



FOOD PROCESSING TRAINING PACKAGE REVIEW

Review of Food Safety Units of Competency

Discussion Paper

Introduction

AgriFood Skills Australia is the national Industry Skills Council responsible for providing training advice to the Commonwealth Government on the training needs of the food processing, agricultural, seafood, meat and conservation and land management industries. In this role it also manages the Training Packages that cover these industries including the Food Processing Training Package (FDF03).

There are also a number of food safety units in the Food Processing Training Package designed to support the training of operators, team leaders and supervisors in food safety skills. These food safety units are being reviewed as part of an overall review of the Food Processing Training Package. This discussion paper provides background and considers the issues involved in reviewing the food safety units for operators, team leaders and supervisors.

Food safety skills are important for many industries and because of this guideline units were originally developed under the direction of the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA). The current food safety units in the Food Processing Training Package (FDF03) are based on these guideline units. The FDF03 food safety units have since been imported into other Training Packages. In addition the ANTA guideline units or the FDF food safety units have been used as the basis for a number of food safety units developed by other Industry Skill Councils or their predecessor ITABs for their industry sectors. Because of the wide coverage of the FDF food safety units or their use as a starting by other Training Package developers, comments from people and organisations outside the food processing industry are also very welcome.

Current units

The current food safety units are:

FDFCORFSY1A Follow work procedures to maintain food safety

FDFCORFSY2A Implement the food safety program and procedures

FDFCORQFS3A Monitor the implementation of quality and food safety programs

These current food safety units have been converted into CAT format as part of the Training Package Review and given draft new codes but no content review has occurred until now.

Three other units that deal directly with food safety were included in the consultation process for the review of Food Processing Training Package qualifications conducted in 2009.

These **draft food safety units** are:

FDFOPTFST2A Maintain food safety when loading, unloading and transporting food

FDFTEC3001A Participate in a HACCP team

FDFTEC4003A Control food contamination and spoilage

There are also **food safety auditing units** which are being separately reviewed. A discussion paper and draft reviewed units are currently available for downloading on the AgriFood Skills Australia web site.

This paper is the beginning of a content review of the food safety units intended for inclusion in the Food Processing Training Package. This content review has been delayed from the main Food Processing Training Package Review to allow a wider consultation process than just the FDF03 Training Package coverage and to also coincide with the Food Safety Auditing Review.

The **proposed food safety units** now being released for comment are:

FDFFS1001A Follow work procedures to maintain food safety

FDFFS2001A Apply the food safety program and procedures

FDFFS3001A Monitor the implementation of quality and food safety programs

FDFFS4001A Contribute to the development and review of a food safety program for a vulnerable group

FDFFS5001A Develop a HACCP based food safety program

Feedback

Feedback is invited for the proposed five units above on the following:

- 1) The coverage and technical accuracy of the units in addressing food safety issues including any suggested additions or deletions to the units
- 2) Whether there is a need to develop any further specialist units in food safety for the food processing sector
- 3) Whether there is a need for defined skill sets in food safety as part of the FDF10 Food processing Training package.

Comments on both the Food Safety units closes on February 26th, 2010. Comments should be made on the response form available for downloading from the AgriFood Skills Australia website (www.agrifoodskills.net.au).