



**Australian Government**

# **MEA507 Maintain, pack and fit survival inflatable buoyancy vests**

**Release: 1**

# MEA507 Maintain, pack and fit survival inflatable buoyancy vests

## Modification History

Release 1 - New unit of competency

## Application

This unit of competency requires application of skills and knowledge relating to the maintenance, packing and fitting of survival inflatable buoyancy vests. Maintenance includes inspecting, testing, isolating faults, replacing components and cleaning prior to packing, during the performance of scheduled or unscheduled maintenance. Maintenance may be performed individually or as part of a team.

The unit does not include repairing buoyancy vests.

The Unit is part of the Aeroskills Life Support and Furnishing Certificate III and IV training pathways. It 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

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| MEA101 | Interpret work health and safety practices in aviation maintenance                           |
| MEA103 | Plan and organise aviation maintenance work activity   |
| MEA105 | Apply quality standards applicable to aviation maintenance processes                         |
| MEA107 | Interpret and use aviation maintenance industry manuals and specifications                   |
| MEA108 | Complete aviation maintenance industry documentation   |
| MEA109 | Perform basic hand skills, standard trade practices and fundamentals in aviation maintenance |
| MEA118 | Conduct self in the aviation maintenance environment   |

## 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.

- |    |   |     |  |
|----|---|-----|--|
| 1. | Maintain survival inflatable buoyancy vests | 1.1 | Survival inflatable buoyancy vests and associated ancillary equipment are inspected for serviceability in accordance with standard procedures  |
|    |   | 1.2 | Identified faults beyond own authority to rectify are reported to supervisor and faulty survival inflatable buoyancy vest and/or ancillary equipment is quarantined  |
|    |   | 1.3 | Unserviceable parts of the survival inflatable buoyancy vest and/or ancillary equipment are replaced 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) |
|    |   | 1.4 | Survival inflatable buoyancy vest is tested for serviceability in accordance with standard procedures and manufacturer's specifications  |
|    |   | 1.5 | Survival inflatable buoyancy vest is cleaned in accordance with standard procedures  |
|    |   | 1.6 | Survival inflatable buoyancy vest is presented for inspection by supervisor in accordance with standard procedures   |
|    |   | 1.7 | Maintenance documentation is completed and processed in accordance with standard enterprise procedures   |
| 2. | Pack survival inflatable buoyancy vests     | 2.1 | Survival inflatable buoyancy vest is packed for use in accordance with standard procedures   |
|    |   | 2.2 | Ancillary equipment is packed for use in accordance with standard procedures   |
|    |   | 2.3 | Survival inflatable buoyancy vest is presented for inspection by supervisor in accordance with standard enterprise procedures  |
|    |   | 2.4 | Relevant documentation is completed and processed in accordance with standard enterprise procedures  |

3. Fit survival inflatable buoyancy vests
  - 3.1 Fitting process is explained to the participant so that optimal fit can be achieved through relevant feedback
  - 3.2 Participant is measured to select appropriate size survival inflatable buoyancy vest
  - 3.3 Survival inflatable buoyancy vest is adjusted to optimise fit
  - 3.4 Survival inflatable buoyancy vest fit is verified through participant feedback and supervisor approval
  - 3.5 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.

**Applicable survival inflatable buoyancy vests include:**

- Secumar AUS2

**Ancillary equipment includes:**

- Electronic locating devices
- Lighting devices
- Pyrotechnics
- Rations
- Survival/location aids
- Water

**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:**

- Abrasion
- Broken stitching
- Contamination
- Corrosion of metal parts
- Damaged hardware
- Delamination/porosity
- Expired components or equipment
- Faulty valves
- Frayed lines
- Holes
- Incorrect manufacture
- Lifting tapes

- Parts include:**
- Ultraviolet (UV) degradation
  - Buoyancy chambers
  - Cylinders
  - Hardware
  - Operating head
  - Valves
  - Valise
  - Zippers
- Testing includes:**
- Checking ancillary equipment (e.g. electronic locating devices and survival/location aids)
  - Cylinder weight tolerance
  - Inflation tests
  - Light and battery test
- Adjustment to vest includes:**
- Breast height
  - Chest
  - Waist

## Unit Mapping Information

Release 1 – equivalent to MEA507A Maintain, pack and fit survival inflatable buoyancy vests

## Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -  
<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ce216c9c-04d5-4b3b-9bcf-4e81d0950371>