



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Slinging and Signalling the Movement of Loads (SCQF level 5)

CODE F6RB 11

SUMMARY

This Unit covers essential knowledge and practical experience relating to slinging and signalling the movement of loads. This Unit provides an introduction to identifying different slinging and lifting accessories, and performing a range of signals and commands when working with colleagues to safely sling a load for movement. On completion of this Unit, candidates will be able to determine the correct method and equipment to use to sling a specified load, and use the correct signals and commands to communicate information to colleagues. This will include adhering to Health and Safety regulations and legislation at all times. This Unit is suitable for candidates working towards a Modern Apprenticeship in the Construction Operative and Specialist suite.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Establish the correct procedures for slinging and signalling loads.
- 2 Sling and signal the movement of loads safely and correctly.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, candidates undertaking a National Progression Award at SCQF level 5, as part of a Modern Apprenticeship, must meet the necessary criteria which includes being employed in the relevant industry.

CREDIT VALUE

1.5 credits at SCQF level 5 (9 SCQF credit points at level 5*).

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: TK

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit.

This Unit provides opportunities for candidates to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ *Numeracy* (SCQF level 3)
- ◆ *Working with Others* (SCQF level 3)
- ◆ *Communication* (SCQF level 3)
- ◆ *Problem Solving* (SCQF level 3)

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

OUTCOME 1

Establish the correct procedures for slinging and signalling loads.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select the correct slinging equipment and lifting accessories for the specified task.
- (b) Identify the correct method of slinging a specified type of load.
- (c) Select appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the specified task, in accordance with organisational requirements.

OUTCOME 2

Sling and signal the movement of loads safely and correctly.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Secure the load correctly.
- (b) Communicate relevant signals, instructions and commands to colleagues during the task.
- (c) Remove slinging equipment correctly following use.
- (d) Comply with all current workplace safety and legislative requirements.
- (e) Dispose of waste in accordance with legislative requirements.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates are required to produce evidence to confirm that they have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria outlined in this Unit.

Performance evidence is required to demonstrate the candidate has achieved the standard specified in the Outcomes and Performance Criteria for Outcomes 1 and 2. Performance evidence should be supplemented with an assessor observation/operational checklist and produced at an appropriate interval in training, under supervised conditions, once the candidate has developed the necessary skills and knowledge required to carry out the work.

Performance evidence should be demonstrated by the candidate slinging and signalling the movement of materials or resources that are (at least three of the following):

- ◆ Balanced
- ◆ Unbalanced
- ◆ Loose
- ◆ Bundled
- ◆ In containers or drums

The candidates should be required to use the correct terminology at all times when identifying components and controls of machinery, and carrying out any practical assignments (Outcomes 1 and 2).

As part of the assessment for this Unit, the candidate may also submit written product evidence such as a works checklist or completed risk assessment form. Oral evidence of knowledge and understanding may be demonstrated by the candidate during practical assignments set for Outcomes 1 and 2 and noted at the time by the observer.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time length allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 60 guided learning hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

The Outcomes and Performance Criteria for this Unit can be demonstrated by the candidate slinging and signalling the movement of materials or resources that are (at least three of the following):

- ◆ Balanced
- ◆ Unbalanced
- ◆ Loose
- ◆ Bundled
- ◆ In containers or drums

Candidates may also be required to use lifting accessories such as steel wire rope, chain, slings and shackles.

The content and context of this Unit has been set at an introductory level so that candidates can develop a basic knowledge and ability in slinging and signalling loads to be moved within a construction environment.

Health and Safety are vital to working practices within the construction industry and therefore, emphasis will be placed wherever appropriate during the delivery of this Unit on the correct application of Health and Safety principles and processes, in accordance with current codes of practice and legislation.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

These notes are for guidance purposes only, but are not to be considered as complete guidance to learning and teaching approaches.

Opportunities for integrated delivery of this Unit may be possible if candidates are also taking the NPA in Plant Operations optional Units in *Lifting and Transferring Loads – An Introduction, Setting out Secondary Dimensional Work Controls*, or *Guiding Moving Loads or Machinery*. Delivery may also be integrated with all mandatory Units.

