


SKILLS PROGRAMME DOCUMENT						
Skills Programme Title		Continuous Miner Operator				
NQF Level	3	Credits	52	Duration in days	70 days	
Skills Programme ID Number		SP-230309				
Skills Programme Status	APPROVED			Start Date	End Date	
				25/03/2023	25/03/2028	
Last date for enrolment		25/03/2029	Last date for achievement		25/03/2032	

SKILLS PROGRAMME DETAILS

1.	Title	Continuous Miner Operator
2.	Sub Title	711101 Mining Operator
3.	NQF Level	NQF Level 3
4.	Duration	70 days
5.	Credits	52
6.	Quality Assuring Body	Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)
7.	Skills Programme Rationale	<p>The need for this skills programme is that mining operators are used extensively in mining operations, so it is essential that continuous miner operators are trained in their duties and responsibilities. Mining legislation prescribes that the plant operators must be qualified, by virtue of their knowledge, training, skills, and experience, before they are appointed. They must be trained, assessed, and found competent, in accordance with recognised training and development programmes.</p> <p>Typical learners will be new entrants to the mining sector or those employed learners seeking to be mobile machine operators.</p> <p>There is presently no similar skills programme recorded.</p> <p>A typical learning pathway in mining production operations would be to a Miner at NQF Level 3, then Shift Supervisor at NQF Level 4.</p> <p>The benefits of this skills programme to the mining sector will be to have persons who are trained and declared competent for their specific duties and responsibilities, and to provide specialised training to enable them to advance their careers. Safe and productive mining operations are fundamental to the sector.</p> <p>The work is done in excavations that do not exist naturally but are created through rock breaking and blasting activities. This unique environment holds many hazards and risks for all personnel. The skills required to for the work require dedicated learning, application, and specialised and technical skills.</p> <p>Mining will remain the backbone of the South African economy for many years to come, and with the advance of technology, there will, in the coming decades, be opportunities to return to and access the minerals left behind in the older mines. The mining and minerals sector will also be able to access resources that are currently too deep to mine. The development of occupational competence as set out in this skills programme is essential to maintain and advance mining in the country.</p>

		This skills programme will benefit society in terms of skills and technical competencies since qualifying learners will improve work standards, health and safety, and effectiveness, and contribute to the growth of the country's economy.	
8.	Related registered qualification/s	SAQA ID 120057: Intermediate Occupational Certificate: Miner	
9.	Purpose	<p>The purpose of this skills programme is to prepare a learner to operate as a Continuous Miner Operator.</p> <p>A Continuous Miner Operator operates a machine to cut coal continuously for mining operations. The qualifying learner will know the function and operating requirements for the machine; applying, exercising, and complying with safety, health, and environmental requirements, in accordance with statutory, regulatory, and organisational procedures, policies, codes of practice, standards and agreements.</p> <p>A qualified learner will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operate a continuous miner 	
10.	Content	<p><u>Knowledge component</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 900155-000-00-KM-01 Workplace fundamentals, NQF Level 2, Credits 4 900134-000-00-KM-01 Health, safety, and the environment, NQF Level 2, Credits 4 900155-000-00-KM-01 Operations and machines, NQF Level 3, Credits 4 900155-000-00-KM-02 Components, controls, and consumables, NQF Level 3, Credits 4 <p>Total credits:16</p>	<p><u>Application component</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 900155-000-00-PM-01 Apply, exercise, and ensure safety, health and environmental measures and procedures, NQF Level 3, Credits 14 900155-000-00-PM-02 Perform pre-operational activities, NQF Level 3, Credits 4 900155-000-00-PM-03 Operate a continuous miner, NQF Level 3, Credits 18 <p>Total credits:36</p>
11.	Minimum entry requirements	Open access	
12.	Exit Level Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operate a continuous miner <p>Associated Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational knowledge and understanding of occupational health, safety, and environmental requirements, and continuous miner operations are applied. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous miner operations are completed, in accordance with requirements
13.	<p>Continuous Assessment and Final Integrated Supervised Assessment (FISA)</p>	<p>Continuous Assessment</p> <p>The SDP must ensure that all learners are enrolled with the QCTO at the start of training (within 5 days) in the format required by the QCTO.</p> <p>Continuous assessments are set by the SDP in accordance with the assessment criteria provided for each module in a contextualised manner for coal mining operations.</p> <p>This may consist of a variety of methods, e.g., practical, or written assessments, assignments, projects, demonstrations, presentations, or any other form of assessment to assist the learner in the learning process.</p> <p>During training, it is mandatory for formal summative assessments to take place at the end of each module/topic. These results must be formally recorded and be available for monitoring and/or evaluation by the QCTO.</p> <p>Final Integrated Supervised Assessment (FISA) All learners gain entrance to the Final Integrated Supervised Assessment by successfully completing all formal summative assessments conducted by the SDP.</p> <p>Format of FISA: A practical assessment integrating the relevant Exit Level outcomes, with a simultaneous verbal assessment of embedded knowledge by the assessor before, during, or after the FISA.</p> <p>All FISAs must be supervised, and virtual FISAs must be recorded throughout the assessment.</p> <p>All Exit Level Outcomes must be covered in the FISA. In the FISA, the learner must demonstrate applied knowledge and skills for coal mining operations to prove that the competencies of the Skills Programme have been achieved.</p> <p>The FISA may not contain any assessments used in the "Continuous Assessment" process (thus no re-assessment).</p> <p>Special considerations should be made for candidates with special learning needs.</p> <p>Standards for Final Integrated Supervised Assessment (FISA):</p> <p>The learner should be provided with a brief/job card/task to demonstrate what the learner should show, know, or produce in a product, relevant to the Exit Level Outcomes and the purpose of the Skills Programme. This is the section where the learner must show applied competency (what the learner must be able to do, and to what expected standard)</p>

