



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PUASES013A Undertake storm and water damage operations performed at heights

Revision Number: 2

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Modification History

Release	TP version	Comments
2	PUA12 V1	Layout adjusted.
1	PUA00 V8.1	First release in TGA.

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to undertake *storm and water damage operations* performed at height as a member of a response team.

Application of the Unit

The application of this unit informs the roles and responsibilities for those undertaking tasks performed at heights to mitigate damage caused by storm.

Height is defined by organisational policy and legislation.

The unit may be applicable to members of emergency services organisations, roof repair services, emergency operators in the mining industry, rural and metropolitan firefighters,

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

PUASES008A Undertake storm and water damage operations

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. Assess situation	1.1 <i>Operation and task information</i> is obtained through command structure at incident site 1.2 <i>Scene reconnaissance</i> is promptly conducted at height and results are reported 1.3 <i>Hazards and environmental conditions</i> are assessed and minimised or controlled
2. Mitigate the effects of storm damage	2.1 <i>Safety systems for working at heights</i> are established and used in accordance with organisational standards 2.2 <i>Equipment</i> is selected based on incident information and is checked to ensure it is ready for operational use 2.3 Personal equipment is prepared and worn as required 2.4 Techniques are used to minimise further damage and to provide for safe access to and from buildings or structures wherever possible 2.5 Buildings or structures are <i>temporarily repaired</i> to make them safe, to minimise further damage and to provide for safe access to and from the property wherever possible
3. Complete operations	3.1 Equipment is recovered, cleaned and serviced according to organisational standards and manufacturers' guidelines, prior to standing down from the operation 3.2 Signs and symptoms of operational stress in self and others are recognised and reported 3.3 Operational documentation is completed to organisational standards

Required Skills and Knowledge

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

Required Skills

- apply temporary roof coverings
- communicate effectively with people involved, specifically in relation to situational awareness, safety and operational requirements
- eliminate or control hazards and risks
- identify hazards and define risk
- implement appropriate safety precautions for working at heights, including establishment of roof safety systems
- implement flood safety precautions such as avoiding exposure to contaminated water and mud where possible, wearing protective clothing including gloves and footwear, promptly reporting cuts and abrasions for cleaning, universal precautions against infection
- recognise and use hand and power tools
- use ladders
- use ropes, anchors and rigging systems
- wear appropriate personal protective equipment correctly
- work with others in a team

Required Knowledge

- building construction techniques and building types
- hazard minimisation and control techniques
- legal issues surrounding entry into another person's home or workplace
- local community and demographic factors such as language and culture
- local documentation requirements
- local operating procedures
- local operational briefing and debriefing procedures
- nature of potential hazards including hazardous materials and electricity
- organisational policies and procedures (such as relevant legislation; operational, corporate and strategic plans; operational performance standards; operational policies and procedures; organisational personnel and occupational health and safety practices and guidelines; organisational quality standards; organisation's approach to environmental management and sustainability)
- relevant occupational health and safety principles and practices
- relevant public information and warning strategies
- roofing materials, associated hazards and repair methods
- signs and symptoms of operational stress
- storm damage and flood mitigation concepts, as described in the Australian Emergency Manual - Storm Damage Operations
- techniques for temporary repair of damaged buildings

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:

- provide temporary roof waterproofing repairs
- apply techniques to make structure/s and roofing safe.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated during exercises and/or incidences, reflecting environmental variance in a simulated emergency environment or on-the-job.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed completing storm damage and flood mitigation operations, exercises or scenarios as a member of a team acting under direction and general supervision; some skills may be demonstrated individually.

Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- incidents, scenarios, exercises or simulations, or series of tasks
- response team
- equipment used in storm and water damage operations

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 industry-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.

Storm and water damage operations may include:

- flooding, whether caused by slow river rise, storm waters or flash flooding
- operations of different intensity and effect from localised thunderstorm or windstorm events to tropical cyclones
- rural and urban environments
- techniques for minimising the effects of water entry that are common to storm, flood and other water damage events
- vehicles crashing into properties
- wind damage to trees, wind and/or hail damage to structures

Operation and task information may include:

- access and egress routes
- command, control and coordination arrangements
- extent and nature of damage
- location, magnitude and type of event
- potential hazards
- weather forecast

Scene reconnaissance may include:

- systematic information seeking process where operation and task information is gathered on route to and after arrival at the scene

Hazards and environmental conditions may include:

- adverse weather (particularly high winds and rain)
- after dark operations
- damaged structures
- debris
- difficult terrain
- domestic hazards
- equipment
- hazardous materials
- mud
- threatening trees
- time pressure
- utilities including electricity, gas, water and sewerage

Safe systems for working at heights:

- are defined in organisational policies, and must, as a minimum, conform to the system described in the *Australian Emergency Manual - Storm Damage Operations*

Equipment may include:

- anchors
- chainsaws
- cold or wet weather clothing and sun protection
- generators
- hand tools (including hammers, nails, screwdrivers, screws and portable power tools such as drills)
- lighting
- personal protective equipment
- petrol and electric
- props (including acrow props) and shoring materials
- pumps - submersible and non-submersible
- rescue harnesses
- ropes
- tarpaulins of various types and materials plus their fixings
- water proofing tapes and sealant materials

Temporarily repairing buildings or structures may include:

- all styles of domestic and commercial structures
- repairs to structures, walls, doors, windows and/or roofing (especially metal sheeting), replacing tiles, using tarpaulins or other covering materials
- tying back trees to prevent them falling on structures

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.