



Australian Government

POLSAR017 Undertake initial search and rescue actions

Release: 1

POLSAR017 Undertake initial search and rescue actions

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the POL Police Training Package Release 5.0

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to conduct initial search and rescue (SAR) actions, including identifying search areas and conducting briefings when commencing a SAR operation.

This unit applies to those working as police officers involved in police SAR and incident management operations.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to resource deployment, conducting briefings and debriefings and work health and safety (WHS).

Those undertaking this unit would work autonomously and within teams while remaining responsible for reporting to senior staff. They would perform a range of complex tasks and demonstrate adaptability across a broad range of contexts, either in the field or within police station/office environments.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable.

Competency Field

Search and rescue

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential Performance criteria describe the performance needed to

outcomes.

demonstrate achievement of the element.

1 Plan initial SAR actions

1.1 Identify mission to prosecute SAR operation

1.2 Assess resources required to facilitate SAR operation

1.3 Determine initial actions and resource deployment in accordance with nature of SAR incident

1.4 Facilitate sharing of information with stakeholders to progress SAR operation

2 Identify search area

2.1 Identify last known position of the target to inform search area

2.2 Define and calculate the initial search area using maps/charts to commence initial SAR operations

2.3 Apply search planning models to the search area

2.4 Determine probability of detection and coverage for allocation of resources

3 Conduct initial SAR activities

3.1 Deploy resources to carry out initial actions

3.2 Adapt response based on assessment and monitoring of SAR operation

3.3 Negotiate resource acquisition to facilitate SAR operation

3.4 Prioritise tasks to maximise efficiency and effectiveness of resources

4 Conduct briefings

4.1 Identify relevant stakeholders to inform of the incident

4.2 Assess and collate information to develop briefings

4.3 Deliver briefing to facilitate flow of information

4.4 Communicate required follow-on actions for ongoing coordination of SAR operation

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.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the POL Police Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to POL SAR008 Undertake initial search and rescue actions.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides can be found on VETNet - -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=98c3984e-2cf1-48a8-8ed1-85e4b92e7351>

Assessment Requirements for POLSAR017 Undertake initial search and rescue actions

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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:

- establishing mission and deploying resources to commence search and rescue (SAR) operation
- evaluating information to commence SAR operation
- coordinating initial SAR
- communicating with stakeholders
- reading and interpreting maps/charts
- performing calculations.

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:

- contextual considerations which impact on SAR operation
- resources available to respond to SAR incident
- capabilities of assets and resources
- jurisdictional procurement processes and arrangements relating to external agencies and resources
- communication search tools
- information technology systems to support SAR operation
- jurisdictional communication systems
- jurisdictional briefing and debriefing requirements
- media requirements for SAR operation
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to work, health and safety (WHS)
- Commonwealth, national, state and territory legislation and arrangements relating to SAR
- national manual relating to SAR
- jurisdictional policies, procedures and arrangements relating to SAR
- SAR terminology.

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.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations. Where this is not appropriate, such as in situations that can affect safety or occur only rarely, assessment can occur in simulated workplace operational situations that reflect workplace conditions.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or other simulations
- relevant and appropriate materials, tools, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) currently used in industry
- applicable documentation, including workplace procedures, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

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