



Australian Government

MEA215 Inspect, test and troubleshoot advanced aircraft communications systems and components

Release: 2

MEA215 Inspect, test and troubleshoot advanced aircraft communications systems and components

Modification History

Release 2. Equivalent to MEA215 Inspect, test and troubleshoot advanced aircraft communications systems and components with amended prerequisite name.

Application

This unit of competency requires application of hand skills and the use of system/component knowledge and applicable maintenance publications and test equipment to inspect, test and troubleshoot advanced communication systems and components of fixed and rotary wing aircraft during scheduled or unscheduled maintenance. Work may be performed individually or as part of a team.

This unit is part of the Avionic Certificate IV (Aircraft Maintenance Stream) training pathway.

The unit is used in workplaces that operate under the airworthiness regulatory systems of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Civil Aviation safety Authority (CASA).

Where a CASA licensing outcome is sought this unit forms part of the CASA requirement for the granting of the chosen maintenance certification licence under Civil Aviation Safety Regulation (CASR) Part 66, in accordance with the licensing provisions in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Pre-requisite Unit

MEA206	Remove and install aircraft basic radio communication and navigation system components
MEA246	Manufacture and/or repair aircraft electrical hardware or parts

Competency Field

Aviation maintenance

Unit Sector

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

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

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| 1. | Inspect advanced communications systems and components | 1.1 | Relevant maintenance documentation and modification status, including system defect reports where relevant, are used to identify specific inspection requirements |
| | | 1.2 | Isolation tags are checked and aircraft configured for safe system inspection and operation in accordance with the applicable maintenance manual |
| | | 1.3 | Communications system components are visually or physically checked for external signs of defects in accordance with applicable maintenance manual while observing all relevant work health and safety (WHS) requirements |
| | | 1.4 | Defects are correctly identified and reported |
| 2. | Test/adjust advanced communications systems and components | 2.1 | Aircraft and system are prepared in accordance with applicable maintenance manual for the application of power/system operation |
| | | 2.2 | Communications system is functionally tested in accordance with maintenance manual for evidence of serviceability or malfunction |
| | | 2.3 | System calibration or adjustments are performed in accordance with maintenance manual, as appropriate |
| 3. | Troubleshoot advanced communications systems | 3.1 | Available information from maintenance documentation, inspection and test results is used, where necessary, to assist in fault determination |
| | | 3.2 | Maintenance manual fault diagnosis guides and logic processes are used to ensure efficient and accurate troubleshooting to line replacement level |
| | | 3.3 | Specialist advice is obtained, where required, to assist with the troubleshooting process |
| | | 3.4 | Communications system faults are located and the causes of the faults are clearly identified and correctly recorded in maintenance documentation, where required, in accordance with standard enterprise procedures |
| | | 3.5 | Rectification requirements are determined |

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.

Communications systems and components include:

- Ultra-high frequency (UHF) and satellite communications (SATCOM)
- Intercommunication and cockpit voice recorder (CVR) systems

Procedures and requirements include:

- Industry standard procedures specified by manufacturers, regulatory authorities or the enterprise

Unit Mapping Information

Release 2. Equivalent to MEA215 Inspect, test and troubleshoot advanced aircraft communications systems and components.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ce216c9c-04d5-4b3b-9bcf-4e81d0950371>

Assessment Requirements for MEA215 Inspect, test and troubleshoot advanced aircraft communications systems and components

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Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria under the specified conditions of assessment, and must include:

- applying relevant WHS procedures
- using approved maintenance documentation and aircraft publications relating to the communications system being maintained
- recognition of system and component defects/external damage, correct installation, attaching hardware (including cabling/harnesses/transmission lines) and security in:
 - external communications systems (UHF and SATCOM)
 - internal communications systems (intercommunication and CVR)
- applying logic processes, taking and interpreting system measurements to accurately and effectively isolate malfunctions within the above systems
- testing listed systems to isolate system faults and assess post-maintenance serviceability.

It is essential that system testing procedures, cleanliness requirements and safety precautions applicable to the communications system being maintained are fully observed, understood and complied with. Ability to interpret inspection procedures and specifications (allowable limits) and apply them in practice across a range of inspection, testing and troubleshooting applications (including the timely involvement of supervisors or other trades) is critical.

Evidence of transferability of skills and knowledge related to inspection, testing and troubleshooting is essential. This is to be demonstrated through application across a range of advanced communication systems and components listed in the Assessment Conditions.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- component attachment methods
- the basic layout (block diagram level), function and operation of:
 - external communications systems (UHF and SATCOM)
 - internal communications systems (intercommunication and cockpit voice recorders)
- maintenance requirements for the above systems and troubleshooting procedures
- relevant WHS practices

- basic principles/functions, relating to the above-listed systems and associated with:
 - electromagnetic radiation and propagation
 - basic AC and DC circuit theory
 - printed circuit boards
 - digital fundamentals
 - analogue fundamentals
 - transmitter and receiver principles
 - antenna characteristics
 - transmission line characteristics
- relevant maintenance manuals
- relevant regulatory requirements and standard procedures.

Assessment Conditions

- Competency should be assessed in the workplace or simulated workplace using tools and equipment specified in the maintenance manuals. It is also expected that applicable general and special purpose tools, and test and ground support equipment would be used where appropriate.
- The application of testing procedures should clearly indicate knowledge of system operation, the relationship of individual components and the links with other systems (if applicable) within the limits of the aircraft/system fault finding guide before undertaking any action. The work plan should take account of applicable safety and quality requirements in accordance with the industry and regulatory standards.
- The following conditions of assessment represent the requirements of the Regulators (ADF and CASA) and maintenance stakeholders and must be rigorously observed.
- A person cannot be assessed as competent until it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the workplace assessor that the relevant elements and performance criteria of the unit of competency are being achieved under routine supervision on a system and at least one (1) major system component/line replaceable unit (LRU) from each of:
 - UHF and SATCOM
 - intercommunication and CVR systems.
- This shall be established via the records in the Log of Industrial Experience and Achievement or, where appropriate, an equivalent Industry Evidence Guide (for details refer to the Companion Volume Assessment Guidelines).
- Assessors must satisfy the requirements of the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator (Australian Skills Quality Authority, or its successors).
- Where the unit is to be used for CASA licensing purposes the Assessor must also meet the criteria specified in the CASR Part 147 Manual of Standards.

- Individuals being assessed who have already attained MEA214 Inspect, test and troubleshoot aircraft basic communication and radio navigation systems and components will have already covered a considerable amount of the skill and knowledge requirements for this unit and will have demonstrated capability in a number of tasks that also relate to the performance criteria for Elements 1, 2 and 3. The Log of Industrial Experience and Achievement records relating to MEA214 Inspect, test and troubleshoot aircraft basic communication and radio navigation systems and components may be accepted as also meeting some of the evidence requirements for this unit in the applicable areas.

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