



**Australian Government**

# **DEFCA407B Operate a sustained fire machine gun**

**Release: 2**

## DEFCA407B Operate a sustained fire machine gun

### Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	DEF12 V2	Application added. Minor Range Statement changes. Evidence Guide updated.
1	DEF12 V1	Release

### Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to operate a sustained fire machine gun.

Operating a sustained fire machine gun involves the ability to safely handle, safely maintain, safely operate and safely fire the sustained fire machine gun.

A sustained fire machine gun is normally fired from a tripod utilising a sighting system enabling direct and indirect fire.

The individual will be under supervision, usually as part of a team and will usually operate under direct orders.

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. In a Defence context, this means that there is no civilian need to hold this unit in order to meet licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements.

### Application of the Unit

This competency was developed for combat arms personnel required to operate a sustained fire machine gun in a deployed operational environment but is applicable to any individual in this field of work.

Typically, operators usually work as part of a team under direct and/or indirect supervision, use discretion and judgement, and take responsibility for the quality of their outputs.

All activities are carried out in accordance with relevant organisational policies and procedures.

### Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

### Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

## Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Safely handle a sustained fire machine gun	<p>1.1 Work health and safety (WHS) requirements and recognised safety precautions are applied throughout the operation.</p> <p>1.2 <i>Sustained fire machine gun</i> is handled and carried safely in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>1.3 <i>Ammunition</i> is identified and selected, and safely handled in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>1.4 Sustained fire machine gun is secured in accordance with standard procedures.</p>
2. Safely maintain a sustained fire machine gun	<p>2.1 Sustained fire machine gun is stripped and assembled in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>2.2 Sustained fire machine gun and associated equipment are cleaned and serviced as required and in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>2.3 Ammunition is cleaned, inspected, carried and secured in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>2.4 <i>Defects</i> are identified and rectified within limits of authority or reported to supervisor.</p> <p>2.5 Documentation is completed in accordance with standard procedures.</p>
3. Safely operate a sustained fire machine gun	<p>3.1 <i>Weapon drills</i> are conducted in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>3.2 <i>Marksmanship principles</i> are applied in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>3.3 <i>Fire positions</i> are adopted as required by environment and threat.</p> <p>3.4 <i>Weapon equipment</i> is employed as required in accordance with standard procedures.</p>
4. Safely fire a sustained fire machine gun	<p>4.1 Sustained fire machine gun is safely fired in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>4.2 Range Safety Brief and Practice Brief are complied with when firing a sustained fire machine gun on a range, in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>4.3 Targets are identified and engaged in accordance with standard procedures.</p>

## **Required Skills and Knowledge**

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

### **Required Skills**

- aim the sustained fire machine gun
- apply immediate action and stoppage drills
- apply recognised safety precautions

### **Required Knowledge**

- characteristics, technical capabilities, effects, employment and limitations of the sustained fire machine gun and ammunition
- degrees of weapon readiness
- WHS requirements
- marksmanship principles
- range safety
- safety precautions of the sustained fire machine gun
- types of targets

## Evidence Guide

### Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to

- conduct all weapon drills as listed in the Range Statement
- fire the weapon using, as a minimum, ball ammunition
- fire the weapon mounted on a tripod
- recognise the limit of own authority
- confirm that operators meet the specified minimum requirements as laid down by the relevant Service Chief

### Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over time and across a range of simulated or actual workplace situations.

### Context of and specific resources for assessment

#### Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in the workplace or in a simulated workplace environment using live ammunition on a live firing range. This would include 'dry' assessment to ensure that a safe environment is maintained.

#### Specific resources for assessment

Access to a sustained fire machine gun, ammunition and a live firing range.

## Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<b><i>Sustained fire machine gun</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MAG 58</li> <li>• 12.7 Quick Change Barrel (QCB)</li> </ul>
<b><i>Standard procedures</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian Standards</li> <li>• defence instructions</li> <li>• doctrine pamphlets</li> <li>• job guides, other publications</li> <li>• manufacturers' handbooks, industry specifications and technical instructions</li> <li>• WHS regulations</li> <li>• organisational policies and procedures</li> <li>• procedure manuals</li> <li>• relevant local government by-laws</li> <li>• relevant state/territory or federal legislation</li> <li>• routine orders</li> <li>• standing orders</li> <li>• standing operating procedures</li> <li>• written and verbal orders</li> </ul>
<b><i>Ammunition</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• armour piercing</li> <li>• blank</li> <li>• ball</li> <li>• dummy</li> <li>• incendiary</li> <li>• tracer</li> </ul>
<b><i>Defects</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cracks</li> <li>• damaged feeding mechanism</li> <li>• damaged sighting system</li> <li>• faulty trigger mechanism</li> <li>• incorrect serial numbers</li> <li>• out of date or missing fully functional classification label</li> </ul>
<b><i>Weapon drills</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• safety precautions (e.g. checking clearances)</li> <li>• degrees of weapon readiness</li> <li>• immediate action and stoppage</li> </ul>
<b><i>Marksmanship principles</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• position and hold must be firm enough to support the weapon</li> <li>• weapon must point naturally at the target without</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>undue physical effort</li><li>shot must be released and followed through without disturbance to the firer's position</li><li>aiming must be correct</li></ul>
<b><i>Fire positions</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>pintle mounted</li><li>tripod mounted</li></ul>
<b><i>Weapon equipment</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>complete equipment schedule (ces)</li><li>tripod</li><li>weapon sighting systems; such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>C2 sight</li><li>night sights</li><li>thermal/infra-red</li></ul></li></ul>

## Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.