



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for MARF027  
Apply basic survival skills in the event of  
vessel abandonment**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for MARF027 Apply basic survival skills in the event of vessel abandonment

## Modification History

Release 1. New unit of competency. Licensing/regulatory information has been incorporated in accordance with Regulatory requirements. Assessment Requirements have been strengthened in accordance with Regulatory requirements.

## Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and include:

- collecting, managing and interpreting information on the use of lifesaving equipment and procedures to be followed when order to abandon vessel is given
- communicating effectively with other personnel and passengers during simulated and/or actual abandon vessel musters and emergencies
- determining type and extent of emergency and appropriate survival action to be taken
- donning a lifejacket in water and:
  - assisting a survivor to don a lifejacket
  - holding heat escape lessening posture for at least 5 minutes
  - maintaining a group huddle for at least 10 minutes
  - swimming in a group conga line for a minimum of 50 metres
  - swimming in a lifejacket for a minimum of 50 metres
  - towing with a life jacket for a minimum of 25 metres
- ensuring behaviour reflects statutory requirements pertaining to lifesaving appliances
- operating radio equipment, including very high frequency (VHF) or high frequency (HF) radios
- operating and using lifesaving and survival equipment, including:
  - orange smoke flares or red handheld flares
  - life buoys
  - life jacket or personal floatation devices
- planning timing and sequence of individual survival actions to be appropriate to prevailing circumstances and conditions of emergency, and minimising potential dangers and threats to other survivors
- reading and interpreting instructions on emergency procedures, safety management systems (SMS) and plans
- recognising and interpreting alarms and muster signals appropriately
- remaining afloat without a lifejacket for at least 5 minutes.

## Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- appropriate techniques for:
  - first aid
  - maritime communication
  - survival with a swamped, semi-submerged tender or dingy
  - using survival equipment
- action to be taken in an emergency situation
- certificates and documentation, including:
  - instructions for use of lifesaving equipment
  - lifesaving and survival equipment certificates
  - pyrotechnic expiry dates
  - record of inspection of equipment
- crew and passenger safety briefing
- construction, outfit and particular characteristics of various types of applicable survival equipment
- distress signals, their use and penalty for misuse
- emergency muster and abandon vessel signals
- emergencies that may lead to vessel abandonment
- established safety practice and procedures
- hazards, including:
  - expired pyrotechnics
  - inaccessible lifejackets
  - no defined abandon ship procedures established
  - poorly maintained equipment
- importance of being ready for any shipboard emergency, including initial actions for survival on vessel; abandonment
- location of:
  - lifesaving appliances on a vessel
  - survival equipment on vessel
- maintenance of lifesaving appliances
- person overboard combination light and smoke float
- purpose and use of relevant personal protective equipment (PPE)
- procedures for:
  - abandoning vessel
  - correctly operating and using lifesaving appliances on board vessels and survival craft, specifically donning a lifejacket, using a lifejacket light and whistle and using handheld pyrotechnics
  - emergency response on board vessels, including abandoning vessel

- regulatory requirements and company procedures for musters and drills
- relevant manufacturer guidelines relating to operating and using survival equipment, including instructions on equipment capability and limitations
- relevant maritime regulations related to required survival equipment on a vessel
- relevant work health and safety (WHS)/occupational health and safety (OHS) legislation and policies, including SMS, plans, processes and techniques
- signs of hypothermia and appropriate treatment
- search and rescue transponders (SARTs)
- standard safety symbols
- steps taken after collision, grounding or other marine casualty and resulting hull damage
- symptoms of hypothermia, its prevention and treatment and related use of protective covers and garments
- threats to survival after abandoning vessel, including dehydration and ingestion of seawater and:
  - appropriate strategies for countering these threats
  - how to minimise dangers
- using survival equipment, including:
  - emergency position indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs)
  - immersion suits
  - SARTs
- value of training and emergency drills for enhancing chances of survival at sea
- ways of maximising detectability using pyrotechnic distress signals, portable high frequency (HF) radios and EPIRBs.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessors must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment. As a minimum, assessment must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment. Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Practical assessment must occur in a workplace, or realistic simulated workplace, under the normal range of workplace conditions. Simulations and scenarios may be used where situations cannot be provided in the workplace or may occur only rarely, in particular for situations relating to emergency procedures and adverse weather conditions where assessment would be unsafe, impractical or may lead to environmental damage.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- applicable documentation, such as legislation, regulations, codes of practice, safety management systems, workplace procedures and operational manuals, including:
  - abandon vessel procedures
  - emergency procedures

- information on the use of lifesaving equipment
- instructions for the use of lifesaving and survival equipment
- lifesaving and survival equipment certificates
- tools, equipment, machinery, materials and relevant personal protective equipment (PPE) currently used in industry.

## **Links**

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=772efb7b-4cce-47fe-9bbd-ee3b1d1eb4c2>