



Mechanical Apprenticeship

Formed in 1914, Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) has been a vital part of the Gladstone community for more than a century, and the epicentre for Queensland's economic growth. We are a Company Government Owned Corporation (GOC), responsible for the import or raw material and the export of finished product associated with major industries in the Central Queensland region. GPC manages and operates four Port precincts - the Port of Gladstone, Port Alma Shipping Terminal, Port of Bundaberg and Port of Maryborough. GPC identifies that our employees are critical to our success, employing approximately 750 people to perform a variety of management, trade, technical and administrative duties across our three Port precincts.

GPC owns and maintains a mobile fleet, including 23 D11 dozers, as well as excavators, front end loaders, skid steer loaders, backhoes, road rollers, non-slew cranes and water trucks.

A dedicated maintenance team is responsible for maintaining and repairing this equipment to ensure reliability and availability for operations. A large portion of our maintenance team is made up of allied mechanical tradespersons including Diesel Fitters and Mechanical Fitters.

GPC is committed to providing its apprentices with the skills and knowledge that they need to succeed in their chosen careers.

By obtaining these formal qualifications and licenses, the apprentices will be more competitive and successful in their careers.

Qualification

Certificate III Engineering
Mechanical Trade (Fitting /
Mechining)

TRADE OVERVIEW

Mechanical fitters maintain and repair of mechanical equipment, ensuring that it operates efficiently. This requires utilising a diverse range of hand and power tools, along with engineering techniques, to carry out tasks such as identifying mechanical faults, replacing or repairing worn or faulty equipment, modifying plant machinery, and identifying defective components. The role also involves the manufacturing of parts using workshop equipment like lathes, milling machines, surface grinders, and radial arm drills. Unlike other industries that confine fitters to workshops, GPC Mechanical Fitters are predominantly field-based due to the large mobile fleet. The job may also require assisting with diesel fitting work, which involves repairing and maintaining heavy machinery engines and drive trains.

COMMON TASKS

- Assembly, disassembly, and installation of conveyor systems and components, including gearboxes, fluid drives, pulleys, idler rollers, scrapers, water spray systems and profile gates
- Fabricating and welding metal parts using techniques with Arc, TIG, MIG and Oxy equipment
- Installing and assembling new equipment or modifying existing equipment to improve its performance. Including working with hydraulic systems and mechanical
- Diagnose, overhaul, repair, tune, maintain and test diesel vehicles, compressors and fixed plant equipment

WHAT MAKES A GOOD MECHANICAL FITTER?

- Prioritising safety at all times, including following appropriate safe work instructions & safety procedures, wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, and reporting any safety concerns to supervisors
- Conducting oneself with honesty, integrity and professionalism treating everyone with respect & courtesy
- Proficiency in mathematics and good communications skills, both written and verbal
- Have mechanical aptitude
- Physical stamina is required to lift heavy machinery and work in uncomfortable positions
- Good hand-eye coordination and the ability to complete precise work
- Have the ability & desire to work constructively in a team
- Free from allergies to grease, oil, diesel and petrol as handling of these products is required daily
- Willingness to learn and continuously improve

In order to become a Mechanical Fitter you must complete an apprenticeship in Engineering - Mechanical (Maintenance) Fitting. A Mechanical Fitting apprenticeship usually takes four years to complete in conjunction with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Applying for a career with GPC

AGREEMENT WITH GPC

As an apprentice, you enter into a formal training contract with GPC.

You will spend most of your time working and learning practical skills on the job, however, some time will be spent undertaking structured block-release training.

Trainers will assess your skills and when you are competent in all areas, you will be awarded a nationally-recognised qualification.

To improve your chances of gaining an apprenticeship, you can learn some basic skills and knowledge through pre-apprenticeship courses or structured work placements through your school.

WHAT WE LOOK FOR

As a GPC Apprentice you will need to provide us similar examples and prove to us you have the capability to:

- Work safely in a heavy industrial environment
- Possess good communication skills both written and verbal
- Be motivated to learn and develop new skills
- Have the ability to work constructively in a team.

There are several steps in the apprentice/trainee recruitment process and successful candidates commence in late January, early February each year.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

You must have completed Year 10 with Sound Achievement or higher in English and Maths to be successful for an apprenticeship at GPC.

ANNUAL INTAKE

GPC recruits annually for apprentices and trainees across a number of trade areas. Advertising is conducted over a number of weeks in July each year with applications closing in late July.

OUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

All apprentices participate in the Apprentice Port Trust Scheme where a nominal payment is deposited weekly into a

trust fund over the term of their apprenticeship that can be accessed at the completion of the apprenticeship as a lump sum payment.

APPRENTICE AWARDS

GPC has an apprentice/trainee award scheme which includes four key elements:

- Apprentice/Trainee of the Year
- Performance Management
- Training and Development
- Mentoring.

HOW TO APPLY

Visit GPC's website at www.gpcl.com.au/careers

Please ensure you have the following documents available when you submit your application:

- Cover Letter
- Copies of current school results (if applicable)
- Copies of relevant TAFE accredited certificates
- Copies of relevant qualifications
- Drivers licence (if applicable)
- Resume.

OUR APPRENTICE BENEFITS

GPC prides itself on being an outstanding local employer in the Central Queensland region, offering excellent conditions. Our employment conditions are competitive and include:

- Above award apprentice wages
- Annual wage increases upon satisfactory completion of training
- Tools of trade – tool kit upon successful completion of probation period
- All training costs are covered by GPC eg. books, enrolment and tuition fees
- Safety uniform issued on a fair wear and tear basis
- A dedicated superannuation scheme, including salary sacrificing
- Health and safety awareness training and initiatives.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about a career opportunity with GPC, contact our Recruitment Team on (07) 4976 1686 or careers@gpcl.com.au

