



Transport Education Training Authority
Heart of Skills Innovation



Occupational Qualification and Occupational Curriculum Project

Organising Framework of Occupations (OFO) Code:	653201
Occupation:	Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic
Specialisation	Aircraft Mechanic
Document Type:	Occupational Profile
Status:	Industry verification
Due Date:	24 August 2015


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Introduction

1. Overview of new qualification landscape

- 1.1. The QCTO is one of the three Quality Councils provided for in the National Qualifications Framework Act (NQF Act No 67 of 2008)
- 1.2. The QCTO was established under the Skills Development Act and became operational on the 1st April 2010 following the publication of Government Gazette No 33059, 1st April 2010
- 1.3. The QCTO has been putting in place the necessary building blocks to operate since its establishment. On 20th July 2011 it officially started delegating functions to the first Development Quality Partners (DQPs) and have gradually entered into such relationships with more DQPs since then

2. Development Quality Partners


- 2.1. These are bodies delegated by the QCTO to manage the process of developing specific occupational qualifications, curricula and assessment specifications.
- 2.2. DQPs manage / coordinate and fund the development of occupational qualifications.
- 2.3. The broader occupational constituency (stakeholders with an interest in the occupation) must identify and agree on a suitable body to perform these activities.

3. Occupational qualifications

- 3.1. An occupational qualification defines the learning required to be competent to practice an occupation.
- 3.2. These are associated with a trade, occupation or profession, resulting from work-based learning and consisting of knowledge unit standards, practical unit standards and work experience unit standards as defined in the Skills Development Act and has an external summative assessment
- 3.3. All occupational qualifications are linked to the Organising Framework for Occupations (OFO)

4. Occupational curriculum

- 4.1. Occupational qualifications are based on the development of occupational curricula. The occupational curricula document provides an outline of the following:
- 4.2. Occupational profile - based on occupational tasks
- 4.3. Learning components in the form of Specifications for:
 - Subjects constituted from the theory and knowledge

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- Practical skills modules constituted from the practical skills that provide the essential skills for the work with its associated applied knowledge
- Work experience modules constituted from work experiences that would develop occupational competence with its associated workplace knowledge

4.4. These Specifications contain the internal assessment criteria and provider accreditation or workplace approval requirements.

5. Integrated External Summative Assessment Specifications

5.1. All occupational qualifications will be assessed externally through an appropriate nationally standardised integrated summative assessment.

5.2. Each occupational qualification will have an associated qualification assessment specifications document to focus on occupational competence and enhance consistency, quality and credibility of the external assessment process.


5.3. Qualification assessment specifications provide an outline of:

- external assessment strategy: method to be used, qualification outcomes and assessment standards
- key occupational outcomes to be assessed: linked to occupational tasks and the specified critical external assessment focus areas
- points or specific times when external assessment must take place: phase tests, particular points in the activity cycle
- critical elements of the internal assessments to be moderated (if any)
- eligibility requirements for learners to access the external assessment
- criteria for registration of assessors.

At this stage of the process the detailed content of this section is not available but will be submitted on completion of the occupational curriculum

6. Occupational profile

6.1. The occupational profile is one of the results of the curriculum development process and provides the basis for the development of the curriculum content of the specific occupation or occupational specialisation. It comprises an occupational purpose and the occupational tasks that are performed by practitioners of the occupation or specialisation. Each task is also broken down into a related product or service, one or more occupational responsibility and one or more occupational context.

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The occupational profile forms the unit of analysis for the development of the curriculum components as well as the external summative assessment specifications.


7. Process Background

7.1. The Transport Education and Training Authority (TETA) submitted various applications to the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) to generate occupational and trade qualifications:

OFO Code	OFO Title	Specialisation
311102	Meteorologist	Meteorological Technician
653201	Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic	Aircraft Mechanic
653202	Aircraft Structures Worker	Aircraft Structures Technician
672101	Avionics Mechanician	Avionics Mechanic
315501	Airborne Electronics Analyst	Air Traffic Safety Electronic Practitioner
132401	Supply and Distribution Manager	Customs Compliance Manager
734301	Crane or Hoist Operator	Lift Machine Operator
734301	Crane or Hoist Operator	Mobile Elevated Work Platform Specialist
734402	Forklift Driver	Lift Truck Operator
313301	Chemical Plant Controller	Fuel Transportation Pipeline Controller
653306	Diesel Mechanic	Locomotive Diesel Electrical Fitter
671101	Electrician	Rolling Stock Electrical Fitter
684905	Vehicle Body Builder	
672107	Special Class Electrician	Railway Signalling Maintenance Worker

7.2. QCTO have specific requirements to be met in the development of occupational qualifications and curricula and therefore initial meetings were held, referred to as Scoping Workshops. The following decisions were confirmed at these workshops:

- TETA as the QCTO's Development Quality Partner (DQP) to resource, co-ordinate and manage the development process
- Identification of Learner Qualification Development Facilitators (LQDFs)

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- The scope of each of the occupational qualifications
- Different industry bodies as well as the TETA as the QCTO’s Assessment Quality Partner (AQP) for the various different qualifications to manage the external assessment process
- The process for nominating expert practitioners (subject matter experts) as well as training providers to the working groups at various stages of the development process
- Project dates including working group meetings, verifications to be completed and final submission

7.3. The second set of workshops were the Occupational Profiling workshops where all 14 occupational profiles for the occupations listed above were generated.

7.4. These Occupational Profiles lay the foundation for the curricula content and occupational qualifications for the specific occupations, which will replace any unit standards-based qualifications or specific industry qualifications for these specific occupations.

