



**Australian Government**

# **DEFCA432 Supervise the operation of mortars**

**Release: 1**

## DEFCA432 Supervise the operation of mortars

### Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
1	DEF12 V2	First release. Replaces and is equivalent to DEFCA425B. Supervise the operation of mortars. 1 Pre-requisite removed. Application added.

### Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to supervise and control all aspects of the operation of mortars.

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 supervise and control all aspects of the operation of a mortar in a deployed operational environment but is applicable to any individual in this field of work.

Typically supervisors work independently and lead 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

DEFCA412B Operate a mortar

### 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

<p><b>1. Prepare and deploy mortars</b></p>	<p>1.1 <b><i>Resources</i></b> required for the performance of the task are determined and organised in accordance with orders.</p> <p>1.2 Identified problems/shortfalls are reported to immediate supervisor in accordance with <b><i>standard procedures</i></b>.</p> <p>1.3 Mortars are deployed and the command post is established in accordance with orders.</p> <p>1.4 Work health and safety (WHS) requirements and recognised safety precautions are applied throughout the operation.</p>
<p><b>2. Engage targets with mortars</b></p>	<p>2.1 Command post is effectively supervised.</p> <p>2.2 Accuracy of all firing data is confirmed.</p> <p>2.3 Lay of all weapons are correct before firing.</p> <p>2.4 Appropriate firing orders are given to the direct fire support weapon operators.</p> <p>2.5 Appropriate <b><i>ammunition</i></b> is selected in accordance with orders.</p> <p>2.6 <b><i>Minor incidents</i></b> are rectified in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>2.7 <b><i>Major incidents</i></b> beyond own level of authority or competence are reported to manager and action is taken as directed.</p>
<p><b>3. Ensure mortars are maintained</b></p>	<p>3.1 Operator maintenance activities are supervised.</p> <p>3.2 Reported defects are rectified within limits of authority or reported to supervisor.</p> <p>3.3 <b><i>Maintenance</i></b> activities are completed 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

- interpret orders

### Required Knowledge

- ammunition identification:
  - type
  - colour
  - hazard band
  - labelling
  - markings
  - lot/batch numbers
  - packaging
- safety precautions associated with the task

## Evidence Guide

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

Assessment must confirm the ability to effectively direct and control the mortar operating crew supervise command post activities; to conduct sight testing; and to conduct non-technical inspection.

### Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated on operations or in simulated operational environments over time while firing live high explosive ammunition.

### Context of and specific resources for assessment

#### Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in a simulated operational environment.

#### Specific resources for assessment

Access to a live firing range, mortar crews, at least two mortars and live ammunition.

## 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.

<p><b><i>Resources</i></b> required may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ammunition</li> <li>• any allocated support</li> <li>• materials</li> <li>• personnel</li> <li>• stores</li> <li>• vehicles</li> <li>• weapons</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Standard procedures</i></b> may include:</p>	<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 operating procedures</li> <li>• standing orders</li> <li>• written and verbal orders</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Ammunition</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anti-armour</li> <li>• high explosive</li> <li>• illumination</li> <li>• improved conventional munitions</li> <li>• precision guided munitions</li> <li>• smoke</li> <li>• white phosphorus</li> <li>• and may be used with following fuse types:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• super quick (point detonating /graze)</li> <li>• delay</li> <li>• proximity</li> <li>• time</li> <li>• near surface burst</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Minor incidents</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• damage to ancillary equipment</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• damage to firing mechanism</li><li>• damage to sighting equipment</li><li>• injury to personnel</li><li>• jammed ammunition</li></ul>
<i>Major incidents</i> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• loss of personnel</li><li>• exposure to direct or indirect attack from hostile forces unintended explosive ordnance detonation</li></ul>
<i>Maintenance of mortars</i> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• bore sighting</li><li>• non-technical inspection</li><li>• sight testing</li></ul>

## Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.