



Australian Government

PUAAMS007 Coordinate search and rescue operations

Release: 1

PUAAMS007 Coordinate search and rescue operations

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the PUA Public Safety Training Package.

Application

This unit of competency involves the skills and knowledge required to coordinate a Search and Rescue (SAR) incident, in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

The unit is applicable to individuals undertaking limited search and rescue activities in support of national Search and Rescue (SAR) authorities. Team members and crews may be members of a range of government and/or non-government agencies or organisations.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable

Competency Field

Aviation Marine Search and Rescue

Unit Sector

Aviation Marine Search and Rescue

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

1 Prepare search plan

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

- 1.1** Search and rescue assets and potential assets are identified and recorded in databases
- 1.2** Strategic and tactical objectives are identified, in accordance with search and rescue unit plans

- 1.3** Strategies to achieve objectives are identified
 - 1.4** Hazards are identified, risks assessed and control measures implemented
 - 1.5** Information management strategies are identified and applied
 - 1.6** Search and rescue procedures and policies are communicated to personnel, groups and other organisations, in accordance with the needs of those people
- 2 Apply datum search planning principles**
 - 2.1** Last known and/or most probable position of missing person is established from available data
 - 2.2** Initial search procedures are implemented, in accordance with search and rescue organisational policies
 - 2.3** Calculations are made to establish intended track, area or position, in accordance with planned route
 - 2.4** Time frame for survival of the missing persons is calculated
 - 2.5** Physical and environmental factors are determined to assist in decision making
 - 2.6** Search area is calculated consistent with organisational policies and procedures
 - 2.7** Search pattern and track spacing is determined
 - 2.8** Probability of detection factor for the missing person is calculated
 - 2.9** Acceptability of probability of detection factor is evaluated
 - 2.10** Search area is recalculated or redefined, determined by availability of assets, changing weather conditions and search time available
- 3 Apply rescue planning principles**
 - 3.1** Nature of problem and/or distress is determined, in accordance with the available information
 - 3.2** Rescue resources are identified, mobilised and monitored

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| | 3.3 | Operational risks are assessed and minimised |
| | 3.4 | Survivor delivery points are identified, in accordance with requirements and capability of the rescue platform |
| | 3.5 | Physical, geographic and medical factors are considered for rescue and delivery, in accordance with situational requirements |
| | 3.6 | Time factors are considered, in accordance with situational requirements |
| | 3.7 | Chosen solution is evaluated and reported against determined criteria |
| 4 Evaluate operational direction | 4.1 | Search and rescue plan is implemented and amended as dictated by the requirements of the situation |
| | 4.2 | Process of continual evaluation is applied |
| | 4.3 | Contingency planning is conducted, in accordance with organisational policies and procedures |
| | 4.4 | Regular briefings and debriefings are conducted with relevant personnel |

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 Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to PUAAMS007B Coordinate search and rescue operations.

Links

PUA Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found in VETNet - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=3eca5672-6d5a-410b-8942-810d0ba05bbf>

Assessment Requirements for PUAAMS007 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 the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and includes

- applying datum search planning principles
- collecting and analysing information
- communicating and consulting with a range of individuals using approved methods
- communicating information
- developing search area to suit available assets including determining a search pattern and track spacing
- evaluating operational directions
- following organisational policies and procedures including Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements
- identifying potential search patterns and their use for terrains
- planning for results
- preparing search and rescue plans and making recommendations based on research to those in charge
- using initiative to achieve goals
- utilising rescue planning principles

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements, performance criteria and range of conditions and includes knowledge of

- communication techniques
- coronial requirements in relation to search and rescue
- environmental factors
- hypothermia and hyperthermia factors
- industry standards including national and international search and rescue manuals or reference texts
- legislation relevant to the operation, incident, response and organisation
- operational, corporate and strategic plans

- organisational policies and procedures including operating procedures, performance standards, quality standards, Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements and risk mitigation
- personnel practices and guidelines
- physiological factors
- potential rescue platform capabilities and limitations
- risk management principles
- safe work practices
- team building and coaching concepts

Assessment Conditions

As a minimum, assessors must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

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Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations where it is appropriate to do so; where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in simulated workplace operational situations that replicate workplace conditions.

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.

Resources for assessment must include access to

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
 - on the job assessment will not entail additional resources however, rosters may need to be amended for simulation e.g. search and rescue exercises
- relevant and appropriate materials, equipment, tools and personal protective clothing and equipment currently used in industry
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operations manuals.

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