

Specification of Competency Standards
for the Jewellery Industry
Unit of Competency

Functional Area - Production

Title	Apply the techniques of faceting/polishing semi-precious gemstones/coloured gemstones
Code	108954L3
Range	This unit of competency is applicable to practitioners working in the gemstone faceting/polishing department of jewellery manufacturing organizations. Practitioners should be capable of making judgments and understanding the characteristics of semi-precious gemstones/coloured gemstones and rough gemstones. They should also master the operation of gemstone faceting/polishing tools and equipment to facet and polish gemstone materials after careful analysis and assessment, so as to achieve the highest brilliancy by obtaining the best cutting angles/proportion and perfect facets.
Level	3
Credit	9
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Understand the principles of semi-precious gemstone/coloured gemstone faceting/polishing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand gemstone cuts and respective requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Faceted cut <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brilliant cut ▪ Step cut ▪ Rose cut ▪ Mixed cut ○ Cabochon ○ Bead cut ○ Fantasy cut <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Free-form cut ▪ Baroque stone • Understand the angles and proportion of semi-precious gemstone/coloured gemstone facets • Consider the characteristics of rough semi-precious gemstones/coloured gemstones to design their cuts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gemstone species ○ Transparency ○ Cut ○ Cleavage ○ Colour ○ Carat (the unit of weight for gemstones) • Know about the new technical knowledge related to gemstone faceting/polishing <p>2. Master and apply semi-precious gemstone/coloured gemstone faceting/polishing techniques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master gemstone faceting/polishing procedures and techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gemstones with faceted cuts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marking ▪ Separating ▪ Mould trimming ▪ Attaching to the dop stick ▪ Prototyping ▪ Faceting and polishing ▪ Polishing ▪ Removing from the dop stick ▪ Cleaning

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gemstone with cabochon cuts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Separating ▪ Marking ▪ Mould trimming ▪ Attaching to the dop stick ▪ Grinding ▪ Sanding ▪ Polishing ▪ Removing from the dop stick ▪ Cleaning ▪ Polishing the bottom side ▪ Waxing • Master gemstone facet trimming/repairing techniques <p>3. Professionalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the requirements of the organization, code of practice and safety guidelines, facet/polish semi-precious gemstones/coloured gemstones with the proper and safe use of various relevant tools and equipment with a professional attitude
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this unit of competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to master the characteristics of rough semi-precious gemstones/coloured gemstones and apply faceting/polishing techniques to perform perfect faceting and polishing on semi-precious gemstone/coloured gemstone materials so as to strengthen the internal reflection and refraction of the gemstones to meet the standards of the cut specifications; and • Consider the requirements on quality, colour, cleavage and optical properties of the stones when performing semi-precious gemstone/coloured gemstone faceting/polishing, so as to achieve the highest brilliancy by obtaining the best facets.
Remark	<p>This unit of competency is written with reference to the Jewelry Professional Planning Material "Gem Processing Techniques" (珠寶首飾類專業規劃教材《寶石加工工藝學》) by China University of Geosciences Press Co. Ltd.</p> <p>This unit of competency is written with reference to Practical Gem Processing Techniques (實用寶石加工技法) by Chemical Industry Press Co. Ltd.</p>