



Australian Government

PUAFIR212 Rappel from helicopter

Release: 2

PUAFIR212 Rappel from helicopter

Modification History

Release 2. This is the second release of this unit of competency in the PUA Public Safety Training Package.

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 safely and effectively rappel from a hovering helicopter using a personal rappel line. The unit applies to personnel required to rappel from a helicopter.

Aviation operations occur in a heavily regulated environment. This work is undertaken in accordance with rappelling policies, regulations, protocols and procedures required to safely rappel from a helicopter.

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.

PUAFIR017 Work safely around aircraft

Competency Field

Fire

Unit Sector

Fire

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

1 Prepare operational rappel equipment

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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

1.1 Rappel equipment is selected and prepared, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements

1.2 Appropriate rappel and safety equipment is donned, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements

1.3 Pre-flight checks on clothing and equipment are undertaken, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements

1.4 Damage to rappel or safety equipment is reported to relevant supervisor for repair, replacement or disposal

2 Load rappel personnel and equipment into helicopter

2.1 Rappel personnel, rappel and operational equipment are weighed and recorded

2.2 Pilot is informed of equipment and personnel weights

2.3 Equipment is secured into helicopter under pilot or flight crew supervision

2.4 Seat position is assumed and seatbelt is secured

2.5 Pre-mission briefing instructions are obtained from operations officer or rappel crew leader and clarification of objectives and procedures is sought, where required

2.6 Pre-flight safety briefing is obtained from pilot or air crew

3 Prepare to rappel from hovering helicopter

3.1 Rappel rope is attached and checked, in accordance with organisational procedures

3.2 Movement to helicopter skids is undertaken, as directed, in accordance with organisational procedures

3.3 Pre-descent checks are conducted, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements

3.4 Emergency procedures are conducted, as required

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| | 3.5 | Communications and emergency commands are responded to, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| 4 Rappel from hovering helicopter | 4.1 | Departure from skids is performed, in accordance with commands and organisational procedures |
| | 4.2 | Rappel rope descent is undertaken, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| | 4.3 | Landing is conducted, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| | 4.4 | Rappel rope is disconnected and landing area is cleared, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| | 4.5 | Emergency procedures are conducted, as required |
| | 4.6 | Emergency commands are responded to, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| 5 Retrieve rappel and firefighting equipment | 5.1 | Area is cleared in preparation for retrieval of rappel and firefighting equipment, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| | 5.2 | Equipment is connected and retrieval is conducted, in accordance with organisational procedures and requirements |
| 6 Perform maintenance on rappel equipment | 6.1 | Equipment is inspected and maintenance is performed, in accordance with organisational procedures and manufacturers' guidelines |
| | 6.2 | Damage to fire and rappel equipment is reported to supervisor for repair, replacement or disposal |
| | 6.3 | Documentation related to maintenance or damage to equipment is completed and reported, 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.

rappel equipment must include

- agency or organisational coveralls, protective helmet, earmuffs, chin strap and goggles
- full body harness
- hook knife
- karabiner
- organisational specific descender and safety devices
- rappel gloves
- static kernmantle rappel ropes

air crew must include one or more of the following

- co-pilot
- other member of air crew
- rappel dispatcher

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to PUAFIR212B Rappel from helicopter.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=3eca5672-6d5a-410b-8942-810d0ba05bbf>

Assessment Requirements for PUAFIR212 Rappel from helicopter

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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, performance criteria and range of conditions on at least one occasion and includes

- adhering to briefing instructions
- applying Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) organisational requirements
- communicating with crew and rappel dispatcher including using emergency hand signals
- completing work to minimise risk to personnel and/or damage to equipment
- implementing legislative, regulatory, organisational and operational guidelines
- loading rappel personnel and equipment into helicopter
- operating safely around a helicopter
- performing maintenance and inspection techniques on rappel equipment
- preparing operational rappel equipment including following pre-rappel checks and equipment donning procedures
- preparing to rappel from a hovering helicopter
- rappelling from a hovering helicopter
- reporting accidents and incidents
- retrieving rappel and firefighting equipment
- undertaking emergency procedures and responding to emergency commands
- utilising procedures and techniques for sequencing and controlling rappelling, braking, landing and disconnecting

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

- aviation legislation and regulations related to rappelling
- characteristics and limitations of rappel operations and equipment

- emergency hand signals
- factors that can affect rappel descents including canopy height, slope, vegetation type and winds
- helicopter rappelling for remote area fire suppression and training
- key roles and responsibilities of helicopter crew including rappel dispatcher
- organisational documentation requirements and regulatory reporting arrangements
- organisational policies and procedures including emergency procedures
- types of helicopters used for conducting rappelling operations
- Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) organisational requirements including risk mitigation and safe work practices when rappelling and/or working in or around helicopters

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 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, assessment must occur in industry approved simulated workplace operational situations that reflect workplace conditions.

All rappel operations are conducted under pilot and rappel dispatcher supervision. Each rappel descent once commenced is conducted without supervision.

Resources for assessment must include access to

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
 - competency is to be assessed verbally and through multiple practical demonstrations in a number of scenarios
- relevant and appropriate materials, equipment, tools and personal protective clothing and equipment currently used in industry including
 - rappelling equipment and materials, area to conduct operations, helicopter, briefing reports, organisational procedural documentation, appropriate personnel and emergency information
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

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