



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for PUASAR019 Train canines to work in a USAR environment

Release: 1

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Modification History

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

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 Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements
- conducting briefings
- conducting safety analysis
- controlling a search canine, off lead
- developing alert behaviour in canines
- ensuring safety and welfare of canines and personnel
- following organisational policies and procedures
- identifying safety risks
- interpreting reactions given by a search canine
- introducing canines to an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) environment using an incremental approach
- managing training assistants
- preparing canines for detection of live human scent
- solving canine problems including safety risks
- training canines using appropriate methods and tools including correction procedures
- using personal protective clothing and equipment
- working as part of a USAR team including using communication techniques
- working safely in a USAR environment with search canines at disasters

Knowledge Evidence

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

- canine psychology including behaviour and responses, bark alert behaviour and degree of correction
- canine search principles, methods and techniques
- communication techniques and briefing protocols
- how physical conditions and hazards will affect training strategies

- how to introduce canines to disaster sites and the importance of exposing them to varied disaster scenarios including incremental approach in introducing canines to a USAR environment
- organisational documentation, policies and procedures
- principles and procedures for working safely in a USAR environment
- risks associated with disaster sites
- safe work practices at disaster sites
- scent theory including factors affecting the location of human scent including differences in surfaces, pollution and environmental factors, factors affecting scenting ability of search canines, scent movement in a disaster site and how scent movement will affect search strategy
- selection and use of personal protective clothing and equipment
- state, territory and Commonwealth government canine welfare legislation
- training assistant characteristics
- training tools and techniques appropriate to alert behaviour
- Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements including safety and welfare, safety assessments and risk mitigation

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
- relevant and appropriate materials, equipment, tools and personal protective clothing and equipment currently used in industry including
 - canines training to work in a USAR environment
 - legislation, policy, procedures and guidelines relating to the health and welfare of canines
 - training assistants
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operations manuals.

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>