

**Domain****MINERAL PROCESSING****Title:****Distribute tailings****Level: 2****Credits: 8****Purpose**

This unit standard is intended for those who carry out metallurgical processing operations. People holding credit for this unit standard are able to: Plan and prepare for tailings operation; conduct pre-operational checks; operate plant and equipment; and complete duties pertaining to tailings operation.

**Special Notes**

1. Entry information:

## Prerequisite

- 1449 - *Comply with health, safety and environmental rules and regulations pertaining to processing operations*; or demonstrated equivalent knowledge and skills.
2. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real workplace or a simulated workplace in which processing operations are carried out.
  3. This unit standard should be assessed in conjunction with other relevant technical unit standards selected from the metallurgical processing, mineral processing, hydrometallurgy, or pyrometallurgy domain.
  4. Plant may include but is not limited to decant towers and ponds; pumps and siphons; spigots; tailings pipeline; and valves.
  5. Safe working practices include day-to-day observation of safety policies and procedures and compliance with emergency procedures.
  6. Specifications refer to any, or all of the following: manufacturer's specifications and recommendations, and workplace specific requirements.
  7. Performance of all elements in this unit standard must comply with relevant regulatory, legislative, workplace requirements and/or manufacturers' specifications.
  8. Regulations and legislation, including subsequent amendments, relevant to this unit standard may include but are not limited to the following:
    - Labour Act, No. 11, 2007
    - Mineral Act, No. 33, 1992
    - Mine Health and Safety Regulations, 1999
    - Regulations relating to the Health and Safety of employees at work, 1997 and all industry specific regulations, legislations, code of practice, or code of conduct.

## **Quality Assurance Requirements**

This unit standard and others within this subfield may be awarded by institutions which meet the accreditation requirements set by the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority and which comply with the national assessment and moderation requirements. Details of specific accreditation requirements and the national assessment arrangements are available from the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority. All approved unit standards, qualifications and national assessment arrangements are available on the Namibia Training Authority website [www.nta.com.na](http://www.nta.com.na).

## **Elements and Performance Criteria**

### **Element 1: Plan and prepare for tailings operation**

#### **Performance Criteria**

- 1.1 Work instructions, including plans, specifications, quality requirements and operational details are obtained, explained, clarified and applied to the allocated task.
- 1.2 Safety and security requirements, including personal protective clothing and equipment are obtained from the site safety plan, workplace policies and procedures, explained, and applied to the allocated task.
- 1.3 Equipment, tools, fuel, lubricants, attachments and accessories selected to carry out tasks are checked for consistency with the requirements of the job, their usability and any faults rectified or reported prior to commencement of work.
- 1.4 Environmental protection requirements are identified from the project environmental management plan and applied to the allocated task.
- 1.5 Work area is inspected and prepared according to workplace procedures.

### **Element 2: Conduct pre-operational checks**

#### **Performance Criteria**

- 2.1 Workplace hazards and associated risks are identified, minimised or eliminated according to workplace procedures and legislative requirements.
- 2.2 The plant's equipment is examined and substandard conditions are reported to appropriate personnel according to workplace procedures.
- 2.3 Functions of control and gauges are checked and adjusted where necessary to comply with manufacturer's specifications.
- 2.4 Equipment is positioned and stabilised according to workplace procedures.
- 2.5 Start-up and shutdown procedures of individual items of equipment are conducted according to manufacturer's specifications.

- 2.6 Approved dust suppression and extraction methods are identified and used.
- 2.7 Plant readiness for operation is confirmed according to workplace procedures.

### **Element 3: Operate plant and equipment**

#### **Range:**

Indicator reading may measure concentration; current; density; flow; levels; pressure; speed; and unusual noises.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- 3.1 Workplace hazards and associated risks are identified, minimised or eliminated according to workplace procedures and legislative requirements.
- 3.2 Data from equipment indicators are read and interpreted to determine deposition parameters.
- 3.3 Equipment is adjusted to approved operating parameters to optimise performance, maintain efficiency and to meet tailings quality targets.
- 3.4 Feed to equipment is controlled.
- 3.5 Bunded areas are monitored and overflows are managed.
- 3.6 Plant operation is constantly monitored, where necessary, corrective and/or reporting actions are taken according to workplace procedures.

### **Element 4: Complete duties pertaining to tailings operation**

#### **Range**

Housekeeping may include but is not limited to ensure the work area is ready for next user; remove work materials to designated locations; correctly identify waste and re-usable material; and remove waste and re-usable materials to designated locations.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- 4.1 Workplace hazards and associated risks are identified, minimised or eliminated according to workplace procedures and legislative requirements.
- 4.2 Lines are flushed to remove all materials according to workplace procedures.
- 4.3 Procedures for equipment isolation and lock-out are implemented according to workplace procedures.
- 4.4 Task-specific tools, personal protective and safety equipment, are cleaned, maintained and stored for further use according to workplace procedures.
- 4.5 Good housekeeping practices are maintained according to workplace procedures.

- 4.6 Reporting and recording requirements are met according to workplace procedures.
- 4.7 Work related documents are completed according to job requirements and workplace procedures.

### **Registration Data**

<b>Subfield:</b>	Metallurgy
<b>Date first registered:</b>	28 September 2016
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<b>Body responsible for review:</b>	Namibia Training Authority