

MEM: Blacksmithing Project Consultation Log Summary



Public and government consultation was held between 12 August and 6 September 2024. We conducted two online information sessions.

This is a summary of feedback received, changes made to the proposed units in response, and the reasons for changes not made in response.

Sections below:

- Stakeholders consulted
- High-level consultation log
- Detailed consultation log
- Summary statistics of stakeholders who provided feedback.

Stakeholders consulted

| Organisation | Type | State |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Ai Group | Peak body | National |
| Australian Manufacturing Workers Union | Union | National |
| Manufacturing Skills Queensland | State/territory rep | QLD |
| TAFE NSW | RTO | NSW |
| Sheldon College | RTO | QLD |
| North Metro TAFE | RTO | WA |
| TAFE Queensland South West | RTO | QLD |
| Artistic Blacksmiths Association NSW | Association | NSW |
| Artistic Blacksmiths Association SA | Association | SA |
| Queensland Rail | Employer | QLD |
| Geddes Blacksmithing | Employer | QLD |
| Dancing Lion Forge | Employer | QLD |
| FNC Blacksmith | Employer | NSW |
| Skender Iron | Employer | WA |
| Overall Forge | Employer | NSW |
| The Blacksmith Shop WA Pty Ltd | Employer | WA |
| Forge Bros Engineering | Employer | QLD |
| Prestige Wrought Iron | Employer | QLD |
| Sandvik | Employer | NSW |
| Creative Iron | Employer | NT |
| Ironfist | Employer | QLD |
| Zen Ironwork | Employer | QLD |
| Classic Steel and Design | Employer | ACT |
| Simply Forged Pty Ltd | Employer | VIC |
| Mattila Studio | Employer | TAS |
| Northern Springworks | Employer | SA |
| Evaleigh Works | Employer | NSW |
| Kymon Forge & Engineering | Employer | NSW |
| Granger Forge | Employer | NSW |
| Gas appliance regulators | Regulators | All states & territories |

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High-level consultation log

This table summarises consultations and approvals by industry representatives on the General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee.

| Date | Organisation | Type | State | Channel | Component | Feedback | Response |
|------------|--|-----------|----------|--|-----------|--|----------|
| 6/11/2023 | Australian Manufacturing Workers Union | Union | National | General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting | All | The committee agreed to update 6 units and develop 2 new units in Group F of MEM31922 | Done |
| 6/11/2023 | Ai Group | Peak body | National | General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting | All | The committee agreed to update 6 units and develop 2 new units in Group F of MEM31922 | Done |
| 9/7/2024 | Australian Manufacturing Workers Union | Union | National | General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting | All | The committee agreed to release the training package products for public and government consultation | Done |
| 9/7/2024 | Ai Group | Peak body | National | General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting | All | The Committee agreed to release the training package products for public and government consultation | Done |
| 18/10/2024 | Australian Manufacturing Workers Union | Union | National | General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting | All | The committee agreed to submit the training package products for Senior Officials check | Done |
| 18/10/2024 | Ai Group | Peak body | National | General Manufacturing and Engineering Interim Standing Committee meeting | All | The committee agreed to submit the training package products for Senior Officials check | Done |

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Detailed consultation log

| Date | Organisation | Type | State | Channel | Component | Feedback | Response |
|------------|--------------|-------|-------|---------------|-----------|--|---|
| 13/08/2024 | Tradesperson | Other | QLD | Feedback Form | All units | <p>This is relevant for all the units from what I can see. The assessment criteria requiring assessment to be under conditions that is basically an operational shop are an issue. Most blacksmiths currently working commercially work in small niche markets in small businesses. The chance of them having all the equipment required across the units operating as a function of their business are non-existent, and then chances of them even having the equipment is slim. The criteria will stop assessments being able to be done in a learning environment such as a TAFE. This requirement should be removed.</p> | <p>Thank you for your feedback</p> <p>The RTO requirements have not changed substantially in this project.</p> <p>We have expanded the equipment lists in the Range of Conditions field, but an RTO doesn't require all the listed items to deliver the units.</p> <p>The technical committee does recognise that the standard text in the Range of Conditions field may cause uncertainty over what is required and what isn't. However, changing this would require decisions covering MEM units as a whole and may require discussions with RTO regulators on how auditors should interpret this text.</p> |

