



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

CUFLGT303A Install and operate follow spots

Revision Number: 1

CUFLGT303A Install and operate follow spots

Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor	This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to install and operate follow spots for productions in the screen, media and entertainment industries. No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.
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Application of the Unit

Application of the unit	Lighting technicians or lighting assistants in the screen, media and entertainment industries apply the skills and knowledge described in this unit. Within this largely operational role, follow spot operators need to exhibit a degree of artistic flair, including an ability to empathise with performers and modify follow spot cues quickly and effectively to accommodate unexpected movements during productions. Follow spot operators work with other members of a production team and are typically supervised by a senior lighting technician or lighting designer.
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Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units		

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills	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

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Install follow spots	1. Position follow spots and accessories according to relevant documentation and ensure safety for the operator and audience 2. Set up stands securely and adjust for height as required 3. Check and adjust balance, focus and sights of follow spots 4. Install follow spot dimmers as required 5. Secure follow spot cabling safely 6. Install manual colour changer correctly and colour according to lighting plans 7. Test follow spots to ensure they are operational and that accessories are in working order 8. Focus follow spots and check multiple spots for consistency of focus and colour temperature
Participate in technical or creative run-throughs	9. Participate in technical or creative run-throughs as required, noting required equipment deficiencies or technical adjustments 10. Rehearse technical aspects of production and communicate to performers and relevant personnel as required 11. Set back-up options in the event of an equipment malfunction and test to ensure that they are in working order 12. Plot and run through cues on direction from relevant personnel and according to equipment, sequencing, timing and speed requirements 13. Make necessary changes to cues and modify cue sheets as required 14. Execute necessary changes to equipment according to modifications required
Prepare for follow spot operations	15. Power up follow spots and check height, balance, sights, focus, operation of iris, operation of additional follow spot accessories and dimmer 16. Check colours and operation of colour changer 17. Check that final requirements for equipment operation have been identified, implemented and documented 18. Check communication equipment to ensure that it is in working order 19. Correctly identify and rectify faults or problems and inform relevant personnel of ongoing problems

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Operate follow spots	20. Operate follow spots on cue or direction from relevant personnel or running sheet 21. Operate spots so that beam diameter, shape, edge, colour and intensity level meet performance requirements 22. Synchronise follow spot operation with other lighting and staging effects 23. Modify follow spot cues and operation as required to cater for unexpected contingencies and creative requirements 24. Operate spots in a manner that does not distract the audience and maintains reasonable comfort for the operator 25. Identify and rectify problems safely, using logical problem solving techniques and according to venue procedures, and inform relevant personnel as required 26. Correctly identify the need for the use of back-up systems and implement as required 27. Recalibrate follow spots correctly after changing lamps as required
Shut down and disassemble equipment	28. Turn off power to follow spots according to cool-down procedures and dismantle, store or cover equipment according to enterprise procedures and performance requirements 29. Note changes to cue sheets and update and file documentation as required according to enterprise procedures 30. Participate in reviews of overall performance to maximise creative outcomes in future productions

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

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

Required skills

- communication, literacy and teamwork skills sufficient to:
 - liaise with other production staff, e.g. other spot operators
 - respond to cues and directions in an effective and efficient manner
 - interpret and update production documentation
- initiative and flexibility in the context of changing lighting cues quickly and effectively to accommodate unexpected movements by performers during productions
- problem solving skills sufficient to identify and rectify follow spot problems during productions with minimum disruption to work flows
- technical skills sufficient to:
 - demonstrate hand/eye coordination skills
 - operate follow spots and beam, and associated computer programs, including how to adjust for colour temperature
- self-management skills sufficient to work under pressure and meet deadlines

Required knowledge

- features and operations (optical and mechanical) of the main types of lanterns, e.g.:
 - profile
 - fresnel
 - pebble/convex
 - flood
 - moving lanterns
 - PAR (parabolic aluminised reflector) lamps
 - lantern accessories
- different types of follow spots and their features, including incandescent and discharge units
- relationship between follow spot operation and other lighting effects
- industry knowledge, including:
 - roles and responsibilities of personnel in the relevant industry sector
 - impact of technology on production operations
 - broad understanding of the artistic and technical elements of a production
- duty of care to colleagues and the general public, especially on location
- OHS procedures as they relate to installing and operating follow spots

Evidence Guide

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.

Overview of assessment

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

Evidence of the following is essential:

- 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
- collaborative approach to work.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment must ensure:

- 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
- access to follow spots and accessories as identified in the range statement
- access to a production and production venue
- access to appropriate learning and assessment support when required
- use of culturally appropriate processes and techniques appropriate to the language and literacy capacity of learners and the work being performed.

Method of assessment

A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit:

- direct questioning combined with review of portfolios of evidence and third-party workplace reports of on-the-job performance
- observation of the candidate operating follow spots during productions
- written or verbal questioning to test knowledge as listed in the required skills and knowledge section of this unit.

Guidance information for

Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the

EVIDENCE GUIDE**assessment**

industry sector, workplace and job role is recommended, for example:

- CUFLGT301A Prepare, install and test lighting equipment
- CUFLGT302A Record and operate standard lighting cues.

Range Statement

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.

<i>Follow spots</i> may include:	• discharge units • DMX controlled • incandescent • xenon arc.
<i>Accessories</i> may include:	• % power selection switches • ballasts • colour magazines • gobos • irises • mechanical blackouts • mechanical dimmers • shutters • stands.
<i>Documentation</i> may include:	• colour lists • cue sheets • emergency and safety procedures • equipment lists • focus notes • lighting plan • manuals • patch sheets • running sheets • scripts.
<i>Relevant personnel</i> may include:	• director • lighting designer • other spot operators • producer • specialist staff • stage manager • supervisor • technical director.
<i>Faults or problems</i> may include:	• blown globe

RANGE STATEMENT

	• defective colour • defective iris/sights/dimmer • differences in colour temperature between different units • faulty balance • incorrect height adjustment • misaligned sights • problems with manual colour changer • unexpected changes by performers, e.g. moving out of range, behind scenery.
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Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	
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Competency field

Competency field	Media and entertainment production - lighting
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Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		