standard? &lt;br&gt;SOP, industry standards, Total Quality Management standards, product labels, manufacturers specifications, MSDS, operators manuals, enterprise policies and procedures (including waste disposal, recycling and re-use), and reporting requirements.</td>
<td><strong>Learning experiences for the HSC must address:</strong> &lt;br&gt;Procedures for the removal of potential wool clip contaminants prior to and during shearing from the shearing shed and sheep yards. &lt;br&gt;Knowledge of a range of fleece and fibre contaminants including: &lt;br&gt;• common physical contaminants &lt;br&gt;  – baling twine &lt;br&gt;  – fertiliser bags &lt;br&gt;  – bale fasteners &lt;br&gt;  – fencing wire &lt;br&gt;  – human clothing &lt;br&gt;  – wool hooks &lt;br&gt;  – boots &lt;br&gt;  – bolt latches for gates &lt;br&gt;  – cigarette butts &lt;br&gt;  – dust &lt;br&gt;• common wool contaminants &lt;br&gt;  – vegetable matter &lt;br&gt;  – urine stain &lt;br&gt;  – dung stain &lt;br&gt;  – flystrike stain &lt;br&gt;  – unscourable branding stain &lt;br&gt;  – water stains &lt;br&gt;  – black wool &lt;br&gt;  – chemicals &lt;br&gt;  – medullated fibres &lt;br&gt;  – foreign fibres from other animals that have been in the shed &lt;br&gt;  • cashmere &lt;br&gt;  • angora &lt;br&gt;  • alpaca &lt;br&gt;  • dog.</td>
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| 1.4     | Equipment faults or malfunctions are reported to owner/classer. |                   | Knowledge of wool harvesting Total Quality Management systems in accordance with enterprise requirements including:  
- procedures set out to minimise contamination of the wool clip  
- pre-shearing audit  
- instructions and procedures to follow during shearing  
- separate meal areas from the wool working area  
- no smoking in the shed  
- dogs kept out of the wool working area  
- boots to be cleaned before entering the wool working area.  
Removal and disposal of contaminated substances in accordance with enterprise and environmental requirements including:  
- disposal in a safe and environmentally responsible manner  
- removal from work site  
- storage until end of shearing  
- provision of rubbish bins  
- regular emptying of rubbish bins. |
| 1.5     | Suitable personal protective equipment is selected, used and maintained according to OHS requirements. | What OHS requirements may be applicable to this standard?  
Safe systems and procedures for:  
- hazard and risk control measures  
- manual handling, including lifting and carrying  
- fleece/fibre handling and harvesting | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
Knowledge of a range of equipment faults including:  
- mechanical breakdown  
- worn parts  
- loss of efficiency in function  
- unusual noise, appearance and/or smell  
- unsafe equipment.  
Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
Selection, use, maintenance and storage of PPE appropriate to the work task including:  
- footwear  
- long pants and shirt  
- sunscreen and hat  
- eye protection – safety glasses. |
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| 2       | Arrange equipment and materials | • the protection from electrical hazards, hazardous noise and organic and other dusts  
• the handling and storage of hazardous substances  
• the appropriate use of personal protective equipment. | Maintenance of PPE according to manufacturer’s instructions and enterprise Standard Operating Procedures (SOP):  
• cleaning and decontamination  
• correct storage  
• regular checks for damage  
• repair/replacement of worn, malfunctioning or damaged equipment/parts  
• disposal of single-use equipment. |
| 2.1     | Equipment is positioned according to owner/classers requirements. | What range of materials and supplies may be provided for shearing operations?  
This may include brooms, board scrapers, stencils and ink, fleece bins and rubbish bins, paddles, press, wool packs, trolley, bale hooks and fasteners, non-contaminating branding fluid, and first aid supplies.  
What types of equipment might be checked?  
This may include wool tables, wool pack holders, brooms/scrapers and wool presses. | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
An awareness of appropriate positioning of equipment with consideration for the following:  
• manual handling  
• needs of owner/classer  
• instructions given to workers  
• case of access  
• frequency of usage.  
Knowledge of the purpose of a range of materials and equipment provided for shearing operations including:  
• brooms  
• board scrapers  
• stencils and ink  
• fleece bins  
• rubbish bins  
• paddles  
• press  
• wool packs and wool pack holders  
• wool tables  
• trolley  
• bale hooks and fasteners  
• non-contaminating branding fluid  
• first aid supplies. |
| 2.2     | Bins/wool packs are arranged according to instructions. | What enterprise requirements may apply to this standard?  
SOP, industry standards, Total Quality Management standards, product labels, manufacturers specifications, MSDS, operators manuals, enterprise policies and procedures | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
Appropriate arrangement of bins/wool packs with consideration for the following:  
• manual handling risks  
• needs of owner/classer  
• instructions given |
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| 2.3 Brooms/scrapers are positioned according to requirements. | (including waste disposal, recycling and re-use), and reporting requirements. | • ease of access  
• number of wool and oddment lines. | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
Safe and appropriate positioning of brooms/scrapers with consideration for the following:  
• trip hazards  
• ease of access  
• needs of shed hands, shearers and other workers. |
| 3 Identify hazards and dispose of contaminants | | | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
Knowledge of potential hazards within shearing sheds including:  
• physical  
  – protruding objects (including nails)  
  – slippery surfaces and trip hazards  
  – unsafe equipment  
  – loose floor boards  
  – unguarded equipment  
  – faulty equipment  
• chemical  
  – exposure to chemicals/fuel  
• environmental  
  – location of electrical leads and other equipment  
  – excessive noise  
  – excessive dust  
  – solar radiation  
  – lighting  
  – inadequate ventilation  
• co-workers  
  – risks associated with a wool hook  
• personal  
  – personal hygiene  
  – dehydration.  
Methods of reporting including:  
• meeting with owner/classer  
• conversation  
• note/memo board. |
| 3.1 Potential and existing hazards are identified and reported to owner/classer. | What existing and potential hazards to health and safety may be identified?  
Hazards may include loose floor boards and protruding nails, inadequately maintained, unguarded and faulty equipment, inappropriately located electrical leads and cabling, exposure to fuel and other chemicals (e.g. diazinon), exposure to excessive noise and dust, exposure to solar radiation, inadequate lighting in handling areas, stairs and ramps, inadequate ventilation, and draught control. | | |
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<td>3.2</td>
<td>Directions of owner/classer are followed in eliminating hazards.</td>
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<td>Learning experiences for the HSC must address:</td>
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| 4       | Pen sheep            | 4.1 Work is undertaken in conjunction with shed manager/other shed staff to ensure sheep are penned for shearing or crutching. | Penning sheep including:  
- jobs and roles are identified and effectively communicated  
- awareness of animal welfare and safety  
- gates are closed.  
Working collaboratively to complete tasks. |