8. Verification Process


8.1. As part of the QCTO process of developing occupational qualifications and curricula different documents will be submitted to the broader industry stakeholders for verification. The three documents that will be submitted for verification are the:

- Occupational Profile
- Curriculum learning component specifications including:
 - ✓ Subjects (theory and knowledge)
 - ✓ Practical skills modules
 - ✓ Work experience modules
- Assessment Specifications

At this stage of the process ONLY the Occupational Profiles referred to above are being submitted for verification


9. Process Status and Actions Required

9.1. Please note that you will be receiving three more of these types of documents as identified in the bullet points under point 8.1 above. These documents will be distributed by the DQP and you will be requested to comment within a specific time period. Your comments must be submitted electronically (preferably) and in the format template provided. This is what is referred to by the QCTO as the “Verification Process”

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- 9.2. This is the verification process for the **occupational profile ONLY**, which has been attached for your comment.
- 9.3. Please complete the questions asked in relation to the various sections of the occupational profile. If your response is a disagreement with any of the sections, please provide additional comments and suggestions in order to provide sufficient information to make an amendment.
- 9.4. Please submit your responses, comments, suggestions or change requests to:
- Ms Fulufhelo Ratshibvumo
 - E-mail: fulufhelor@teta.org.za

Due date: **24 August 2015**

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10. Evaluation and Verification Questionnaire

Occupation Title:	Aircraft Mechanic
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PLEASE INSERT AN “X” IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS WHERE NECESSARY

Occupational title

- Is Aircraft Mechanic the most appropriate title?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	Click here to enter text.


Occupational Purpose

- Does this reflect what you think the key focus of any Aircraft Mechanic's work is?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	Click here to enter text.

Occupational Task Statements

- Do these tasks reflect the key performance areas of a Aircraft Mechanic's work?
- Are these the various steps in the production cycle, business processes or value chain of a Aircraft Mechanic's work?
- Are these the overarching occupational responsibilities of a Aircraft Mechanic?

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<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	Click here to enter text.

Products or services

- Are these the unique products or services produced or delivered by an Aircraft Mechanic?
- Would an Aircraft Mechanic be asked to do this or provide this?
- Would an Aircraft Mechanic be paid for providing or doing this?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	Click here to enter text.

Occupational Responsibilities

- Do these reflect what an Aircraft Mechanic must do to deliver the service or produce the product?
- Are these the highest level activities that best describe the overall responsibilities?
- Do these statements of responsibility reflect an overarching statement for the building blocks in the form of practical skills?
- Are these the steps that must be taken in order to deliver the product or service?
- Do these represent the skills required to deliver the product or service?
- Do these statements represent what a Aircraft Mechanic must be able to do or learn to do?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	

Occupational Contexts

- Are these the occupational context/s within which the product or service must be delivered?
- Are these the key processes that a Aircraft Mechanic must be exposed to in the workplace?
- Are these the key physical settings or situations that a Aircraft Mechanic must be exposed to in the workplace?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	Click here to enter text.

External assessment

- Is the preliminary information reflected here the most cost-effective and reliable way of assessing the competence of a Aircraft Mechanic?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I accept the content as reflected
<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't accept the content. I would propose:
Additional comments for clarity, suggestions and inclusion	

11. Occupational Profile

OFO code	653201
Occupation	Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic
Specialisation	Aircraft Mechanic

1. Occupational Purpose

An Aircraft Mechanic inspects, tests, repairs and installs the structural, mechanical and electronic components of an aircraft.


2. Occupational Tasks

- (1) Oversees aircraft safety and performs routine maintenance checks (NQF Level 4)
- (2) Inspects, tests and repairs aircraft mechanical and electrical components (NQF Level 4)
- (3) Inspects, tests and repairs aircraft structural components and accessories (NQF Level 4)
- (4) Inspects, tests and repair aircraft engine components (NQF Level 4)

3. Occupational Task Details

3.1 Oversees aircraft safety and performs routine maintenance checks (NQF Level 4)

Unique Product or Service:

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Updated maintenance log

Occupational Responsibilities

- Perform first-aid and fire-fighting as first responders
- Repair and install trade related hand tools
- Perform routine maintenance checks
- Repair and overhaul of aircraft components

Occupational Contexts:

Routine maintenance procedures on aircrafts

3.2. Inspects, tests and repairs aircraft mechanical and electrical components (NQF Level 4)

Unique Product or Service:


Working mechanical and electrical components

Occupational Responsibilities:

- Inspect and test the mechanics of flight (low and high speed)
- Inspect and test aircraft mechanical and electrical instruments and components
- Inspect, maintain and repair helicopters specific mechanical components

Occupational Contexts:

Aircraft mechanical and electrical maintenance procedures

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3.3. Inspects, tests and repairs aircraft structural components and accessories (NQF Level 4)

Unique Product or Service:

Maintained aircraft structural components and accessories

Occupational Responsibilities:

- Inspect and maintain aircraft airframe systems
- Inspect, check and test hydraulic system components
- Inspect aircraft fuel systems
- Test aircraft batteries
- Assemble, inspect and maintain aircraft propellers
- Test solid and flexible tubing in aircraft structures
- Repair rotorcraft
- Inspect aircraft structures, composites, fabrics and plastics

Occupational Contexts:

Airframe maintenance processes

3.4 Inspects, tests and repairs aircraft engine components (NQF Level 4)

Unique Product or Service:


Maintained aircraft engines

Occupational Responsibilities:

- Inspect and maintain aircraft engines
- Align engine measuring instruments
- Conduct reciprocating and gas turbine engine engineering practises
- **Inspect and maintain aircraft piston engines and transmissions**

Occupational Contexts:

Aircraft engine inspection and testing processes

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