



Australian Government

CUALGT314 Install and operate follow spots

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version first released with CUA Creative Arts and Culture Training Package Version 5.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to install and operate follow spots for productions in the screen, media and entertainment industries.

The unit applies to those who modify spot cues in response to unexpected movements during performances. It involves installing, testing and operating follow spots for use during a live production. Follow spot operators work with other members of the team and are typically supervised by a senior lighting technician or lighting designer.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Unit Sector

Media and Entertainment Production – Lighting

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Install and test follow spots	1.1 Position follow spots and accessories according to required documentation and safety procedures 1.2 Install and secure spot technical support requirements according to procedures and specifications 1.3 Install manual colour changer correctly and colour according to lighting plans 1.4 Test follow spots to confirm they are operational and accessories are in working order, and seek assistance if required 1.5 Focus follow spots and check multiple spots for consistency of focus and colour temperature

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
2. Participate in technical or creative run-throughs	2.1 Rehearse technical aspects of production and communicate with performers and required personnel as required 2.2 Prepare and test back-up options in the event of an equipment malfunction 2.3 Plot and run through cues on direction from required personnel and according to equipment, sequencing, timing and speed requirements 2.4 Document required equipment deficiencies or technical adjustments to equipment and cues, and modify cue sheets as required 2.5 Execute necessary changes according to modifications required
3. Prepare to operate follow spots	3.1 Power up and check follow spots, accessories and dimmer are in working order according to procedures 3.2 Confirm colour changer is operational and emitting colour 3.3 Confirm final requirements for equipment operation have been identified, implemented and documented 3.4 Check working order of communication equipment and back-up system and seek assistance as required 3.5 Identify and safely rectify minor faults or problems and inform required personnel of any ongoing problems
4. Operate follow spots	4.1 Operate follow spots to meet performance requirements and on cue or direction from required personnel or running sheet 4.2 Synchronise follow spot operation with other lighting and staging effects 4.3 Modify follow spot cues and operation as required to enhance performance requirements and for unexpected contingencies 4.4 Identify and rectify problems safely and according to venue procedures, and inform required personnel 4.5 Identify the need for back-up systems and implement as required 4.6 Recalibrate follow spots after changing lamps as required
5. Shut down and disassemble equipment	5.1 Turn off power to follow spots and dismantle, store or cover equipment according to organisational procedures and performance requirements 5.2 Document changes to cue sheets and update and file documentation as required according to organisational procedures 5.3 Participate in reviews of overall performance to maximise creative outcomes in future productions

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.

SKILL	DESCRIPTION
Reading	• Interprets various forms of documentation, including emergency and safety procedures, equipment lists, and manuals • Identifies required information in lighting plans and performance scripts, sheets and notes
Writing	• Uses clear sequenced language, specific terminology, structure and format to record changes and finalise requirements
Oral Communication	• Uses clear language to convey information and report operational problems • Participates in an exchange of ideas, opinions and information, listening and questioning to clarify and confirm instructions
Numeracy	• Uses documentation and information from required personnel to determine equipment, sequencing, timing and speed requirements • Calculates and keeps a record of required quantities and location of follow spots and accessories
Self-management	• Understands requirements of own role and associated responsibilities • Follows established enterprise and venue protocols and procedures in performance of tasks • Ensures work practices comply with regulatory safety requirements
Teamwork	• Collaborates and cooperates with others to achieve joint outcomes • Contributes to review process using communication methods and practices
Problem solving	• Organises, installs and checks operation of equipment in logical sequences for all stages of production • Tests reliability of back-up arrangements and makes rapid decisions regarding their implementation • Identifies problems and implements logical solutions
Technology	• Uses equipment and associated computer programs and makes adjustments that conform to technical and aesthetic changes in requirements

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is equivalent to CUALGT304 Install and operate follow spots.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found on VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1db201d9-4006-4430-839f-382ef6b803d5>

Assessment Requirements for CUALGT314 Install and operate follow spots

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate the ability to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including evidence of the ability to:

- install and operate follow spots for at least one production.

In the course of the above, the candidate must:

- set up, operate and power off follow spots and associated equipment safely and effectively, according to production documentation, performance requirements, organisational instructions and safety procedures
- collaborate with production team and performers during process, responding to the artistic and technical elements of a production, including cues, directions and performance requirements, in a timely and efficient manner
- respond quickly and effectively to changing lighting cues, and sustained and unexpected movement by performers during productions
- identify and rectify follow spot problems during pre-production and production according to enterprise procedures and with minimum disruption to work flows
- inform required personnel of ongoing or complex problems as required
- produce and adjust documentation throughout process according to organisational procedures.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including knowledge of:

- key optical and mechanical features and operations of the main types of lanterns, lamps and lantern accessories
- types and features of follow spots and their accessories, and new technology ground control systems for remote control of automated fixtures
- relationship between follow spot operation and other lighting effects

- roles and responsibilities of lighting technicians, lighting assistants and follow spot operators in the creative arts industry
- typical problems with installing and operating follow spots and how to resolve them
- impact of technology on lighting aspects of production operations
- features of duty of care for the safety of colleagues and the general public while performing follow spot work, especially when on location
- work health and safety procedures that apply to installing and operating follow spots.

Assessment Conditions

Skills in this unit must be demonstrated in a live production environment where the conditions are typical of those in a working environment in this industry.

This includes access to:

- production documents
- follow spots and accessories
- a production requiring follow spots.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational educational and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. Where personal safety is a limiting factor, assessment may occur in a simulated work environment typical of those in a working environment in this industry.

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