



Australian Government

DEFCA420B Operate a light support weapon on operations

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	DEF12 V2	Unit descriptor updated Application added Minor Range Statement change Evidence Guide updated
1	DEF12 V1	Release

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to effectively conduct battle shooting on operations with a light support weapon, which may include the F89 Minimi, in the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

This unit of competency describes similar outcomes to DEFCM102B Operate a light support weapon, except it requires a higher level of marksmanship and proficiency, and is only assessed in an operational environment for example as an infantry soldier.

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 light support weapon on operations in a deployed operational environment but is applicable to any individual in this field of work.

The individual will be under supervision, usually as part of a team and will usually operate under direct Orders for Opening Fire and in accordance with the Rules of Engagement.

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
<p>1. Handle a light support weapon</p>	<p>1.1 Light support weapon is safely handled and carried in accordance with <i>standard procedures</i>.</p> <p>1.2 <i>Ammunition</i> is identified, selected and safely handled in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>1.3 <i>Weapon drills</i> are conducted in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>1.4 <i>Fire positions</i> are adopted as required by environment and threat.</p> <p>1.5 Work health and safety (WHS) requirements and recognised safety precautions are applied throughout the operation.</p> <p>1.6 Ammunition is secured and <i>maintained</i> in accordance with standard procedures.</p>
<p>2. Apply fire with a light support weapon</p>	<p>2.1 <i>Weapon sighting systems</i> and <i>associated equipment</i> are employed as required by the <i>operational environment</i> and in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>2.2 Rules of Engagement and Orders for Opening Fire are complied with when firing a light support weapon on operations in accordance with operational requirements.</p> <p>2.3 Targets are identified and <i>engaged</i> as required by the operational environment and in accordance with standard procedures.</p>
<p>3. Maintain and stow a light support weapon</p>	<p>3.1 Weapon and associated equipment are cleaned and serviced in all operational conditions.</p> <p>3.2 <i>Defects</i> are identified and rectified within limits of authority or reported to supervisor.</p> <p>3.3 Documentation is completed in accordance with standard procedures.</p> <p>3.4 Light support weapon is secured, 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

- achieve the required effects of fire
- apply battlecraft aggressively
- apply fieldcraft skills
- apply recognised safety precautions
- handle weapons safely in an operational environment
- interpret fire control orders
- work in a team

Required Knowledge

- battlecraft
- characteristics, technical capabilities, effects, employment and limitations of the light support weapon and ammunition
- fieldcraft
- fire control orders
- WHS requirements
- recognised safety precautions
- team work
- weapon drills

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
- fire the weapon using, as a minimum, linked ball ammunition
- apply a variety of engagement techniques as described in the Range Statement
- work as part of a team
- recognise limit of own authority

The light support weapon operator must be able to achieve the standard of operation and marksmanship as stipulated in *Training the Battle Shot Stage 5; MLW 2-9-1 Training the Battle Shot*.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over time and across a range of simulated or actual workplace situations in a range of actual live firing contexts based on a number of realistic operational scenarios.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in the workplace using live ammunition in a simulated operational threat environment on a firing range. The context of assessment is simulated due to the nature of this high risk environment.

Assessment must be conducted day and night and using night fighting equipment.

Specific resources for assessment

Access to a light support weapon, ammunition and an actual or simulated operational environment.

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><i>Standard procedures</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Standards • defence instructions • doctrine pamphlets • job guides, other publications • manufacturers' handbooks, industry specifications and technical instructions • WHS 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
<p><i>Ammunition</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ball • blank • drill • linked or individual • simmunition • trace
<p><i>Weapon drills</i> must include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • checking clearances • degrees of weapon readiness • immediate action and stoppage • safety precautions • stripping and assembling
<p><i>Fire positions</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supported or unsupported • with or without sling • tripod mounted • pintle mounted • prone • standing • kneeling • sitting • squatting
<p><i>Ammunition maintenance</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleaning belts

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • linking and de-linking belts
<p><i>Weapon sighting systems</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • electronic aiming devices • iron • night sights • optical • thermal/infra-red
<p><i>Associated equipment</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blank firing barrel • complete equipment schedule (CES) • magazines • slings
<p><i>Engagement of the target</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suppression • destruction • fix • neutralisation • rates of fire
<p><i>Defects</i> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cracks • damaged firing pin • damaged sighting system • faulty trigger mechanism • incorrect serial numbers

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.