		<p>The FISA INSTRUMENT (Written case study, scenario or brief/task [similar to a job card]) must be developed and moderated by the SDP and conducted in a supervised environment. It is assessed by means of a RUBRIC developed by the SDP for this purpose:</p> <p>A Competent Candidate must be able to complete continuous miner operations, interpreting, applying, and exercising policies, procedures, performance parameters, controls, and operating standards.</p> <p>Given an actual underground coal mining environment or a simulated environment, the candidate must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform pre-operational activities • Operate the machinery <p>effectively and safely in accordance with statutory, regulatory, and organizational procedures, policies, codes of practice, standards and agreements.</p> <p>This Practical assessment should be a maximum of 1 hour.</p> <p>Whilst conducting the above practical, strategic, well-timed questions should be asked of the learner to assess embedded knowledge as well as the importance and application of required safety, health and environmental issues as gained during the skills programme, as well as critical thinking and problem-solving skills: for e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Why.....?" • "What would happen if ...?" • "When is done, what would the result be?" • "How would you deal with"? • Etc. <p>The marking rubric/compliance checklist used to assess these competencies must include a section for the assessor/facilitator used in this session to make a note of competencies shown, (or not shown), as well as the questions that were asked, and a summary of the learner's answers, and state whether these are of the acceptable standard or not.</p> <p>The marking rubric/compliance checklist compiled should contain specific areas marked with an asterisk (*) as compulsory sections in order for the learner to be declared C (Competent). Compulsory sections are when the safety of the candidate or others would be affected if incorrectly completed.</p> <p>Learners who complete this skills programme will accumulate credits towards the relevant full or part qualification. The Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) Policy may apply to these learners.</p> <p>Submission of final results</p>
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14.	Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learners will gain access to the skills programme through RPL for access as provided for in the QCTO RPL Policy. RPL for access is conducted by an accredited institution, skills development provider or workplace accredited to offer that specific skills programme. • Learners who have already acquired competencies of modules of a skills programme will be exempted from modules through RPL. Such learners will be awarded credits towards the skills programme. • Learners who complete this skills programme will accumulate credits towards the relevant full or part qualification. The Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) Policy shall apply to these learners
15.	Work Opportunities and further learning	<p>This skills programme will enable qualifying learners to access Mining Operator occupations in the Mining and Minerals Sector. A typical learning pathway in mining production operations would be to a Miner at NQF Level 3, then Shift Supervisor at NQF Level 4</p>
16.	Skills Development Provider Accreditation Requirements	<p>Skills Development Providers will be ISO9000:2015, Quality Management, Certified.</p> <p><i>Physical Requirements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training/facilitation resources, including fully equipped classroom and continuous miner facilities, which comply with mining occupational health, safety, and environmental standards. • Assessment tools/instruments. • Relevant learning material. <p><i>Human Resource Requirements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitably qualified and experienced facilitators with a minimum NQF Level 3 ETDP qualification; and 1 years' experience in continuous miner and health and safety

		<p>experience, support personnel and assessors appointed in accordance with the organisation's Quality Management system.</p> <p><i>Legal Requirements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Skills Development Providers (SDP) will comply with the requirements of the following, including all amendments, regulations, and directives, as applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993 ○ Mine Health and Safety Act 29 of 1996 ○ Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995 • The Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997
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