



Australian Government

MEA505 Maintain and pack parachutes

Release: 2

MEA505 Maintain and pack parachutes

Modification History

Release 2. Equivalent to MEA505 Maintain and pack parachutes with amended prerequisite codes.

Application

This unit of competency requires application of skills and knowledge relating to the maintenance and packing of parachutes. Maintenance involves inspection, testing, fault diagnosis, replacement of parts, completion of repairs and cleaning during the performance of scheduled or unscheduled maintenance. Maintenance may be performed individually or as part of a team.

The unit applies to person carrying parachutes, including emergency and ejection parachutes. It also applies to ballistic parachutes used for the recovery of light aircraft.

This unit is part of the Aeroskills Life Support and Furnishing Certificate III and IV training pathways.

The unit is used in workplaces that operate under the airworthiness regulatory systems of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

Pre-requisite Unit

MEA107	Interpret and use aviation maintenance industry manuals and specifications
MEA118	Conduct self in the aviation maintenance environment
MEA154	Apply work health and safety practices in aviation maintenance
MEA155	Plan and organise aviation maintenance work activities
MEA156	Apply quality standards during aviation maintenance activities
MEA157	Complete aviation maintenance industry documentation
MEA158	Perform basic hand skills, standard trade practices and fundamentals in aviation maintenance
MEA511	Operate and maintain sewing machines and overlockers
MSFSF2002	Machine sew materials

Competency Field

Aircraft life support

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

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| 1. | Maintain parachute | 1.1 | Parachute is inspected for serviceability in accordance with standard procedures |
| | | 1.2 | Parachute is tested for serviceability in accordance with standard procedures and manufacturer's specifications |
| | | 1.3 | Identified faults beyond own authority to rectify are reported to supervisor and faulty parachute is quarantined |
| | | 1.4 | Unserviceable parts of the parachute are replaced to render parachute serviceable in accordance with standard procedures while observing all relevant work health and safety (WHS) requirements, including the use of material safety data sheets (MSDS) and items of personal protective equipment (PPE) |
| | | 1.5 | Basic parachute repairs are completed in accordance with standard procedures |
| | | 1.6 | Parachute is cleaned in accordance with standard procedures |
| | | 1.7 | Parachute is presented for inspection by supervisor in accordance with standard procedures |
| | | 1.8 | Maintenance documentation is completed and processed in accordance with standard enterprise procedures |
| 2. | Pack parachute | 2.1 | Parachute is packed for use in accordance with standard procedures |
| | | 2.2 | Parachute is presented for inspection by supervisor in accordance with standard enterprise procedures |
| | | 2.3 | Relevant documentation is completed and processed in accordance with standard enterprise procedures |

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

This field allows for different work environments and conditions that may affect performance. Essential operating conditions that may be present (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) are included.

Standard procedures are found in any or all of:

- Commonwealth/state/territory WHS legislation, regulations and codes
- Australian Standards
- Equipment manufacturers' specifications and procedures
- Industry practices
- Safety manuals
- Maintenance schedules
- Work instructions
- Maintenance organisation manuals
- MSDS
- Defence regulations and instructions
- Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASRs) and advisory material
- Standing instructions

Faults include:

- Broken stitching
- Broken quick release fitting springs
- Contamination
- Corrosion of metal parts
- Damaged hardware
- Damaged quick release fitting screws
- Excessive wear
- Expired parachute components
- Frayed lines
- Incorrect manufacture
- Pulled threads
- Incorrect rigging line sequence
- Seized quick release fitting lugs
- Stretched lines
- Tears in parachute

Parts of the parachute include:

- Ultraviolet (UV) degradation
- Canopy
- Hardware (e.g. buckles, eyelets, connector links)
- Harness
- Parachute housing (e.g. pack)
- Quick release fitting
- Rigging lines

Basic parachute repairs include:

- Broken stitching
- Corrosion (e.g. fittings)
- Damaged hardware
- Frayed lines
- Pulled threads
- Tears in parachute

Unit Mapping Information

Release 2. Equivalent to MEA505 Maintain and pack parachutes

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ce216c9c-04d5-4b3b-9bcf-4e81d0950371>