

Title	Operate a grab at a scrap metal recycling yard		
Level	3	Credits	5

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for people working in the scrap metal recycling industry.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: explain the functions, hazards, and uses of grabs; prepare to operate a grab; and operate a grab for handling scrap metal at a scrap metal yard.</p>
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Classification	Resource Recovery > Scrap Metal Recycling
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit 17593, <i>Apply safe work practices in the workplace</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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Guidance Information

- 1 All work practices must comply with:
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
Resource Management Act 1991;
machine operating manuals.
- 2 Hazard controls, safety procedures, and personal protective equipment must be used throughout operations in accordance with company procedures.
- 3 Assessment against this unit standard excludes the operation of the machine to which the grab is attached.
- 4 Definitions

Company procedure means the documented methods for performing work activities and include health and safety, environmental, and quality management requirements. They may refer to manuals, codes of practice, or policy statements.

Grab refers to equipment that picks up and carries scrap metal in large quantities in continuous, heavy-duty cycling. It is usually attached to a crane, excavator, or scrap handler.

Industry publications refer to published material in hard or electronic copy such as articles available at <http://www.recyclingtoday.com>.

Operating manuals refers to the plant operating manual and manuals written for specific components or items of plant and equipment that may be published by the manufacturer or the company.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Explain the functions, hazards, and uses of grabs.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The mechanical functions of a grab and its components are explained in accordance with operating manuals and/or company procedures.
- Range components include but are not limited to – rotator, jaws, tines, cylinder, pins, hinge points, hose and fittings, pressure; components may include – hanger.
- 1.2 The hazards of grab operations are identified and their controls are explained in accordance with operating manuals and/or company procedures.
- 1.3 The explanation outlines the uses of grabs in scrap metal recycling in accordance with industry publications.
- Range grabs – orange peel, tulip, log, narrow tine.

Outcome 2

Prepare to operate a grab.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Work requirements are confirmed in accordance with company procedures.
- 2.2 Prestart checks for grab operations are demonstrated in accordance with operating manuals and/or company procedures.
- Range check includes but is not limited to – grease points, pins, locking nuts, hydraulic lines.
- 2.3 Grab is fitted and secured in accordance with operating manuals.
- 2.4 Work area is checked for hazards in accordance with legislation and company procedures.

Outcome 3

Operate a grab for handling scrap metal at a scrap metal yard.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Operation of machinery and equipment controls produces smooth movement of grab through all positions in accordance with operating manuals.
- 3.2 Grab is operated with adequate clearances in accordance with operating manuals and company procedures.
- Range clearances include but are not limited to – people, property, services, access, adjacent stockpiles, overhead obstructions.
- 3.3 Work method ensures that metals are selected, sorted, and placed in accordance with company procedures.
- Range selection includes but is not limited to – extracting an item from within a stockpile; sorting may include but is not limited to – grade, size, shape, compaction, contamination limit; placing includes but is not limited to – stockpiling, feeding a conveyor or hopper.
- 3.4 Communication is maintained with work crew during operations in accordance with company procedures.
- 3.5 Processing throughput is maintained in accordance with company's schedule.
- 3.6 Equipment maintenance is reported or acted on in accordance with company procedures.
- Range maintenance may include but is not limited to – minor adjustments to equipment, notifying person responsible for corrective action.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	26 January 2007	31 December 2025
Rollover and Revision	2	28 March 2019	31 December 2025
Review	3	27 March 2025	31 December 2025

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0014

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.