Control printed circuit board manufacturing processes

Level 3
Credits 30

Purpose This unit standard covers the setup, operation, and operational maintenance of equipment and materials for specified printed circuit board (PCB) manufacturing processes. This includes etching, plating, tinning, and deposition of conductive films.

People credited with this unit standard are able to:
– set up printed circuit board manufacturing processes;
– maintain the material properties of printed circuit board manufacturing processes; and
– ensure the performance of printed circuit board manufacturing processes.

Subfield Electronic Engineering
Domain Electronic Manufacturing
Status Registered
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Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.

Standard setting body (SSB) ElectroTechnology Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0003
This AMAP can be accessed at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do.

Special notes

1 Definition
PCB manufacturing processes refers to printed circuit board etching, plating, tinning, and deposition of conductive films.
For PCB fabrication operations, covering cutting, scoring, drilling, routing, and press operations, refer to Unit 12582, *Control printed circuit board fabrication operations*. For PCB screenprinting processes, covering circuit printing, solder masking, and component layout masking, refer to Unit 12584, *Control printed circuit board screenprinting processes*. For preparation of screenprinting stencils, covering track layouts, component layout, screening layout, conductive layout, and solder masking, refer to Unit 12585, *Prepare screenprinting stencils for printed circuit board processes*.

Candidates are expected to be familiar with the following:
- the process parameters required for the specified processes and their related quality standards;
- the health and safety standards required for the handling and use of the materials used in the PCB manufacturing processes;
- where required, the operation of relevant process software packages.

Range
- PCB manufacturing processes – two or more of – etching, plating, tinning, deposition of conductive films;
- types of printed circuit boards – one or more of – single sided, double sided, plated through-hole boards.

References
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992;

The following apply to all elements of this unit standard:
- all activities are to be completed and reported within agreed timeframes;
- all work practices must meet worksite's documented quality management requirements;
- all activities must comply with policies, procedures and requirements of the enterprises involved; and any relevant legislative and/or regulatory requirements, which include, but are not limited to, the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 and the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

**Elements and performance criteria**

**Element 1**

Set up printed circuit board manufacturing processes.

**Performance criteria**

1.1 Loading and setting operations comply with job instructions and do not compromise the operational integrity of the process.

Range software controls, process material properties, process and equipment settings.
1.2 The equipment and process operation conforms to enterprise safety requirements and presents no uncontrolled hazards to any person.

1.3 Process tests provide results that comply with job instructions, and meet industry standards.

Range IPC standards, or equivalent, for specified PCB characteristics.

**Element 2**

Maintain the material properties of printed circuit board manufacturing processes.

**Performance criteria**

2.1 Process measurements provide valid data on material properties.

Range valid data may include but is not limited to – material sample selection, measurement accuracy, measurement timing, measurement frequency.

2.2 Adjustment of material properties complies with a given procedure.

Range procedures include enterprise, process, health and safety material supplier procedures, or their combination. Evidence is required for two procedures.

2.3 All materials are handled and stored in accordance with a given procedure.

Range procedures include enterprise, health and safety, material supplier procedures, or their combination. Evidence is required for one procedure.

2.4 The material properties are maintained within the range specified for the process.

Range concentration, purity, other specified process characteristics.

**Element 3**

Ensure the performance of printed circuit board manufacturing processes.

**Performance criteria**

3.1 Completed boards comply with manufacturing process quality standards.

Range registration accuracy, material deposition characteristics, other specified standards.

3.2 Operational checks confirm the continuing integrity of the process.

Range checks may include but are not limited to – PCB inspection, process settings, equipment settings, process warnings.
3.3 The adjustment of equipment and process settings reflects a valid interpretation of process measurements or PCB quality characteristics.

Range valid interpretation may include but are not limited to – use of fault finding trees, cause and effect analysis, scientific analysis, or their combination.

3.4 Enterprise procedures are followed to solve operational problems.

Range valid methods may include but are not limited to – use of equipment and process guides, technical assistance, fault finding trees, cause and effect analysis, process analysis.

3.5 Procedures for dealing with process and equipment emergencies are known.

Range examples of emergencies could include equipment or process failure and occurrences of known process or material hazards.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by NZQA, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the ElectroTechnology Industry Training Organisation reviewcomments@etito.co.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.