The introductory training for this Unit should take place in a separate training area independent of the productive work environment and using dedicated equipment and resources and cover underpinning and practical principles before any practical application of knowledge is carried out by candidates.

Delivery of this Unit should focus on developing candidates' knowledge and understanding, before they commence any practical work on-site. This will include making sure that they know and can identify the different types of slinging equipment and lifting accessories available, their applications and techniques for correct use. Candidates should also learn to perform the correct signals and commands in order to communicate accurately with colleagues during any practical task. These signals and commands may be performed using equipment, verbal or electronic communications depending on the needs of the task and the candidate.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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Delivery of the practical components of this Unit should ensure that candidates learn the importance of clearly communicating with work colleagues when slinging and moving loads, using the correct terminology and in an appropriate manner.

This will include ensuring candidates develop awareness of, and adhere to, relevant Health and Safety regulations and legislation relating both to working practices within the construction environment, as well as those specific to any practical task they are requested to carry out (such as emphasising the importance of selecting and using the correct PPE at all times).

E-learning approaches may be appropriate to help tailor delivery to suit the individual needs or learning styles of candidates. This might include, for example, encouraging learners to use electronic resources to conduct research into a specific knowledge area.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Critical Thinking, Planning and Organising (components of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* SCQF level 3) will be developed by candidates as they undertake this Unit. Candidates will need to create a suitable plan when deciding upon the appropriate action to take and equipment to use during the given task (as outlined in the Performance Criteria for Outcomes 1 and 2).

Candidates will also need to apply the Core Skill of *Numeracy* (SCQF level 3), such as measuring and weighing, in order to accurately calculate the size of the load to be lifted and decide upon the appropriate lifting equipment required to bear the load (Outcomes 1 and 2).

The opportunity for the Core Skill of *Working with Others* (SCQF level 3) will be provided as candidates investigate whether equipment has been inspected by others for safe use, as well as ensuring the safety of others as they comply with codes of practice and working regulations (Outcomes 1 and 2). Throughout this Unit, candidates will be expected to use the Core Skill of *Communication* (SCQF level 3) within the work environment, for example to inform others of any safety considerations, using the correct terminology and a tone appropriate to the workplace environment. In addition, assessment processes may enable candidates the opportunity to develop their Written Communication skills.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Centres may use the Instruments of Assessment they consider to be most appropriate, and the following notes are given as guidance only.

Opportunities for integrated assessment of this Unit may be possible if candidates are also taking the NPA in Plant Operations optional Units *Setting out Secondary Dimensional Work Controls*, or *Guiding Moving Loads or Machinery*. Assessment may also be integrated with all mandatory Units.

Underpinning and practical knowledge of slinging and signalling the movement of materials should be assessed before any practical assignments are carried out by candidates. This will include assessment of a candidate's ability to select the correct lifting aids and techniques for a specified task. Assessment of practical performance should take place under supervised conditions and confirm a candidate's ability to carry out basic slinging and signalling tasks using the correct signals and commands, whilst adhering to Health and Safety regulations and legislation.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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For Outcomes 1 and 2, candidates may be assessed by centres setting a series of questions designed to ensure candidates have developed the required standard of knowledge for this Unit. Any oral responses given by candidates will be recorded by an observer at the time of assessment — this may be an appropriate method when the candidate carries out any practical assignments.

Outcomes 1 and 2 may be assessed by centres setting candidates a series of appropriate practical assignments carried out under supervised conditions and recorded in an assessor's observation/operational checklist. Practical assignments undertaken by a candidate will be assessed according to their ability to carry out the task safely, using appropriate machinery according to manufacturer's guidelines.

Adherence to appropriate working regulations and Health and Safety procedures will be observed during the practical exercise carried out by the candidate towards Outcomes 1 and 2.

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

DISABLED CANDIDATES AND/OR THOSE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements