



Australian Government

MARF036 Coordinate search and rescue operations

Release: 1

MARF036 Coordinate search and rescue operations

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the MAR Maritime Training Package.

Application

This unit involves the skills and knowledge required to assist in planning and coordinating search and rescue (SAR) operations at sea.

This unit applies to people working in the maritime industry in the capacity of:

- Master of a commercial vessel Unlimited.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Legislative and regulatory requirements are applicable to this unit.

- This unit is one of the requirements to obtain Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) certification as a Master Unlimited and to meet regulatory requirements this unit must be delivered consistent with Marine Orders and with the relevant sections of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW).
- Those regulatory requirements include STCW International Maritime Organization (IMO) model course competencies and areas of knowledge, understanding and proficiency, together with the estimated total hours required for lectures and practical exercises. Teaching staff should note that timings are suggestions only and should be adapted to suit individual groups of trainees depending on their experience, ability, equipment and staff available for training.

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable.

Competency Field

F – Operational Quality and Safety

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

1 Activate SAR support plan

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1** Distress and emergency signals, and communications are recognised and evaluated
- 1.2** Type of emergency, and level and nature of assistance required is assessed and its practicability is considered
- 1.3** Communications are established, where possible, with the parties in distress, other vessels and relevant authorities/agencies
- 1.4** SAR parameters are identified based on available information
- 1.5** SAR strategy is developed based on all available information and after consultation with others in the established chain of command
- 1.6** Required resources are identified according to the strategy
- 1.7** Strategy is evaluated and reviewed as determined by the input of all information and review of available resources
- 1.8** Organisation and command chain with other stations involved in the SAR is established in collaboration with SAR authorities

2 Coordinate crew in SAR operations

- 2.1** Crew members are informed of the scenario and strategy
- 2.2** Crew members are briefed on their roles and responsibilities and the way the crew will operate, and are deployed to the required stations
- 2.3** Tasks are allocated to crew members according to their roles in the crew and level of competence
- 2.4** Confirmation is gained from crew members of their understanding of the scenario, their role and the roles of other crew members
- 2.5** Performance of crew members is monitored and

- reviewed as the scenario unfolds, to determine ongoing requirements
- 2.6** Directions are given to others involved in the SAR operation according to agreed plan and established chain of command
- 2.7** Manoeuvres of vessel are made according to agreed plan and with due regard to limits of the vessel and the environment
- 2.8** Feedback from crew members and others involved in the SAR operation is received and relayed to others according to agreed plan and established chain of command
- 3 Liaise with internal and external authorities/agencies**
- 3.1** Radio communication is established and maintained with all parties involved in the SAR operations
- 3.2** Briefings are provided to appropriate people according to operational procedures
- 3.3** SAR progress is monitored and information is provided to internal and external authorities/agencies
- 3.4** Issues are negotiated with internal and external authorities/agencies
- 3.5** Resources are monitored and reviewed to meet changing requirements according to operational procedures
- 3.6** SAR problems/potential problems are identified and solutions are developed in liaison with internal and external authorities/agencies
- 3.7** Guidance and support are provided and sought from internal and external authorities/agencies according to requirements
- 4 Manage communications systems**
- 4.1** Communications systems are identified as appropriate to the situation and the strategy
- 4.2** Communications systems are selected according to agreed plan and established chain of command
- 4.3** Communications systems are managed to provide optimum capability
- 5 Conclude SAR support**
- 5.1** Duration of the SAR operation is determined by the

level of emergency

- 5.2 Instructions from internal and external authorities/agencies about the duration of the SAR are complied with
- 5.3 All information is collected and preserved
- 5.4 Debrief is conducted with relevant people involved
- 5.5 Items for improvement are identified and action is taken to have improvements built into support plans

6 Manage SAR records

- 6.1 Records of the SAR are made in the vessel log
- 6.2 Other documentation is completed as required by regulatory requirements
- 6.3 Reports are completed and disseminated according to organisational requirements

Foundation Skills

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

Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to MARF020 Coordinate search and rescue operations.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guide can be found in VetNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=772efb7b-4cce-47fe-9bbd-ee3b1d1eb4c2>

Assessment Requirements for MARF036 Coordinate search and rescue operations

Modification History

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Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and include:

- applying procedures from the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual
- applying relevant work health and safety (WHS)/occupational health and safety (OHS) requirements and work practices
- attending to appropriate level of detail in recordkeeping
- establishing radio communications and following correct communications procedures at all stages of search and rescue (SAR) operations
- identifying and solving problems that may arise during SAR operations, reporting problems and issues, and taking appropriate action based on available information
- liaising effectively with internal and external authorities/agencies
- modifying activities according to vessel contingencies, risk situations and environments
- monitoring and anticipating hazards and risks that may arise during SAR operations and taking appropriate action
- planning to coordinate SAR operations according to international guidelines and standards
- providing one of the following high-quality reports:
 - briefings to authorities
 - initial advice forms
 - management reports and briefings
 - messaging systems
- taking appropriate initiative for SAR operations
- using relevant publications, charts, meteorological data, particulars of vessels involved, radio communications equipment and other available facilities.

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- chain of command and organisational requirements used in SAR operations
- external authorities/agencies

- IAMSAR Manual
- limits of the vessel and the environment, including:
 - fuel range
 - prevailing weather
 - propulsion
 - sea conditions
 - steering
 - vessel stability
- maritime communications techniques applicable to SAR operations
- principles involved in determining the duration and scope of a SAR
- responsibilities when participating in SAR operations
- SAR techniques and procedures
- sequence of actions to be taken after sighting or receiving a distress signal or call for assistance
- types of emergency signals
- types of distress and emergency, and response required in each case, including:
 - ditched aircraft
 - person/s in distress in sea
 - person/s in distress in survival craft
 - vessel/s in distress
- types of search patterns and their application
- typical SAR problems and appropriate actions and solutions
- WHS/OHS requirements and work practices.

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must hold credentials specified within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must satisfy the Principles of Assessment and Rules of Evidence and all regulatory requirements included within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Practical assessment must occur in a workplace, or realistic simulated workplace, under the normal range of workplace conditions.

Simulations and scenarios may be used where situations cannot be provided in the workplace or may occur only rarely, in particular for situations relating to emergency procedures and adverse weather conditions where assessment would be unsafe, impractical or may lead to environmental damage.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- applicable documentation, such as legislation, regulations, codes of practice, workplace

- procedures and operational manuals
- tools, equipment, machinery, materials and relevant personal protective equipment (PPE) currently used in industry, including one or more of the following resources:
 - communications systems
 - electronic aids
 - equipment
 - facilities
 - fuel
 - instructions
 - maps/charts
 - people
 - vessels.

Links

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