



Australian Government

PUAFIR408B Plan aircraft operations

Release 2

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	PUA12 V2	Application of the Unit added Unit revised to reflect current work requirements Method of assessment added
1	PUA00 V8.1	Primary release on TGA

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to plan aircraft operations for incident management activities.

Aviation operations occur in a heavily regulated environment. Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements are applicable to this unit.

Application of the Unit

This unit applies to personnel required to contribute to the planning, development and review of the air operations portion of the Incident Action Plan (IAP).

This unit is required by Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) roles such as Air Operations Manager, Aircraft Officer, Air Observer, Air Attack Supervisor, Airbase Manager and Incendiary Operations Supervisor. All of these AIIMS roles contribute to the planning process and the development of the IAP.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

PUAFIR209B Work safely around aircraft

PUAOPE013A Operate communications systems and equipment

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Plan aircraft operations	1.1 Operational objectives are obtained. 1.2 Air operations requirements are identified. 1.3 Requirements for support staff, support equipment and consumables are identified. 1.4 Hazard assessment is undertaken and conveyed to the pilots. 1.5 Aircraft base location is selected, if required, in accordance with operational and agency requirements. 1.6 Site hazards are identified. 1.7 Flight plans are established with pilots, considering operational requirements, weather and hazard identification/minimisation/abatement. 1.8 Aircraft resource suitability and performance capabilities/limitations are identified. 1.9 Areas at aircraft base location are designated and separated according to site features and specific operations being conducted. 1.10 Activity brief is planned in accordance with organisational procedures. 1.11 Activity briefing is conducted with appropriate personnel and operational information is displayed and documented.
2. Interpret weather conditions in relation to flight operations	2.1 Appropriate weather data is obtained. 2.2 Assessment of the immediate and forecasted weather conditions on air operations is undertaken. 2.3 Air operations are planned in consideration of available data and operational requirements. 2.4 Weather data is continually assessed for implications to the planning and conduct of flight operations.
3. Establish communications procedures	3.1 Communications requirements are identified. 3.2 Factors impinging upon the selection of communications system and frequencies within and outside controlled airspace are identified. 3.3 Appropriate communications system and frequencies between aircraft and operations are selected. 3.4 Communications procedures are implemented in accordance with planning process and organisational procedures. 3.5 Appropriate flight following and notification

- procedures are implemented according to organisational requirements.
- 3.6 Pilots and support personnel are briefed on communications procedures.
- 4. Establish procedures for search and rescue (SAR) of overdue aircraft**
- 4.1 Circumstances requiring the implementation of SAR processes are identified.
- 4.2 SAR procedures appropriate to the type of incident are established as required.
- 4.3 Appropriate authorities are notified.
- 4.4 SAR resources are deployed as required.
- 4.5 Agency accident/incident response procedures are implemented if required.
- 4.6 Post accident/incident procedures are implemented, if required, in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 5. Complete operation**
- 5.1 Debrief is scheduled as soon as possible following the operation.
- 5.2 Debrief is conducted with operational and support personnel in accordance with organisational procedures.
- 5.3 Documentation in related to the operation is recorded and reported according to procedures.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required Skills

- collect, collate and analyse information procedures relating to air operation
- identify procedures for conducting briefings and debriefings
- plan effectively
- prepare and document information
- read maps
- use communications equipment effectively

Required Knowledge

- aircraft capability
- documentation and reporting procedures
- emergency procedures including crash/evacuation, ditching, external emergency (observed), fire
- factors to be considered in the accident response plan include air ambulance details , local hospital/doctor details and location of first aid equipment
- organisational procedures
- relevant legislation including Civil Aviation Orders, Aeronautical Information Publication, Notice to Airman and Civil Aviation Regulations

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package.

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- implement organisational procedures, and relevant legislative and industry standards
- appropriately sequence planning of aircraft operations
- identify and implement procedures for flight notification and flight following
- select communications systems and appropriate channels or frequencies that ensure the most effective communication exchange during operations
- obtain and accurately assess the impact of weather conditions/data for immediate and impending aircraft operations
- apply relevant workplace and emergency procedures including codes of practice; hazard policy and procedures; planning aircraft operations and deployment of appropriate resources; guidelines relating to safe and effective use of equipment, resources and facilities
- take action promptly – report accidents and incidents within regulatory and organisational requirements
- complete work systematically in accordance with safe operating procedures to minimise risk of injury to self, others or damage to equipment.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over time in a range of actual or simulated workplace environments.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed on-the-job or in a simulated workplace environment.

Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- access to, or simulation of, air operations
- resources relating to equipment, personnel, facilities etc. appropriate to the flight situation

Method of assessment

In a public safety environment assessment is usually conducted via direct observation in a training environment or in the workplace via subject matter supervision and/or mentoring, which is typically recorded in a competency workbook.

Assessment is completed using appropriately qualified assessors who select the most appropriate method of assessment.

Assessment may occur in an operational environment or in an agency-approved simulated work environment. Forms of assessment that are typically used include:

- direct observation
- interviewing the candidate
- journals and workplace documentation
- third party reports from supervisors
- written or oral questions

Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<i>Hazards</i> may include:	• ground resources • interference to communications • level of visibility • masts/aerials • other aircraft • restricted/danger/prohibited areas • smoke • spot fires • support personnel • terrain • weather conditions • wires/power lines
<i>Aircraft base location</i> may include:	• agricultural airstrip • existing licensed airfield • licensed helipad • recreation reserves • remote helipad
<i>Selection of aircraft base location</i> may depend on	• areas of reduced visibility • distance to operation • flight hazards • flight paths in and out • logistics support • road accessibility • vehicle parking • vicinity of houses/general population • water availability
<i>Flight plans</i> include:	• aircraft performance and capability • communication procedures • flight planning checklists • identifying and explaining hazards • incident priorities • mission and task objectives • resource limitations • timing of operations
<i>Operational requirements, weather and hazard</i>	• consideration of climatic and weather conditions: • analysis

identification/ minimisation/abatement may include	• forecasts • meteorological profiles • weather prognosis
Aircraft resource suitability may include:	• communications system availability • pilot local knowledge • range • speed • take off capacity • visibility
Performance capabilities/limitations may include:	• aircraft capability • landing and take-off area requirements • engine type – piston turbine • fire behaviour • load capacity • multi/single engine • pilot ability • range • task • terrain • weather • wing configuration
Organisational procedures may include:	• briefing and debriefing: • timing • checklists • SAR: - legislative requirements • agency requirements • travel, ferry, flight times • SAR time/procedures/actions • manifests • communications: • VHF aeronautical • organisational systems • flight following/notification/reporting procedure • inbound/outbound reporting • airspace (outside/inside)
Briefing may include	• purpose of the mission and objectives • agreed aircraft traffic procedures • communications frequencies • hazards

	• roles • strategies and tactics
<i>Appropriate personnel</i> may include:	• airbase/helibase personnel • aircrew • fire ground personnel • incident management staff • pilots
<i>Displaying information</i> may include	• communications plan • fire map • first aid location • map of airbase/helibase layout • meteorological report • roles

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.