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| Date | Organisation | Type | State | Channel | Component | Feedback | Response |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------|---------------|--|---|--|
| 27/08/2024 | Tradesperson | Other | QLD | Feedback Form | MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes (new unit) | This is a certificate III level course, basic trade skills. Such advanced techniques are out of place at this level. It should be part of a higher level qualification such as an AQF level 4 or 5 course for advanced tradesmen / supervisors / leading hands etc - or even a AQF level 6 unit, as part of a qualification for a Technician. | Thanks for your feedback. This unit is designed as one of the higher-level ones within the specialisation, but the degree of knowledge and performance are very similar to those required in <i>MEM06014 Hammer forge complex shapes</i> -- which has been deemed suitable for a base-trade qualification by employers, unions and other stakeholders. |
| 28/08/2024 | Manufacturing Skills Queensland | State/territory rep. | QLD | Feedback Form | All | I support the changes proposed in the MEM Blacksmithing project. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | All. | Overall the unit descriptors are more complete and trade relevant than the previous offering. Good update for the blacksmithing trade. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | All | Number requirements in range of conditions [Some categories shouldn't be just 'one or more of the following'] | The required wording for this section does not allow much variance from 'one or more' for each item listed. The technical committee agrees that the wording for this Range of Conditions field should be reviewed and updated, but this will require decisions covering MEM units as a whole. |

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| Date | Organisation | Type | State | Channel | Component | Feedback | Response |
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| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | All | Are the statements regarding gas appliances and training environments appropriate in the unit guide? Are these not covered in the RTO legislation? Do we have statements in the welding units that all electrical devices must comply with AS3760 if used? | Agreed. The advice on type B gas appliances will instead be added to the companion volume (CVIG). [see <i>Gas regulators</i> below] |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06011 Perform power hammer forging (to replace MEM06002) | Non Ferrous materials could also be added to the range of conditions. Unit update is more relevant and complete | The technical committee agree that non-ferrous materials are suitable, but feel that the current list (low/high carbon steels, alloys, stainless steel, wrought iron) provides the right range to meet industry needs |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06012 Perform drop and upset forging (to replace MEM06005) | Range of conditions should be updated to include "open die forging hammer using closed dies" All processes that can be learnt and underlying principles are consistent with drop hammers. | We have updated the equipment to include one or more of: -drop hammer using open and closed dies -open die forging hammer using closed loose dies -upsetting machine or heading machine (aka horizontal upsetting machine). |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06013 Repair springs (to replace MEM06006) | Content is good, update is minor but is more specific. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |

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| Date | Organisation | Type | State | Channel | Component | Feedback | Response |
|------------|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|--|---|---|
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06014 Hammer forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06008) | Vee bar, tee bar etc are not terms I have used or heard used in industry. I would prefer the terms are left vague or better defined. I know what a V block is but not a V bar. | We've changed this to the more generic term porter bar. |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06015 Hand forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06009) | Good update to the unit with more applicable and specific processes identified. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06016 Perform press forging (new unit) | This is a necessary addition as there has been a hole in previous training packages. Presses are used widely in industry and the forming processes differ to hammers. When completing my trade, on the job training was the only way to learn press forging techniques. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |
| 01/09/2024 | Sandvik | Employer | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes (new unit) | A good extension to the perform press forging. Feedback is consistent with above. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |
| 2/09/2024 | Zen Ironworks | Employer | QLD | Feedback Form | All | Excellent to see the revision and development of the course and modules. This is an exciting development for the trade course and fully supported by myself and industry colleagues. | Thank you for your feedback and support. |

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| Date | Organisation | Type | State | Channel | Component | Feedback | Response |
|------------|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|---|---|--|
| 2/09/20224 | Zen Ironworks | Employer | QLD | Feedback Form | MEM06015 Hand forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06009) | I think this addition is a critical one for the development of the profession. Previously largely powerhammer based, the complex hand hammer skillset requires development within the industry to retain skills. I'd like to see a range of scrollwork and scroll ends included within the practical component. | Thanks for your feedback and support. The Manufacturing Alliance will engage with industry over the next quarter to explore skills needs for ornamental/architectural ironwork. It will include discussions on scrollwork/ends. |
| 03/09/2024 | Simply Forged | Employer | VIC | Feedback Form | New unit required | Dedicated unit covering architectural iron work & ornamental ironwork | This was deemed out of scope for the current project, but the Manufacturing Alliance will engage with industry over the next quarter to explore this option |
| 05/09/2024 | TAFE NSW | RTO | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06014 Hammer forge complex shapes (to replace MEM06008) | Forgings should include forging cranks: single or double, three-way forgings (tee spigots) | Agreed. Forgings now includes one or more of: -forging using a mandrel -forging a boss -forging a ring or bush -forging a crankshaft -three-way forging -punching and opening of large diameter holes. These changes have also been made to MEM06017. |

