

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 6.0.

FWPCOT3XXX	Use chainsaw off ground
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to operate a chainsaw off ground safely. This unit includes planning for work, identifying hazards and risks associated with using chainsaws off ground, assessing worksite conditions, operating chainsaws off ground and carrying out routine chainsaw maintenance.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who use chainsaws off ground when conducting tree trimming or dismantling work whilst working at height in arboriculture settings.</p> <p>All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.</p> <p>No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Common Technical

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare for work	<p>1.1 Review work order or instruction to determine job requirements and, where required, seek clarification from appropriate personnel</p> <p>1.2 Review workplace health and safety procedures, including the use of personal protective equipment, lockout procedures and safe manual handling techniques</p> <p>1.3 Identify, assess and take actions to mitigate risks and hazards associated with using chainsaws off ground</p> <p>1.4 Identify workplace environmental protection procedures for protecting natural and cultural assets, minimising and disposing of waste material, recycling and reusing materials and cleaning plant, tools and equipment</p> <p>1.5 Identify emergency plan procedures to follow in the event of an emergency</p> <p>1.6 Erect warning and prohibition signs to indicate a hazardous worksite and that unauthorised access is prohibited according to workplace safety procedures</p> <p>1.7 Consult with appropriate personnel to ensure that work is coordinated effectively with others in the workplace</p> <p>1.8 Obtain chainsaw appropriate for the task, height access equipment and other tools and equipment needed for the work and check for correct operation and safety according to manufacturer recommendations and workplace procedures</p> <p>1.9 Ensure that a minimum of two people are present during working at height operations and that one person is available on the ground, competent and equipped to perform aerial rescue</p> <p>1.10 Identify, assess and determine cutting requirements according to work order or instruction</p>

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2. Visually assess site conditions and surroundings	<p>2.1 Inspect site for conditions likely to affect safe use of chainsaw off ground</p> <p>2.2 Observe weather conditions and assess likely impact on safe use of chainsaw off ground</p> <p>2.3 Identify and report site environmental conditions to appropriate personnel</p> <p>2.4 Determine work area and implement control measures to minimise risks and hazards in the area according to safe work procedures</p> <p>2.5 Monitor location and activity of other personnel on the worksite and implement control measures according to workplace safety procedures</p>
3. Start chainsaw on ground	<p>3.1 Fuel and lubricate saw on the ground according to manufacturer instructions and workplace procedures</p> <p>3.2 Perform prestart checks on chainsaw according to manufacturer instructions and workplace procedures</p> <p>3.3 Start chainsaw using cold and warm starting methods on the ground according to workplace safety procedures</p> <p>3.4 Select, communicate to team members and apply appropriate method for sending chainsaw to the operator according to workplace health and safety procedures</p>
4. Use chainsaw off ground	<p>4.1 Access tree safely and ensure that body positioning and movements are safe and ergonomically efficient according to workplace safety procedures</p> <p>4.2 Secure chainsaw whilst at height by means of a suitable lanyard</p> <p>4.3 Obtain the best available working position to minimise risk of being struck by saw or by severed pieces of wood</p> <p>4.4 Check that the chain of the saw is clear of obstructions, including climbing equipment, protective clothing or parts of the tree, before restarting in the tree</p> <p>4.5 Start chainsaw according to manufacturer instructions and workplace safety procedures</p> <p>4.6 Obtain confirmation from ground crew before performing cuts using the call and response protocol</p> <p>4.7 Maintain proper control of the saw by gripping with two hands, wherever possible, and keeping saw well clear of body and climbing equipment at all times according to workplace safety procedures</p> <p>4.8 Select and accurately apply a range of appropriate cuts to achieve required behaviour of cut piece according to workplace procedures</p> <p>4.9 Ensure that chainsaw is switched off, or the chain brake applied, after each cutting operation</p> <p>4.10 Apply safe technique for freeing a trapped chainsaw according to workplace safety procedures</p> <p>4.11 Apply safe cutting techniques and work positioning to complete operational tasks according to work order or work instructions</p> <p>4.12 Apply safe methods for returning chainsaw to the ground for refuelling according to workplace safety procedures</p>
5. Carry out machine operator maintenance	<p>5.1 Follow workplace safety procedures and manufacturer instructions to lock out equipment</p> <p>5.2 Inspect chainsaw on completion of cutting activities</p> <p>5.3 Identify damage to chainsaw and cutting attachments and tag for repair, service or replacement according to workplace requirements and manufacturer recommendations</p> <p>5.4 Remove, clean, adjust or replace chain and other components according to workplace requirements and manufacturer recommendations</p> <p>5.5 Maintain chainsaw and cutting attachments according to safety, workplace and manufacturer requirements</p>

