

Title	Explain resource efficiency and interpret resource efficiency assessments		
Level	4	Credits	10

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to explain resource efficiency concepts and assessments, and interpret resource efficiency assessments.
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Classification	Zero Waste > Resource Efficiency
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 This unit standard covers understanding of general resource efficiency assessments rather than the knowledge required for undertaking a technically detailed audit that requires specialist knowledge of specific resources.
- 2 Information for this unit standard may be obtained from the following websites:
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority <http://www.eecabusiness.govt.nz>;
Ministry for the Environment <http://www.mfe.govt.nz>;
Target Sustainability <https://www.ccc.govt.nz/environment/sustainability/target-sustainability/>;
Resource Efficiency in the Building and Related Industries <http://www.rebri.org.nz>.
- 3 Range
Resource efficiency programmes include waste minimisation programmes.
- 4 Definitions
Environmental credentials means entitlement to claim environmental attributes for a product or service.
Organisation refers to an entire business entity in the private or public sector or a business unit within the organisation.
Resource efficiency assessment refers to an evaluation of performance to determine current practice.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Explain resource efficiency concepts and assessments.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Resource efficiency concepts are defined in relation to the reduction or elimination of waste.
- Range waste includes – energy, water, gas, material, procedures.
- 1.2 The explanation identifies and describes processes that may be employed for ensuring the success of resource efficiency programmes.
- Range includes but is not limited to – capturing management commitment, identifying key personnel, identifying risks and opportunities, establishing key performance indicators.
- 1.3 The explanation describes items included in resource efficiency assessments that ensure the assessment is based on sound information.
- Range overview of organisational structure, walk through, product inputs, material outputs, categories of waste, composition of waste, waste minimisation opportunities.
- 1.4 The explanation illustrates the application of resource efficiency assessments in an organisation.
- Range one of – manufacturing, retail, commercial, health, education, tourism, service, primary production.
- 1.5 The explanation of resource efficiency assessments includes key areas for targeting resource efficient business practice.
- Range efficient resource use, waste minimisation by reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery, energy efficiency, water efficiency, air quality protection, hazardous substances, wastewater, design, profitability, environmental credentials.
- 1.6 Resource efficiency assessments are explained in common terms.
- Range energy, emissions, solid waste stream, raw materials, water; energy may include but is not limited to – electricity; vehicle fuel; solid fuel, gas; electrical efficiency calculations for at least one of – lighting, heating, ventilation, air conditioning; electrical efficiency calculations in – watts, volts, amps, kW/h, Gigajoules; emissions – common air pollutants; solid waste stream – stream categories, stream quantities; water – water measurement, water analysis.

Outcome 2

Interpret resource efficiency assessments.

Range assessments of resource efficiency include – energy, solid waste stream, raw materials, water, and, where relevant, gases;
evidence may be provided from selected data or from a single report.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Resource efficiency assessments are interpreted to provide information on the current status of resource use for management to consider in relation to improving resource efficiency in the organisation.
- 2.2 Resource efficiency assessments are interpreted for significance of impacts on the environment and an organisation.
- Range environmental impact – likelihood, frequency, severity, duration, physical extent;
impact on organisation may include – financial livelihood, conflict with policy, cost saving, adding value, public perception.
- 2.3 Resource efficiency assessments are interpreted to determine who in the organisation has ownership and responsibility for changing resource use.
- 2.4 Resource efficiency assessments are interpreted to determine any impact on management and operations of changing a current practice to make a reduction in resource use.

Planned review date	31 December 2023
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	17 June 2011	31 December 2015
Revision	2	21 November 2013	N/A
Rollover and Revision	3	28 June 2018	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0014
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact MITO New Zealand Incorporated info@mito.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.