



Australian Government

MARF5003A Respond to emergencies

Release 1

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Modification History

Release 1

This is the first release of this unit.

Unit Descriptor

This unit involves the skills and knowledge required to deal with maritime emergencies and incidents.

Application of the Unit

This unit applies to maritime workers working in the maritime industry as a Watchkeeper Deck; as a Master, Chief Mate or Watchkeeper Deck on ships of less than 500 gross tonnage (GT) in any operating area; or as Master or Chief Mate of vessels less than 3000 GT operating in near coastal waters.

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. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

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|--|---|
| 1 Raise alarms | 1.1 Urgency of situation and <i>nature of emergency</i> is identified promptly |
| | 1.2 <i>Relevant alarms</i> are activated |
| | 1.3 <i>Distress signals</i> are used to indicate need for assistance, if required |
| 2 Control onboard emergency | 2.1 <i>Initial actions</i> on becoming aware of emergency are undertaken according to contingency plans and are appropriate to urgency of situation and nature of emergency |
| | 2.2 Onboard personnel are given information and instructions clearly and accurately |
| | 2.3 Procedures are implemented to combat emergency and to protect persons on board |
| | 2.4 Communications are established with <i>others</i> to facilitate emergency response process |
| | 2.5 Injured persons are provided with assistance |
| | 2.6 Contact is maintained with others at all times to keep them briefed on emergency response process |
| | 2.7 Preparation for abandoning vessel is undertaken, if required |
| | 2.8 Cessation of emergency is communicated to appropriate personnel |
| 3 Respond to a distress signal at sea | 3.1 Distress signals from others are recognised immediately |
| | 3.2 <i>Nature of assistance</i> required is identified |
| | 3.3 Capability to safely assist or relay emergency is determined taking into account own safety and physical proximity to emergency |
| | 3.4 Appropriate response to emergency is prepared for and implemented according to contingency plans and instructions in standing orders |
| | 3.5 Cessation of emergency is communicated to appropriate personnel |

Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required Skills:

- Apply first aid
- Correctly using lifesaving appliances
- If appropriate, manoeuvre vessel, according to contingency plans
- Immediately recognise a distress or emergency signal
- Implement contingency plans and instructions in standing orders when responding to a distress signal at sea
- Promptly identify type and scale of emergency

Required Knowledge:

- Common emergency actions
- Contents of the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual
- Initial action to be taken following a collision or grounding
- Initial damage assessment and control
- Precautions for protection and safety of passengers in emergency situations
- Procedures to be followed for:
 - rescuing persons from the sea
 - assisting a vessel in distress
 - responding to emergencies that arise in port
- Range of lifesaving appliances
- Types of maritime emergency incidents and situations
- Work health and safety (WHS)/occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements and work practices

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, the required skills and knowledge, the range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

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

The evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the Elements, Performance Criteria, Required Skills, Required Knowledge and include:

- promptly identify type and scale of emergency
- awareness of one's surroundings and changes to these surroundings
- working as part of a team.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Performance is demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

Resources for assessment include access to:

- industry-approved marine operations site where responding to emergencies can be conducted
- tools, equipment and personal protective equipment currently used in industry
- relevant regulatory and equipment documentation that impacts on work activities
- range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or other simulated practical and knowledge assessments
- appropriate range of relevant operational situations in the workplace.

In both real and simulated environments, access is required to:

- relevant and appropriate materials and equipment
- applicable documentation including workplace procedures, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

Method of assessment

Practical assessment must occur in an:

- appropriately simulated workplace environment and/or
- appropriate range of situations in the workplace.

A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate to this unit:

- direct observation of the candidate responding to emergencies
- direct observation of the candidate applying relevant WHS/OHS requirements and work practices.

Guidance information for

Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry

assessment

sector, workplace and job role is recommended.

In all cases where practical assessment is used it should be combined with targeted questioning to assess Required Knowledge.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language and literacy requirements of the work being performed and the capacity of the candidate.

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, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below.

- Nature of emergency may include:
- Anchoring
 - Assisting a vessel in distress
 - Collision
 - Contaminated fuel
 - Emergencies which arise in port
 - Engine breakdown or malfunction
 - Fire
 - Flooding
 - Grounding
 - Hypothermia
 - Incidents
 - Injuries/illness
 - Lack of fuel
 - Lost
 - Person overboard
 - Rescuing persons from sea
 - Sinking
 - Swamping
- Relevant alarms may include:
- Abandon ship signals
 - Fire and lifeboat muster alarms
 - Mayday broadcast
- Distress signals may include:
- Emergency position indicating radio beacons (EPIRB)
 - Flags
 - Hand signals
 - International Code Signal of Distress
 - Light signals
 - Pyrotechnic distress signals
 - Radio
 - Reflective mirror
 - V-sheet
- Initial actions may include:
- Damage assessment and control
 - Manoeuvring vessel
- Others may include:
- Aircraft
 - Other vessels
 - Search and rescue authorities
- Nature of assistance may include:
- Assisting a ship in distress
 - Rescuing persons from sea

- Responding to emergencies occurring in port

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Competency Field

Operational Quality and Safety