Foundation Skills	
<i>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.</i>	
Skill	Description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record operation and machine maintenance on paper-based or electronic media
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret numerical and graphical information in manufacturer manuals

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
FWPCOT3XXX Use chain saw off ground	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit
Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47		

TITLE	Assessment requirements for FWPCOT3XXX Use chainsaw off ground
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual planned, prepared and safely and effectively operated a chainsaw off the ground on four occasions according to a work order or work instructions. In performing this work, there must be evidence that the individual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistently applied chainsaw cutting techniques to accurately and safely make a selection of cuts to achieve specified behaviours of cut branches or sections whilst working at height, including making the following cuts to within a 10% margin of error of each parameter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • directional felling (scarf and back-cut) of a horizontal branch with a diameter of 600mm or more using a 45° scarf cut 20% of the way into the branch timber, with a facing that is 45° between vertical and horizontal • directional felling (scarf and back-cut) of a head or section of vertical timber with a diameter greater than the bar length of the saw, using a 45° scarf cut to 30% of the diameter of the timber, with a parallel back cut leaving a hinge thickness of 10% of the diameter of the timber • back-release cut of a leaning section or leader, using a 45° scarf cut to 20% of the diameter of the timber, with a parallel back cut leaving a hinge thickness of 10% of the diameter of the timber • selected and performed tree cutting works at height in one tree in close proximity to a structure or other asset. The tree must be a minimum of 15 metres in height and have a minimum canopy spread of 10 metres. There must be a drop zone of no more than 4 square metres available with no access within the remaining drip line of the tree representing structures or other assets to be protected. A variety of cutting techniques must be demonstrated to ensure that all cut pieces land within the drop zone. • carried out routine maintenance on a chainsaw on two occasions. 	
Knowledge Evidence	
<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • types, cc rating, bar length and operation of chainsaws • features and names of different parts of chainsaws • workplace health and safety requirements including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal protective equipment (PPE) and clothing • safety equipment • first aid equipment • firefighting equipment • hazard and risk control procedures • fatigue management procedures • safety signage • safe workplace practices, • hazards and related risks associated with chainsaw use off ground and methods to minimise associated risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical conditions of the site • falls • strains • slips • dehydration • fire • overhead services • carrying saw and equipment • excavations • traffic • features and cutting actions of chainsaw • falling branches • overreaching 	

Knowledge Evidence

- operating saw above head height
- saw nicking
- kickback
- user complacency and fatigue
- one-handed chainsaw use
- structures
- hazardous materials
- insects and animals
- people on or near worksite
- machinery on or near worksite
- height access equipment:
 - belt and harness condition
 - adjustment on user
 - lanyard adjustment
 - chainsaw securing hook
 - specification
 - maintenance
- purpose, features and operation of tools and equipment used in chainsaw use and maintenance activities
- specifications and types of bars, chains and sprockets
- techniques for:
 - removing chains and other chainsaw components
 - assessing chain condition
 - reassembling chainsaw components
- hazards associated with maintaining chainsaws and methods to minimise associated risks:
 - noise
 - fumes
 - mechanical vibration
 - hazardous substances
 - cuts
 - burns
 - rotating parts
- cutting techniques
- safe procedures for raising and lowering chainsaw to and from ground
- workplace procedures specific to chainsaw use off ground:
 - workplace health and safety with particular emphasis on equipment lockout and use of PPE
 - communication reporting lines
 - recording and reporting repairs, maintenance activities and equipment faults
- environmental protection practices relevant to chainsaw use and maintenance:
 - protection of natural and cultural assets
 - cleaning plant, tools and equipment
 - disposing of, recycling and reusing materials
 - disposing of hazardous substances.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - chainsaws
 - height access equipment
 - other tools and equipment needed for using chainsaws off ground and chainsaw maintenance
 - chainsaw consumables
 - trees
 - PPE required in using chainsaws off ground and chainsaw maintenance

Assessment Conditions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• specifications:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• access to work order or instruction detailing off ground chain saw operations to be carried out by operator• access to workplace policies and procedures which cover current workplace health and safety and environmental protection legislation and related industry standards and codes of practice applicable to off ground chain saw operations• access to site emergency procedure• access to workplace safe operating procedures for off ground chain saw operations. <p>Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.</p>	
Links	Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet - https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47