**What processes should be applied to this competency standard?**

There are a number of processes that are learnt throughout work and life, which 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. The questions below highlight how these processes are applied in this competency standard. Following each question a number in brackets indicates the level to which the key competency needs to be demonstrated where 0 = not required 1 = perform the process 2 = perform and administer the process 3 = perform, administer and design the process.

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Key Competency</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. How can communication of ideas and information (1) be applied?</td>
<td>Information with regard to the need to arrange equipment and facilities may be discussed with the owner/classer.</td>
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<td>2. How can information be collected, analysed and organised (1)?</td>
<td>Information and instructions with regard to industry requirements for the preparation of shearing facilities may be accessed and referred.</td>
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<td>3. How are activities planned and organised (1)?</td>
<td>Basic repairs and maintenance to equipment and facilities are carried out prior to shearing operations as directed.</td>
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<td>4. How can team work (1) be applied?</td>
<td>Team work may be applied in the efficient preparation of safe and hygienic shearing equipment and facilities with timeframes.</td>
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<td>5. How can the use of mathematical ideas and techniques (1) be applied?</td>
<td>Mathematics may be applied in the calculation of how many sheep need to be penned in relation to cutouts.</td>
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<td>6. How can problem-solving skills (1) be applied?</td>
<td>In organizing sheep numbers in catching pens at cutouts.</td>
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<td>7. How can the use of technology (1) be applied?</td>
<td>Technology may be used to communicate.</td>
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