



Australian Government

PUAFIR203 Respond to urban fire

Release: 1

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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 respond to an urban fire where offensive and defensive strategies are used. It includes proceeding to a fire, preparing extinguishing media and/or equipment for use, entering a structure, conducting search and rescues and combatting fires.

The unit applies to firefighting personnel who work as a member of a team, under direct supervision. Work at this level is undertaken under direct supervision, and with instruction.

The fire sector is those sections of government departments, statutory authorities or organisations that have responsibility under jurisdictional arrangements for the delivery of firefighting and fire management services.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

It is essential that the prerequisite units listed below are obtained prior to the issuance of this unit to individuals within the fire sector or the units contributing to the attainment of a fire qualification.

PUAFIR207 Operate breathing apparatus open circuit

Competency Field

Fire

Unit Sector

Fire

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 Proceed to fire

- 1.1** Information received about the location and type of fire is confirmed
- 1.2** Appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment is donned, in accordance with organisational procedures
- 1.3** Most effective route to the fire is identified and navigated safely

2 Prepare extinguishing media and/or equipment for use

- 2.1** Water supplies at the incident to support firefighting are located
- 2.2** Equipment to access and supply water to firefighting operations are identified and assembled, in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.3** Nominated extinguishing media and/or equipment is identified, obtained and accessed
- 2.4** Extinguishing media and equipment are used, in accordance with manufacturers' specifications and organisational procedures

3 Enter the structure

- 3.1** Hazards are identified, monitored and controlled, in accordance with organisational procedures
- 3.2** Personal protective clothing and equipment selected is appropriate to the hazards
- 3.3** Organisational breathing apparatus procedures and safe work practices are followed
- 3.4** Structure is entered, in accordance with organisational procedures and safety practices
- 3.5** Safe paths of access and egress are identified and maintained throughout the incident
- 3.6** Life is protected and damage to property and the environment is minimised, in accordance with organisational procedures

4 Conduct search and rescue

- 4.1** Systematic primary and secondary searches are conducted
- 4.2** Rooms are searched and marked, in accordance with organisational procedures

- 4.3 Casualties are located, assisted and rescued, in accordance with organisational procedures
 - 4.4 Fatalities are located and protected, in accordance with organisational procedures and relevant legislation
 - 4.5 All persons are accounted for and information is reported utilising the organisations chain of command.
- 5 Combat fires**
 - 5.1 Personal safety is maintained, in accordance with organisational procedures and workplace health and safety guidelines
 - 5.2 Organisational firefighting objectives, strategies and tactics are received, confirmed and implemented as directed
 - 5.3 Firefighting considerations are taken into account when implementing firefighting tactics
 - 5.4 Equipment and extinguishing media used to combat the fire are appropriate to the class of fire and support firefighting requirements
 - 5.5 Firefighting equipment is positioned to achieve maximum effect in suppressing the fire, protecting exposures and preserving evidence of fire cause
 - 5.6 Extinguishing media is applied using appropriate application techniques
 - 5.7 Fire suppression techniques are applied to minimise hazards to occupants trapped or lost within the structure
 - 5.8 Communication with team members and the supervisor are maintained throughout the incident
- 6 Observe and react to changes in conditions and fire behaviour**
 - 6.1 Changing conditions at the fire are observed and their effects on fire behaviour are noted and reported
 - 6.2 Evidence of changing conditions at the fire are reported
 - 6.3 Firefighting tactics are adapted to meet changing conditions and fire behaviour
- 7 Participate in ancillary operations**
 - 7.1 Ancillary activities to complement firefighting operations and prevent further damage to the structure and its contents are undertaken

	7.2	Water runoff from the fire is monitored and conditions are reported
	7.3	Damage to the environment at the incident is minimised through appropriate firefighting and ancillary activities
8 Conclude firefighting operations	8.1	Firefighting equipment is collected and stowed at the incident
	8.2	Incident scene is made safe for the public
	8.3	Defective or missing equipment is identified and reported
	8.4	Incident information is record and completed, in accordance with organisational procedures

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.

types of fire must include	- fires involving dangerous goods and/or hazardous substances - mobile property - non-structures - structures
personal protective clothing and equipment must include	- breathing apparatus - eye protection - hearing protection - turnout uniform and gloves
water supplies must include	- open - reticulated - static
equipment must include	- and may also include other extinguishing substances - BA and control equipment - branches, nozzles and monitors

	• fire extinguishers • forcible entry tools • hoses and hose fittings • ladders and rope lines • portable lights • radios • salvage gear • small gear and ancillary equipment • standpipes, hydrants and booster connections
extinguishing media must include:	• extinguishing powder • foam • gaseous extinguishing agents • water
hazards must include three or more of the following:	• electricity, including photovoltaic generation • gas • hazardous products and materials • industrial (machinery, equipment and products) • smoke, darkness and heat • structural collapse • structural hazards • unauthorised personnel
assisted must include	• first aid • handing over to ambulance, medical or other organisational care • protecting from the elements • providing refreshments
firefighting objectives must include	• confining the spread of fire • extinguishment • protecting exposures • rescuing occupants • salvage and overhaul • ventilation
fire strategies must include	• defensive mode • direct attack • indirect attack • offensive mode
firefighting tactics must include	• cooling the fuels • excluding oxygen • interrupting the chemical chain reaction • removing fuels

firefighting considerations must include	• ventilation • available firefighting resources • extinguishing media • fire exposures • indications of extreme fire behaviour • signs of structural collapse • size of fire • stage of fire development • topography • type of fire • weather
firefighting activities must include	• anticipating fire behaviour • applying extinguishing media • applying techniques to maximise effect and minimise damage • ensuring safety • hose stream techniques • locating and accessing fire • protecting and notifying supervisor of evidence of fire cause • search and rescue
changing conditions at the fire must include	• fire spread • flame colour and size • impending structural collapse • increase in heat • increase or decrease in fuel available to fire • increase or decrease in heat of fire • increase or decrease in oxygen available to fire • other materials becoming involved in fire • signs of structural collapse • smoke colour • weather conditions
evidence of changing conditions at the fire must include	• fire spread • flame colour and size • impending structural collapse • increase in heat • smoke colour • weather conditions
ancillary activities must include	• damming water run off • guarding against hazards • making up equipment

recording appropriate incident information must include

- overhaul
- salvage
- securing the area
- attendance records
- completing personal notebooks logs and/or report forms
- equipment used
- objectives set
- obtain relevant details
- owner or occupant details
- problems encountered

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to PUAFIR203B Respond to urban fire.

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>