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| 05/09/2024 | TAFE NSW | RTO | NSW | Feedback Form | MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes (new unit) | <i>MEM06010 Perform hand forging</i> should be a prerequisite | The technical committee agree that this unit should be sequenced first, but in line with government policy, this does not require it being listed as a prerequisite. This unit is similar to MEM06014, which (in current and proposed versions) doesn't have hand forging as a prerequisite. |
| 09/10/2024 | Evaleigh Works | Employer | NSW | Email & phone call | ME06011 and others | I'm glad to see the addition of a broader spectrum of heating methods. | Thanks for your feedback and support. |
| 09/10/2024 | Evaleigh Works | Employer | NSW | Email & phone call | MEM06010 Perform hand forging | ...removal of heat treating ... lots of tools we make will require heat treatment and its inconsistent not to include it if it's required | There is an inconsistency in - 6001 in that heat treatment is mentioned in the Application section but not in knowledge or performance requirements. Heat treatment is covered in other units |
| 09/10/2024 | Evaleigh Works | Employer | NSW | Email & phone call | MEM06016 Perform press forging & MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes | Useful additions | Thanks for your feedback and support. |
| 09/10/2024 | Evaleigh Works | Employer | NSW | Email & phone call | New unit needed | Much of the industry is focused on ornamental and design work – a unit covering this including skills in scrollwork, hot riveting and fire welding would be beneficial. | This was deemed out of scope for the current project, but the Manufacturing Alliance will engage with industry over the next quarter to explore this option. |

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| 11/10/2024 | Kymon forge | Employer | NSW | Email & phone call | MEM06016 Perform press forging & MEM06017 Perform press forging for complex shapes | Much needed. Modern industry needs both hammer forging and press forging. Presses are much quieter and allow forges to operate in areas where power hammers can't. | Thanks for your feedback and support. |
| 11/10/2024 | Kymon forge | Employer | NSW | Email & phone call | New unit | Ornamental work is an important part of the industry. A unit covering these skills would be useful | Thanks for your feedback |

Gas regulations

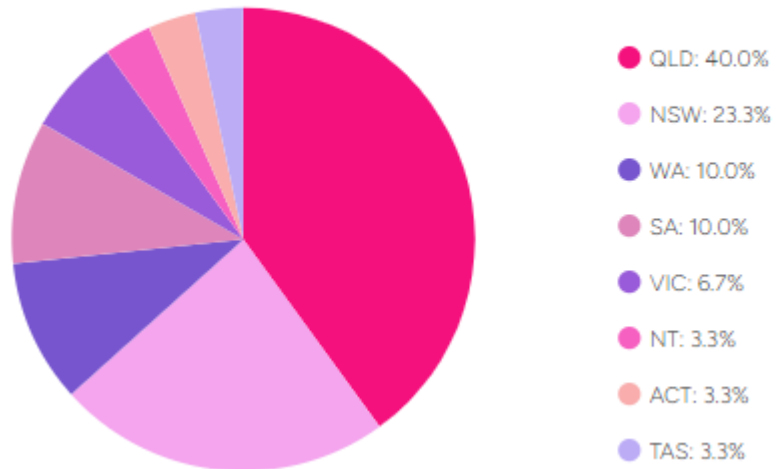
Industry concern was provided to the technical committee that some forge operators were avoiding type B gas device certification requirements by creating DIY gas forges from components. It was proposed that these regulations be pointed out in the updated units with the following text: 'Advice should be sought from appropriate regulatory authorities on type B gas device certification requirements for any gas-fired heating equipment used.'

Gas regulatory agencies in all states and territories were invited to provide advice on this wording, and those that responded (ACT, Tasmania, and Queensland) were happy with it. Based on further industry feedback and discussion, however, it was decided that this information should be added to the CVIG rather than the unit.


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Statistics of stakeholders who participated during consultation period

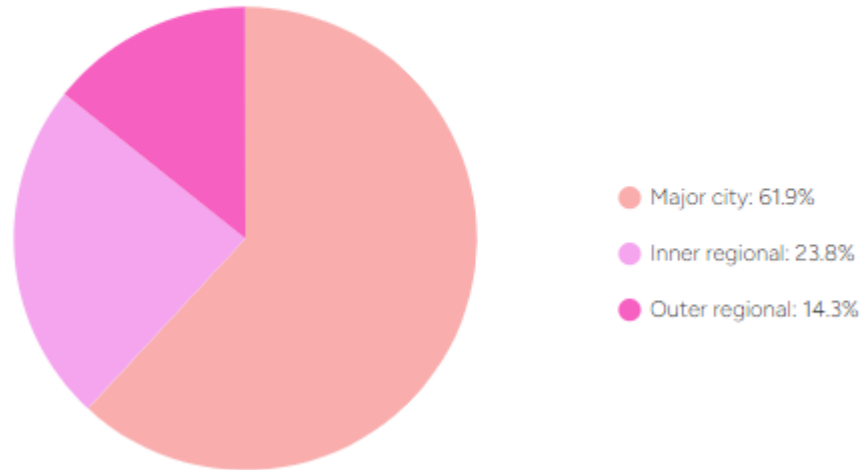
⌵ Geographic Coverage ▾ ...



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Remoteness area 

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Remoteness area for blacksmithing enterprises. Please note, this graph excludes RTOs, peak bodies, associations, ITAB/ITCs and CMMs. It includes self-employed blacksmiths and employers of blacksmiths.

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Stakeholder Type ▾

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