



Fact Sheet: Verification of Competency – Mobile Plant

A number of OFSC criteria reference the requirement to ensure that a ‘competent person’ undertakes a particular task or activity, as identified in the OFSC Evidence Guide.

This Fact Sheet has been developed to provide information regarding the standards and expectations of the OFSC specifically in relation to competency requirements for the operation of mobile plant.

OFSC Audit Criterion H16.8 requires a system to be in place to define the competency requirements for the operation of mobile plant, which may be a combination of licences, formal training through an RTO and/or a Verification of Competency (VoC) process.

VoC is defined within the OFSC Evidence Guide as ‘a method of documented evaluation of the skill level of a person against defined competency standards in order to evaluate the person's ability to carry out the relevant activity or works.’

Accredited companies are required to ensure that workers operating mobile plant are competent, and that there is a system in place to ensure operators of mobile plant have met the minimum legislative requirements. If a company has a system that requires additional verification beyond OFSC requirements, it is expected that the company's defined requirements are followed, and these will be subject to review at OFSC audits.

VoC Requirements for Mobile Plant Operators

1.1 - What IS required:

The following can be used as evidence of competency:

- High-Risk Work Licence issued by a State or Territory under the National Certification System as per the legislation; or
- Where a High-Risk Work Licence is not required by legislation:
- Licence or Certificate of Competency issued under previous State or Territory legislation for which there is no longer a High Risk Work Licence required e.g. loadshifting equipment; or
- Statement of Attainment or Certificate issued by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) for the successful completion of the appropriate unit of competency in the Nationally Recognised Training (NRT) package; or
- evidence of formal VoC assessment against defined competency standards, which should:
 - be completed, or confirmed as having been completed, by the accredited company to an acceptable level, such as the relevant NRT, internal VoC process, or equivalent;
 - include a detailed and documented assessment standard;
 - be completed by a person (or persons) who meets the documented competency as defined by the company to conduct a VoC assessment; and
 - be evidenced by a signed, completed VoC assessment.

1.2 - What is NOT evidence:

- a letter signed by an employer or supervisor claiming that the worker is competent will not, on its own, be accepted as evidence of competence.

1.3 - What is NOT required:

- a further VoC assessment in addition to evidence of a High Risk Work Licence, RTO issued Certificate of Competency, or other accepted processes in section 1.1 of this Fact Sheet; or
- refresher training unless required by the legislation or RTO, or deemed necessary by the company.

Note: While these elements are not specifically required by the OFSC Audit Criteria, this does not limit a company using one or all of these aspects in their processes to manage competency on an ongoing basis

For further information:

- Visit the FSC website at www.fsc.gov.au
- Contact the FSC Assist Line on **1800 652 500**
- Contact the OFSC via email at ofsc@jobs.gov.au

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