

|              |   |                |          |
|--------------|---|----------------|----------|
| <b>Title</b> | <b>Demonstrate knowledge of contamination in plastics and remove contamination from plastics at a recovery facility</b> |                |          |
| <b>Level</b> | <b>2</b>  | <b>Credits</b> | <b>4</b> |

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>Purpose</b> | <p>This unit standard is for people who are currently working in the resource recovery industry.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to demonstrate knowledge of contamination in plastics for recycling and recovery; and remove contamination from plastics at a resource recovery facility.</p> |
|----------------|--|

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Classification</b> | Resource Recovery > Recycling and Recovery |
|-----------------------|--|

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| <b>Available grade</b> | Achieved |
|------------------------|----------|

---

### Guidance Information

- 1 All work practices must comply with:  
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; Resource Management Act 1991; The New Zealand Waste Strategy: Reducing Harm, Improving Efficiency 2010 Ministry for the Environment, available at <http://www.mfe.govt.nz>; equipment manufacturer's instructions; and job instructions.
- 2 Hazard controls, safety procedures, and personal protective equipment must be used throughout operations in accordance with company procedures.
- 3 Definitions  
*Company procedures* mean the documented methods for performing work activities and includes health and safety, environmental, and quality management requirements. They may refer to manuals, codes of practice, or policy statements.  
*Resource recovery facility* refers to a facility that receives materials from the waste stream for resource recovery, treatment, or disposal. Terms used to describe such facilities include transfer station and recycling centre.

---

### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of contamination in plastics for recycling and recovery.

**Performance criteria**

- 1.1 Types of non-hazardous contamination in plastics are identified and examples given in relation to the workplace.

Range types – non-plastic materials, commingled plastic polymers; three examples of each type.

- 1.2 Examples of contamination that make recycling and recovery of plastics uneconomic are identified in relation to the workplace.

Range contamination may include products made of mixed materials; evidence is required of five examples.

- 1.3 Methods for removing contamination in the form of non-plastic materials are described in accordance with company procedures.

Range methods include but are not limited to – manual, machine, flotation.

- 1.4 Methods for separating contamination in the form of plastic polymers are described in accordance with company procedures.

Range two methods.

- 1.5 Examples of contamination by hazardous substances are identified in terms of sources of contamination.

Range sources – domestic, agricultural, commercial; evidence is required of six substances with one from each source.

- 1.6 Methods for removing plastics contaminated by hazardous substances are described in accordance with company procedures.

Range two methods.

**Outcome 2**

Remove contamination from plastics at a resource recovery facility.

Range evidence is required of removing – metal, paper, glass, general waste.

**Performance criteria**

- 2.1 Job requirements are confirmed in accordance with company procedures.

- 2.2 Prestart check of equipment is demonstrated in accordance with equipment manufacturer's instructions.

- 2.3 Contamination is removed from plastics in accordance with company procedures and job instructions.
- Range removal may include sorting for colour and code.
- 2.4 Removed contaminants and decontaminated plastics are sorted into separate containers in accordance with company procedures and job instructions.
- 2.5 Filled containers are moved, stored, and replaced.
- Range containers of – plastics, contaminants.
- 2.6 Decontaminated product meets customer standards for contamination level in accordance with job instructions.

---

**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       | 25 February 2008 | 31 December 2025         |
| Rollover and Revision | 2       | 28 March 2019    | 31 December 2025         |
| Review                | 3       | 24 April 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>.