



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

CUELGT03C Install and operate follow spots

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to install and operate follow spots for any production within the cultural industries. This is a dedicated unit which reflects the skills required to operate follow spots for productions which include extensive movement and variation on stage and for different performance contexts.

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

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Application of the Unit

Not applicable.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Refer to Unit Descriptor

Pre-Requisites

This unit has linkages to a range of other lighting units and combined assessment and/or training may be appropriate, eg:

CUFLGT02B Prepare, install and test lighting equipment

CUELGT05C Record and operate standard lighting cues.

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Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

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Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where **bold italicised** text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.

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Elements and Performance Criteria

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Element	Performance Criteria
1 Install follow spots.	1.1 Position follow spots and accessories in accordance with the lighting plan and ensure safety for the operator and audience. 1.2 Set up stands securely and adjust for height as required. 1.3 Check and adjust balance, focus and sights of the follow spot as appropriate. 1.4 Install follow spot dimmer as required. 1.5 Secure follow spot cabling safely. 1.6 Install manual colour changer correctly and colour in accordance with the lighting plan. 1.7 Test follow spot to ensure it is operational and that all accessories are in working order. 1.8 Focus follow spot and check multiple spots for consistency of focus and colour temperature.
2 Participate in technical or creative run through.	2.1 Participate in any required technical or creative run through, note any equipment deficiencies or technical adjustments to be made. 2.2 Rehearse technical aspects of the show and communicate to performers as required.

- 2.3 Set back-up options in the event of an equipment malfunction and test to ensure that they are in working order.
 - 2.4 Plot and run through cues on direction from the **appropriate personnel** and in accordance with equipment, sequencing, timing and speed requirements.
 - 2.5 Make any necessary changes to cues and modify cue sheets as required.
 - 2.6 Execute any necessary changes to equipment in accordance with modifications required.
- 3 **Prepare for follow spot operation.**
 - 3.1 Power up follow spot and check height, balance, sights, focus, operation of iris, operation of any additional **follow spot accessories** and dimmer.
 - 3.2 Check colour and/or operation of colour changer.
 - 3.3 Check that final requirements for equipment operation have been identified, implemented and documented.
 - 3.4 Check communications equipment to ensure that it is in working order.
 - 3.5 Correctly identify and rectify any **faults** or **problems** and inform relevant personnel of any ongoing problems.
- 4 **Operate follow spots.**
 - 4.1 Operate follow spot on cue/on direction from the stage manager, head follow spot operator or running sheet as appropriate.
 - 4.2 Operate spot so that beam diameter, shape, edge, colour and intensity level meet performance requirements.
 - 4.3 Synchronise follow spot operation with other lighting and staging effects.
 - 4.4 Modify follow spot cues as required to cater for unexpected contingencies.
 - 4.5 Operate spot in a manner that does not distract the audience and maintains reasonable comfort for the operator.

- 4.6 Identify and rectify problems safely, using logical problem solving techniques and in accordance with venue procedures and inform appropriate personnel are informed as required.
 - 4.7 Correctly identify the need for the use of back-up systems and implement when required.
 - 4.8 Recalibrate follow spot correctly after changing a lamp where appropriate.
- 5 **Shut down and disassemble equipment.**
- 5.1 Turn off power to the follow spot in accordance with cool-down procedure and dismantle store or cover equipment in accordance with organisational procedures and performance requirements.
 - 5.2 Note changes to cue sheets and update and file **documentation** as required in accordance with organisational procedures.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills:

hand/eye coordination skills

literacy skills sufficient to interpret a lighting plan.

Required knowledge:

knowledge of the main types of lanterns, including profile, fresnel, pebble/convex, flood, moving lanterns and PAR, their uses and operations (optical and mechanical) and accessories

different types of follow spots and their features, including incandescent and discharge units

the relationship between follow spot operation and other lighting and stage effects

techniques for the operation of follow spots, including how to adjust for colour temperature and beam.

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

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

The following evidence is critical to the judgement of competence in this unit:

application of excellent hand/eye coordination skills to follow spot operation for productions with extensive movement on stage

knowledge of different techniques for effective follow spot operation.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

The assessment context must provide for:

practical demonstration of skills through the operation of a follow spot for an actual production on more than one occasion and for more than one production

involvement of, and interaction with, a production team to reflect the collaborative nature of the process.

Method of assessment

Assessment may incorporate a range of methods to assess performance and the application of essential underpinning knowledge, and might include:

direct observation of the candidate installing or operating follow spots

evaluation of a performance where the candidate is responsible for follow spot operation

oral or written questioning to assess knowledge of follow spot equipment, operating techniques or specific OHS issues

review of portfolios of evidence or third party workplace reports of on-the-job performance by the candidate.

Assessment methods should closely reflect workplace demands and the needs of particular groups (eg people with disabilities, and people who may have literacy or numeracy difficulties such as speakers of languages other than English, remote communities and those with interrupted schooling).

Assessment of this unit requires access to:
follow spots and accessories as identified in the Range Statement
a production and production venue.

Range Statement

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. **Bold italicised** wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

Follow spots may include:

- discharge units
- incandescent.

Follow spot accessories may include:

- % power selection switches
- ballasts
- colour magazines
- gobos
- irises
- mechanical blackouts
- mechanical dimmers
- shutters
- stands.

Documentation may include:

colour lists
cue sheets
emergency procedures
equipment lists
focus notes
patch sheets.

Appropriate personnel may include:

designer
director
stage manager
supervisor, head of department
other follow spot operator
other specialist staff.

Faults and problems with follow spots may include:

blown globe
defective colour
defective iris/sights/dimmer
differences in colour temperature between different units
faulty balance
incorrect height adjustment
mis-aligned sights
problems with manual colour changer
unexpected changes by performers, eg moving out of range, behind scenery.

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.