ROLE PROFILE: PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN

Occupational Area:	Asset/Site – Production
Job Role Examples:	Production Technician, Production Operator, Plant Operator, Production Technician, Production Operator, Operations Technician

Role Overview:

A Production technician should have an overall working knowledge of plant, process and associated equipment for their specific industry. Responsibilities will vary depending on site requirements but will include:

- monitoring and operating equipment,
- gathering data and maintaining records,
- carrying out isolations and de-isolations as required,
- preparation of work permits,
- preparation of complex items of plant and equipment for maintenance,
- preparation of complex items of plant and equipment for start of operations.

Production Technicians are expected to identify production malfunctions or failures within the plant/process/equipment and carry-out first-line corrections if required by the role. This includes interpretation of Process & Instrumentation Drawings (P&ID) drawings and the operation of essential safety equipment. Production Technicians have a good understanding of industrial processes and practices, undertake task-based risk assessments, and mitigate hazards in line with company procedures and able to communicate effectively using multiple formats (verbal, written and I.T based) with other members of staff to provide effective information transfer and shift handover.

Knowledge & Skills:

The Production Technician will:

- Have the required competencies to observe, gather and report process data gathering information, perform isolations, diagnose faults with a wide range of plant/process/equipment and associated components.
- Have knowledge of health, safety and environmental regulations and safe working practices, taking into account environmental and sustainability considerations.
- Understand and follow 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.
- As necessary put forward suggestions and develop modification requests to improve plant/equipment efficiency/safety of operations.
- Understand which tools and equipment to use, and when, and follow relevant training, methods and techniques and quality control and safety procedures for their use.
- Understand the types of defects and faults that can occur and what action to take.
- Utilise a range of process digital information, technology and equipment to support work related tasks and to communicate information.
- Correctly use permitting and authorisation procedures to maintain high levels of plant and personnel safety.
- Be able to read and interpret relevant P&ID drawings, related specifications and quality standards.
- Identify defects in plant/process/equipment and assist with remedial activities where required.
- Awareness of the regulated guidance and organisation requirements for the safe isolations and reinstatement of plant.

Technical Competencies (see supporting notes overleaf);
Given the nature of the working environments and requirements within in each sector, the technical competencies are varied, but may include contextual applications of the following: • Safe isolation and de-isolation, • P&ID drawings, • Safe systems of work. Assurance of base competence is normally achieved through occupational competence at site rather than replicated in a test centre.
Behaviours:
• Put forward suggestions to develop improve plant/process/equipment efficiency and safety of operation. • Establish and maintain effective working relationships, communicate effectively 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, relevant codes and standards maintaining compliance with legislative requirements, company policies and procedures. • Take responsibility for identifying and reporting instances where procedures or work instructions cannot be met or where a variation 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 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 and demonstrate ongoing technical competence and skill set to current standards and updates.

SUPPORTING NOTES: PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN

The Connected Competence standard role profile for a Production Technician / Plant Operative sets out the base knowledge, skills, technical competencies and behaviours that are expected from a fully competent Production Technician / Plant Operative. Once competence is first achieved through training and subsequent qualification, **regular testing** ensures that **ongoing** competence is maintained, against a recognised standard. This supporting document highlights additional requirements that are specific to certain engineering construction sectors.

Sector Specific Competency Requirements

Given the hazardous nature of the working environment, the overall risk control strategy for organisations will usually require production technicians 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. In particular, because of the nature of their role and expertise, production technicians will usually be required to be part of the emergency response team (ERT) for the plant.

OIL & GAS

Qualifications

- (S)VQ Processing Operations: Hydrocarbons at Level 3 or other relevant apprenticeship, or HNC/D with appropriate experience

Prerequisite / Premobilisation requirements - Production technicians will usually be expected to undertake platform specific on-the-job competence training covering topics which may include:

- Process and utility systems
- Off-shore safety induction and emergency response

Due to the site-specific nature of a Production Technician, they may be required to demonstrate asset-specific competence in one or more of the following areas:

- Turbine installations and operation,
- Generator installations and operation,
- Produced water treatment systems,
- Hazard/Non-hazard drain systems,
- Fire water deluge systems,
- Metering systems.

Depending on client work scopes for both Offshore and Onshore sites, further expertise or upskilling including mechanical joint integrity may be required (although not part of the 'minimum' standard).

- Mechanical joint integrity specialist – Test References TMJI10, TMJI11, TMJI18 and TMJI19
- Small bore tubing specialist – Test Reference TSBT01
- Authorised Gas Tester – certified by OPITO

NUCLEAR

Qualifications

- Appropriate apprenticeship or training at Level 3 or HNC/D with appropriate experience

Prerequisite / Premobilisation requirements - Production technicians will usually be expected to undertake specific on-the-job competence training covering topics which may include:

- Reactor operation theory
- Nuclear fuel cycle
- Radiological protection