

## Section B: Course information

<b>1. Nomenclature</b> <b>1.1. Name of the qualification</b>  <b>1.2. Nominal duration of the course</b>	Certificate II in Equine Industry  411-493 hours
<b>2. Development of the course</b>  <b>2.1 Industry/enterprise/ community needs</b>	<p>The horse industry is multi-disciplined and represents a variety of activities including primary production, sport (e.g. performance horses, thoroughbred and standardbred racing) and recreational interests. It is estimated that the industry contributes approximately \$8 billion to the gross national product. It is not possible to quantify the exact number of horses there are in Australia but it is estimated to be at least 1.2 million and may be as high as 1.8 million. The industry is characterised by many individuals who conduct small businesses or are employed on a part time basis within the industry.</p> <p>The Equestrian Federation of Australia has a membership of 17,681 with 70,000 horses in the Federation's database. There are 10,184 horses with current performance cards. The Federation's website receives 1 million hits per month. Australia is recognised internationally as a producer of outstanding race horses but has also excelled in the performance sport of three day eventing, winning its first Olympic gold medal in Rome in 1960 and winning three successive Olympic gold medals culminating in the Sydney Olympics in 2000.</p> <p>The Australian thoroughbred racing industry creates a gross economic impact of approximately \$7.75 billion. Over the past five years, the industry spent \$29.5 billion which had a direct economic impact of \$41 billion on the Australian economy. The racing industry is also one of the mainstays of the economic base of regional Australia. About 49% of the gross economic impact from the thoroughbred racing industry is generated in non-metropolitan regions. Thoroughbred breeders, owners and trainers outlay annual direct spending of \$2.4 billion on industry investment. A further \$3.2 billion is spent by race clubs and customers. This major injection of funds into the Australian economy produces flow-through benefits of \$2.2 billion to downstream suppliers and industries including \$1.1 billion in regional areas. In 2005, 26,251 thoroughbred mares were covered in the breeding season and 850 thoroughbred stallions stood at stud.</p>

The estimated gross domestic product of the Australian harness racing industry for last season was \$1,659,240,814.

A growing number of people are directly employed in the harness racing industry with latest figures indicating there are 26,658 registered owners, 4,770 registered trainers and 3,486 registered drivers. This employment and activity is across the six states but predominantly in rural and regional areas. These primary harness industry occupations are supported by large numbers of other indirect industry participants such as farriers, veterinarians, transport operators, equine dentists, feed producers and operators, harness and sulky manufacturers and racing officials.

Nationally, the present herd size is 30,000 to 35,000 standardbreds. Last season, Australia-wide, there were 295 registered sires, 7,837 services and 5,869 foals. Presently there are approximately 15,696 horses in training.

Although units of competency from a number of Training Packages including Agriculture (horse breeding sector), Racing, and Sport and Recreation (outdoor recreation) are relevant to the needs of the industry, no Training Package has an appropriate entry level qualification that meets the needs of the broader equine industry as distinct from specific sectors.

The vocational group who currently make use of the existing course is diverse and may move into direct employment within a range of occupations in sport (e.g. performance horses and racing), recreation or into horse breeding in a range of animal attendant positions. Others move into further study, at either the tertiary or higher education levels.

The course is successful and attracts healthy enrolments. It is widely provided both within the TAFE sector and as a VET in Schools program. A total of twenty-one Victorian registered training organisations have *21327VIC Certificate II in Equine Industry* on their scope of registration.

AVETMISS data provided by TAFE Institutes indicate that between 2003 and 2006, enrolments increased from 262 to 425. Approximately 600 secondary school students attending 200 different schools were enrolled in the current course in 2007.

## Section C: Units of Competency

Unit Code	Unit Title
<b>Core Units</b>	
RTC2705A	Work effectively in the industry
SROEQO001A	Handle horses safely
VPAU321	Work in an equine organisation
VBM657	Identify and develop a career path in the equine industry
HLTFA201A	Provide basic emergency life support
RTE2121A	Provide daily care for horses
RTE2104A	Carry out regular horse observation
VPAU322	Respond to equine injury and disease
SROEQO008A	Determine nutritional requirements for horses
VPAU323	Equine form and function
VPAM325	Equine anatomy and physiology
<b>Elective Units</b>	
VBM660	Horse riding or driving skills I
SROEQO002A	Demonstrate basic horse riding skills
RGRPSH205A	Perform basic riding tasks
RGRPSH203A	Perform basic driving tasks
VBM663	Horse riding or driving skills II – specific equine discipline
RTC1301A	Operate basic machinery and equipment
RTE2201A	Carry out basic electric fencing operations
RTC2209A	Install, maintain and repair fencing
RTC2210A	Maintain properties and structures
VBM664	Assist in the conduct of an event in the equine industry
VBM709	Assist in preparation of a horse for a competition
VBM739	Identify horse breeding principles and assist in practices
VBM665	Care for mares and foals in the equine industry
SIRXSLS001A	Sell products and services
SIRXSLS002A	Advise on products and services
SIRXCCS001A	Apply point of sale handling procedures
SIRXCCS002A	Interact with customers
SIRXADM001A	Apply retail office procedures
BSBITU202A	Create and use spreadsheets
HLTFA301B	Apply first aid