



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for PUASAR020 Develop a canine search team for USAR incidents

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.

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

- adjusting handling and search strategies in response to changing environments
- applying canine and Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) industry guidelines, standards and procedures
- applying Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements
- assisting canine at search sites
- caring for canine
- collecting, analysing and organising information to develop an effective search strategy
- completing site assessments
- conducting a search of a nominated search area
- constructing and completing direction and control course training
- controlling a canine, off lead, including in public locations
- demonstrating appropriate commands when handling a canine
- demonstrating canine agility including completing recall, emergency stops and moving in different directions
- developing canine to indicate live human scent
- following organisational policies and procedures
- handling a canine to maintain control and prevent accidents or injury to canine search specialist and/or others including members of the public
- implementing USAR canine search methods and techniques
- interpreting actions and indications given by a canine
- maintaining direction and control of canine including with distractions
- maintaining physical fitness of canine
- managing canine in a search to locate victims
- managing timeframes and priorities in response to changing search environments
- undertaking post search examination of canine
- working search canines in a controlled and safe manner

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

- alert behaviours of canines and their causes such as a bark
- canine capabilities within Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) operations including canine behaviour, physiology, psychology, olfactory system and care
- canine welfare legislation
- factors that can determine appropriate search strategies
- hazard identification and risk analysis
- industry guidelines or standards on USAR canine search methods and techniques
- organisational documentation, policies and procedures
- principles of canine training including control, association, repetition, commands, rewards, correction, positive motivational methodologies, obedience and agility
- safe working systems to reduce canine related incidents
- scent theory and its application to the USAR environment
- site assessment
- Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements including 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
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, guidelines, 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>