

Occupational Area:	Plater, site
Job Role Examples:	Plater, Plating Construction Trade Technician, Plater - Discipline Tradesman
Role Overview:	
<p>Platers within the engineering construction industry prepare steel and other metal plates and sections for the manufacture, repair, maintenance and dismantling of storage tanks, vessels and the other structures contained within oil and gas installations, power generating plants, chemical plants, refineries and food processing plants. Platers work on sheet materials having a thickness greater than 3mm. Their work can also cover the production of the structural steelwork used in the construction of bridges, buildings and oil and gas installations. Platers must be able to read and interpret engineering drawings and are skilled in measuring and marking out, cutting, forming and joining of metal plate and structural steel of varying thickness and size. They may then be responsible for the assembly of manufactured items; this may include the use of lifting equipment before securing the manufactured item, usually using tack welding or temporary mechanical fasteners. Platers use various methods to shape plate, pipe and sections; these range from the more conventional methods involving traditional hand skills and tools associated with metal craft work to more complex methods which may necessitate the use of oxyfuel cutting equipment, plasma cutters, and hand-controlled machines.</p>	
Knowledge & Skills:	
<p>The plater will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the required competencies to prepare steel and other metal plates and sections for the manufacture, repair and maintenance, as well as dismantling, of steel structures and components to the required standard, while adhering to health, safety, environmental regulations, safe working practices and taking into account environmental and sustainability considerations. • Understand the relevant legislative, regulatory and local requirements or procedures and safe working practices, including their responsibilities with regards to reporting lines and procedures. • Understand the preparation and reinstatement requirements in respect of the work area, materials and equipment, and the possible consequences of incorrect actions in these areas. • Be able to read and interpret relevant engineering drawings, related specifications, quality standards and equipment manuals, and to follow work instructions and relevant plans and schedules. • Understand which tools and equipment to use, and when, and will follow relevant training, methods and techniques and quality control and safety procedures for their use. • Understand their responsibilities for ensuring the care, maintenance and security of tools and equipment provided to them for use in the job role. • Understand the types of defects that can occur, how to identify them, and what action to take. • Be able to handle a range of digital information, technology and equipment to support work related tasks and to communicate information. 	
Technical Competencies:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPL01 - Marking out plate and structural steelwork from drawings - safely and accurately measure and mark out a castellated beam and a plate from drawings. • TPL03 - Setting out platework and rolled steel section from drawings - Safely and accurately set out platework and rolled steel section from drawings. • TPL08 - Hot work fabrication and inspection of steelwork - Safely and accurately cut, drill, prepare, tack weld and secure 10mm ferrous steel haunch connection from specifications. • TPF08 Fabricating and installing pipework supports - cold form and install pipework supports using bolting and clamping systems including bending techniques 	



Behaviours:

- Establish and maintain effective working relationships, communicate effectively, and work inclusively to deliver work within given specifications.
- Demonstrate team working skills and interact with team members in a positive and professional manner.
- Work within an overall risk control strategy which has been developed by safety specialists and includes detailed criteria for identifying risks, together with clearly defined procedures for action which must be followed.
- Take personal ownership of, and responsibility for, completing tasks and procedures.
- Follow procedures and relevant codes of standard with integrity and vigour and complete actions and documents accurately and honestly.
- Take responsibility for identifying and reporting instances where procedures or work instructions cannot be met or where a variation in them is required.
- Deal promptly and effectively with problems within their control and report those that have been, and those that cannot be, solved.
- Take responsibility for supervising and mentoring others where appropriate.
- Demonstrate the ability to coordinate work scopes and simops effectively within a wider team, as required.
- Demonstrate effective handover of responsibility and equipment at the end of a task.
- Take responsibility and ownership of personal development, set targets to plan on how these will be achieved.
- Support operational requirements, achieve targets and maintain records as required, thereby minimising backlog and downtime.
- Maintain compliance with legislative requirements and company policies, procedures and standards.
- Maintain and demonstrate ongoing technical competence and skill set to current standards and updates.
- Support innovation and development for improvements.





The Connected Competence standard role profile for a Plater sets out the knowledge and skills, technical competencies and behaviours that are expected from a fully competent Plater in any sector of the engineering construction industry. Attainment of these is achieved through training and on-site experience/exposure and is measured through standardised assessment. Once competence is achieved, regular testing ensures that ongoing competence is maintained.

This supporting document highlights additional requirements that are specific to any engineering construction sector.

Sector Specific Competency Requirements

OFFSHORE - OIL & GAS

Prerequisite/Premobilisation Qualification Requirements

Prior to embarking on the formal assessment cycle, an individual would be expected to have core trade qualifications as a minimum requirement:

- Plating apprenticeship, or
- Relevant trade discipline – shipbuilding, steelwork, sheet metalwork, or
- Relevant vocational qualification (VQ)
- Valid Connected Competence Knowledge Only test or certificate of current technical test(s)

Given the hazardous nature of the working environment, the overall risk control strategy for organisations within the offshore industry will usually require platers to be familiar with, and work within, a formal Permit to Work system. Compliance with a specific company or site safety management system (SMS) will also usually be required. Specialist safety training may also be required as a prerequisite in addition to role specific training.

Oxyacetylene flame cutters, which are still used on onshore sites, are no longer used on offshore installations, where alternative flame cutting equipment will be employed.

Tack welding is often used for securing plates and sections. However, this is additional to the standard role of a plater, especially in an offshore environment.