



**Australian Government**

# **DEFEO722A Detect, record and collect evidence**

**Release: 2**

## DEFEO722A Detect, record and collect evidence

### Modification History

Release	TP version	Comments
2	DEF12 V2	Layout adjusted.
1	DEF12 V1	First release.

### Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to detect, record and collect physical evidence resulting from an explosive incident.

It does not cover any testing or analysis of the physical evidence.

### Application of the Unit

This competency normally applies to an individual who is required to detect, record and collect physical evidence resulting from an explosive incident.

These activities can be conducted under a variety of conditions, including wartime, peacekeeping, training, in support of the civilian community/authority, as part of a joint services and/or coalition operation.

The explosive incident may be an act of aggression or an accident.

### 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. <b>Detect and record physical evidence</b>	<p>1.1 <b><i>Physical evidence is detected</i></b> using observation techniques and appropriate technological methods</p> <p>1.2 <b><i>Latent evidence</i></b> is detected by physical or chemical means</p> <p>1.3 Physical evidence is recorded prior to examination in accordance with <b><i>standard procedures</i></b></p> <p>1.4 <b><i>Recording methods</i></b> are identified to document the physical evidence in accordance with standard procedures and within resource limitations</p> <p>1.5 Documented record of the physical evidence is produced in accordance with standard procedures</p>
2. <b>Collect physical evidence</b>	<p>2.1 Physical evidence is <b><i>collected</i></b> to prevent contamination or loss in accordance with standard procedures</p> <p>2.2 Samples collected are sufficient in quantity, where possible, to allow all potential examinations/analysis to be carried out</p> <p>2.3 Samples collected are sufficient to represent the <b><i>natural variation</i></b> that occurs in the physical evidence</p> <p>2.4 <b><i>Control reference samples</i></b> are collected where available and appropriate</p>
3. <b>Package physical evidence</b>	<p>3.1 Items are <b><i>packaged and stored</i></b> to maintain continuity and prevent degradation or contamination</p> <p>3.2 Physical evidence is packaged in accordance with work health and safety guidelines</p>

## Required Skills and Knowledge

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

### Required Skills

- analyse items of physical evidence
- apply operational safety
- apply resource management
- apply time management
- collect, package and preserve specific evidence types
- communicate orally and in writing
- handle exhibits and preserve continuity of evidence
- make decisions in relation items of physical evidence
- solve problems in relation items of physical evidence
- use specialised evidence recording equipment as required

### Required Knowledge

- application and limitations of forensic investigative techniques
- legislative, policy, and quality system requirements for search and the seizure of physical evidence
- legislative, policy, and quality system requirements for the collection, preservation, continuity and disposal of physical evidence
- legislative, policy and quality system requirements for the security, protection and preservation of the physical evidence
- legislative, policy, and quality system context in which forensic examinations are conducted
- WHS practices to be followed when recording, collecting and packaging physical evidence
- range of techniques available for recording, collecting, packaging and preserving physical evidence
- required documentation for recording and collecting of physical evidence
- role and functions of other forensic discipline specialists in recording, collecting, preserving and continuity of physical evidence

## Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package.

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

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- maximise the potential evidentiary value of the evidence

### **Consistency in performance**

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

### **Context of and specific resources for assessment**

#### **Context of assessment**

Competency should be assessed on the job or in a simulated work environment.

#### **Specific resources for assessment**

There are no specific resource requirements for this unit.

### **Method of assessment**

In a public safety environment assessment is usually conducted via direct observation in a training environment or in the workplace via subject matter supervision and/or mentoring, which is typically recorded in a competency workbook.

Assessment is completed using appropriately qualified assessors who select the most appropriate method of assessment.

Assessment may occur in an operational environment or in an industry-approved simulated work environment. Forms of assessment that are typically used include:

- direct observation
- interviewing the candidate
- journals and workplace documentation
- third party reports from supervisors
- written or oral questions

## Range Statement

<p>The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. <b><i>Bold italicised</i></b> wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.</p>	
<p><b><i>Physical evidence</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any and all objects that are gross or microscopic in size, living or inanimate, solid, liquid or gas, including explosives, biological tissue, debris, arisings and documents</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Detecting evidence</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemical</li> <li>Optical</li> <li>Physical</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Latent evidence</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explosive chemistry</li> <li>Fingerprints</li> <li>Invisible evidence until it is enhanced in some way</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Standard procedures</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative or procedural requirements to maintain the chain of evidence or meet specific investigative requirements</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Recording methods</i></b> can be:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audio recording</li> <li>Computer generated data</li> <li>Digital imaging</li> <li>Global positioning system (GPS)</li> <li>Hand written notes</li> <li>Photographic</li> <li>Physical capture</li> <li>Sketches</li> <li>Video recording</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Collecting physical evidence</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand picking (including use of forceps, gloves)</li> <li>Swabbing</li> <li>Sweeping</li> <li>Tape lifting</li> <li>Vacuuming</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Natural variation</i></b> refers to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diversity of characteristics that occurs in all items of physical evidence</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Control reference samples</i></b> refers to:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control samples which represent background contaminants</li> <li>Samples collected from a known source</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Packaging and storing</i></b> may include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drying of wet exhibits</li> <li>Exhibit labels</li> <li>Packaging medium</li> <li>Physical nature of exhibit</li> <li>Stability (explosives)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Storage temperature</li><li>• Tamper evident seals</li></ul>
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**Unit Sector(s)**

Not applicable.