



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

DEFCA414B Operate direct fire support weapon systems on operations

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

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This unit covers the competency required to safely handle, aim, fire, and maintain *direct fire support weapon systems* designed to destroy targets and provide battlefield effects. The weapon system is carried and operated by a team.

All members of the team must be thoroughly familiar with target identification, the characteristics and capabilities of the weapon system and be competent in the application of fire in an operational environment.

The team will usually operate under direct Orders for Opening Fire and in accordance with the Rules of Engagement.

Application of the Unit

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The application of this unit in the workplace - the environments, complexities and situations involved - will be written during Phase II of the Review of the PUA00 Public Safety Training Package.

This text will be useful for the purposes of job descriptions, recruitment advice or job analysis; where possible, it will not be too job specific to allow other industries to import it into other Training Packages, where feasible.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite Unit/s Nil

Employability Skills Information

Employability Skills 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 Required Skills and Knowledge and/or the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. **Handle a direct fire support system**

- 1.1 Weapon is safely handled and carried in accordance with *standard procedures*
- 1.2 *Ammunition* is identified, selected and safely handled in accordance with standard procedures
- 1.3 *Weapon drills* are conducted in accordance with standard procedures
- 1.4 *Fire positions* are adopted as required by environment and threat
- 1.5 Occupational health and safety (OH&S) requirements and recognised safety precautions are applied throughout the operation
- 1.6 Ammunition is secured in accordance with standard procedures

2. **Apply fire with a direct fire support system**

- 2.1 *Weapon sighting systems* and *associated equipment* are employed as required by the *operational environment* and in accordance with standard procedures
- 2.2 Targets are *identified* and *engaged* in accordance with standard procedures

3. **Maintain and stow a direct fire support system**

- 3.1 Operator maintenance is conducted in accordance with standard procedures
- 3.2 *Defects* are identified and rectified within limits of authority or reported to supervisor
- 3.3 Documentation is completed in accordance with standard procedures

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

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

Required Skills

- achieve the required effects of fire
- apply battlecraft aggressively
- apply fieldcraft skills
- apply recognised safety precautions
- hand eye coordination
- handle weapon safely in an operational environment
- manual dexterity
- use binoculars
- work in a team

Required Knowledge

- battlecraft
- characteristics, technical capabilities, effects, employment and limitations of the weapon
- characteristics, technical capabilities of the system
- fieldcraft
- fire control orders
- OH&S requirements
- safety precautions associated with the equipment
- target identification
- team work
- weapon drills

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

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

Assessment must confirm the ability to carry out all weapon drills as listed in the Range Statement; to accurately identify the target type; to fire the weapon using high explosive ammunition; to achieve the desired effect - destruction obscuration, illumination fire from any supported and unsupported position; and to recognise limit of own authority.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over time in a range of actual live firing contexts. The operational activity is to take place over time allowing the individual to be assessed in a number of realistic operational scenarios.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed using live ammunition and should simulate an operational threat environment. The team should be exposed to the extremes of the operational environment where the team is under physical and mental stress. The context of assessment is simulated due to the nature of this high-risk environment.

Specific resources for assessment

Access to a direct fire support system, ammunition and a live firing range.

Range Statement

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.

Direct fire support weapon systems may include

84 mm Carl Gustaf

Standard procedures may include

Australian Standards

Defence Instructions

Doctrinal pamphlets

Job guides, other publications

Manufacturers' handbooks, industry specifications and technical instructions

OH&S regulations

Organisational policies and procedures

Procedure manuals

Relevant local government by-laws

Relevant state/territory or federal legislation

Routine Orders

Standing Operating Procedures

Standing Orders

Written and verbal orders

Ammunition may include

High explosive

High explosive anti tank

High explosive dual purpose

Illumination

Practice

Rocket assist

Smoke

Sub calibre

Tracer

Weapon drills must include

Checking clearances

Degrees of weapon readiness

RANGE STATEMENT

	Immediate action and misfire
	Safety precautions
	Stripping and assembling
Fire positions may include	Supported or unsupported
	Prone
	Standing
	Kneeling
	Sitting
	Squatting
Weapon sighting systems may include	Flare
	Folding leaf
	Night sights
	Telescopic optical
	Thermal/infra-red
Associated equipment may include	Bipod
	Bore sight equipment
	Cleaning equipment
	Complete Equipment Schedule (CES)
	Sling
	Tripod
Operational environment may include	All seasons weather and terrain
	Day
	Extreme stress
	Night
	Primitive conditions
	Under threat
Identification of the target must may include	Differentiation between friend or foe
	Vehicle type identification:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • main battle tanks and other armoured vehicles • light armed vehicles • light skin vehicles

RANGE STATEMENT**Engagement of the target
may include**

Destruction
Illumination
Neutralisation
Obscuration

Defects may include

Broken cocking rod
Broken firing pin
Damaged cartridge guide
Damaged sighting system
Faulty extension system
Faulty firing mechanism

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Corequisite Unit/s

Co-requisite Unit/s Nil