



POWERUP

SECTOR - GAS

The gas industry is a major supplier of energy to Australian homes and factories. It supplies natural gas via pipelines and LPG gas via cylinders. The technical operations of the gas industry requires the involvement of people employed to:

- Design transmission/distribution/processing and storage systems
- Construct and maintain those systems
- Commission and decommission systems
- Meter and bill customers.

Technological innovation, the range of work activities and varied occupations involved in the gas industry provide exciting employment opportunities.

JOB AREA - LPG DISTRIBUTION

Field based operators transport LPG to customers, storage facilities and distributors throughout Australia. LPG is transported in large road tankers and distributed either by filling or exchanging small cylinders directly at a customer's location. LPG is used in every city and town and is also used increasingly as a fuel for vehicles.

If you'd like to drive vehicles and learn new skills then LPG transportation and distribution could be for you. There are great opportunities available for qualified operators throughout Australia as a tanker transport driver, cylinder distributor and depot cylinder tester/filler.

JOB AREA - FIELD OPERATIONS

If you like the idea of working outdoors and in a team then gas industry operations might be for you. Field based operators work in both rural and city locations. Their primary function is the construction or maintenance of gas transmission and distribution pipeline systems. They are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the network and the control systems.

As a Certificate II Operator, you will use a variety of equipment including portable power tools and also be responsible for controlling gas escapes and fires. There is the opportunity to be involved with new "green" technology too.

This is a growing industry with the opportunity to develop further skills useful both in gas and other related industries.



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JOB AREA - FIELD OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

If you like the idea of working out doors and the potential of starting your own gas subcontracting business, work as a field based operator at Certificate III level could be for you. Operators work in both rural and city locations and are responsible for coordinating operations. In this role you could often lead small crews of 2 or 3 people.

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JOB AREA - SYSTEMS DESIGN MANAGEMENT

All areas of the gas industry require specialists to design and manage projects. They are responsible for designing and developing distribution and transmission systems and ensuring that projects run according to plan. They often fluctuate between field based and office based work depending on construction phases.

The skills acquired in this job are transferable to many industries. Exciting projects exist throughout Australia and range from the construction of small sections of distribution piping to pipelines thousands of kilometres in length.

Often working as part of a large team, system designers and project managers can be responsible for any stage of a construction program.

NEXT STEP

Depending upon the career you want, you might train on the job, or earn while you learn in a combination of work and on and off the job training, or you might study full or part time at a university, TAFE or other Registered Training Organisation and then get a job.

Trade. An Australian Apprenticeship (apprenticeship or traineeship) is a great way to kick start your career especially if you enjoy hands on work. And tradespeople and trained operators are in high demand and well rewarded.

Technical. As modern industry becomes increasingly reliant upon computers and high tech machinery and equipment, the need for skilled technicians, supervisors, managers and engineering associates also increases. Some technicians and supervisors require Certificate III or IV, and technologists, technical officers, project managers and engineering associates usually need to complete a Diploma or Advanced Diploma.

Professional. Utilities and Electrotechnology needs highly skilled engineers to continually design, develop and implement new and improved technologies. The industry also needs many other management professionals.

Many state, territory and regional government websites have information about Gas and some of these also have jobs and career information. Just use your search engine and type in e.g. South Australia Gas. You can also search for Gas Authorities, Gas Companies and Gas Suppliers, or just enter a job title into a search engine and see what pops up.