
Overview

This standard covers the skills you need to carry out sampling operations tests or activities, in accordance with approved procedures and practices. You will be expected to complete well-defined tasks and procedures and exercise autonomy and judgement subject to overall direction or guidance. You will report any problems with the activities, material or equipment that you cannot personally resolve. You will be expected to show you have identified, gathered and used relevant information to inform your actions and identify how effective these have been. You will work under a team leader, whilst taking responsibility for the quality and accuracy of the work that you carry out.

When sampling operations are carried out the integrity of the samples is of high importance. Therefore it is essential to prepare the work area so that it is in a safe condition to use, ensure that materials, equipment and all other resources are in a safe and useable condition and that the work area is left in a clean and tidy condition.

Your underpinning knowledge will provide a good understanding of scientific and similar facts, procedures and ideas to complete well-defined tasks and address straightforward problems in the workplace.

Who this standard is for

The standard is recommended for new recruits and junior laboratory staff.

Performance

criteria

- You must be able to:
- P1 ensure that your work is carried out in accordance with workplace procedures to protect yourself and others
 - P2 ensure that the correct equipment and materials for the sampling process are available for use
 - P3 collect samples in the parameters specified in the standard operating procedures
 - P4 label and identify collected samples correctly
 - P5 maintain the condition of the samples and store in the correct location
 - P6 communicate the required information about the work done to authorised people

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the health and safety requirements of the area in which you are carrying out the activities
- K2 the scientific or similar techniques and processes you must use correctly in the workplace
- K3 the limits of your own authority and to whom you should report if you have problems that you cannot resolve
- K4 the importance of correct identification of materials and handling and sorting processes, and any unique workplace coding/record system
- K5 the organisational requirements for maintaining the security of the workplace
- K6 the sampling materials, equipment, methods and procedures used in the environment where they are taken
- K7 the documentation, records and labelling systems that should be used for sampling operations and to ensure sample traceability after sampling
- K8 the principles and techniques of maintaining the sample integrity following collection
- K9 how to identify defective sampling equipment, and the actions to be taken
- K10 the methods used for the handling, storage and disposal of materials

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