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**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
STRUCTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL**  
**Exercise initial command and control at  
hazardous substance emergencies**

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<b>level:</b>	5
<b>credit:</b>	6
<b>final date for comment:</b>	March 2008
<b>expiry date:</b>	December 2009
<b>sub-field:</b>	Fire and Rescue Services
<b>purpose:</b>	<p>The unit standard is for people who will be fulfilling the role of the first arriving incident controller at hazardous substance emergency incidents such as spills, leaks, over-pressure and internal decomposition. This unit standard does not apply to incidents involving hazardous substances that are on fire.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of the initial incident controller's obligations to health and safety at hazardous substance incidents; demonstrate knowledge required to render hazardous substances emergencies safe; analyse incidents, select strategy and tactics and prepare the incident action plan for hazardous substance emergencies; and manage incident action plan at hazardous substance emergencies.</p>
<b>entry information:</b>	Prerequisites: Unit 3312, <i>Carry out decontamination procedures</i> , and Unit 3315, <i>Carry out Incident Ground Safety Officer duties</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
<b>accreditation option:</b>	Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.
<b>moderation option:</b>	A national moderation system of moderation networks has been established by the Fire and Rescue Services Industry Training Organisation.

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- special notes:**
- 1 Compliance with the fire and rescue service provider's Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.
  - 2 Assessment against this unit standard may take place under real or practical simulated conditions.
  - 3 Legislation applying to this unit standard includes: the Fire Service Act 1975, the Resource Management Act 1991, and the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, and subsequent amendments.

## **Elements and Performance Criteria**

### **element 1**

Demonstrate knowledge of the initial incident controller's obligations to health and safety at hazardous substance incidents.

### **performance criteria**

- 1.1 Principles of risk management are defined in terms of limits of risk in accordance with the National Commander's Instructions.
- 1.2 The allocation of tasks is explained with respect to personnel training and equipment in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.
- 1.3 Actual or potential hazards are identified and the action to be taken to mitigate the hazard is explained for 5 given situations associated with hazardous substance emergencies in accordance with the SOPs.

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---

**element 2**

Demonstrate knowledge required to render hazardous substances emergencies safe.

**performance criteria**

- 2.1 The powers and duties of the New Zealand Fire Service in relation to non-fire hazardous substance emergencies are explained in terms of the relevant legislation.
- 2.2 Describe the roles required to be established to deal with hazardous substance emergencies in accordance with the SOPs.
- 2.3 Hazardous substances are identified from given information in accordance with the SOPs.
- Range: class labels, Kemler codes, United Nations number and class, chemical name, trade name, National Fire Protection Association labels, Hazchem codes.
- 2.4 Sources of resource information for dealing with hazardous substance emergencies are described in accordance with the SOPs.
- 2.5 Levels of protective clothing and equipment associated with the handling of each class of hazardous substance are identified and described in accordance with the SOPs.

**element 3**

Analyse incidents, select strategy and tactics and prepare the incident action plan for hazardous substance emergencies.

**performance criteria**

- 3.1 Incident is assessed and situation communicated in accordance with the requirements of the SOPs.
- Range: size up, deduct and prioritise.

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3.2 Strategy and tactics are decided and the incident action plan is developed from all available information in accordance with the SOPs.

Range: scene stabilisation, decontamination.

3.3 Resources required to implement strategy and tactics are selected in accordance with the SOPs.

Range: specialist equipment, water, other supporting agencies, neutralising agents, personal protective equipment, greater alarm.

**element 4**

Manage incident action plan at hazardous substance emergencies.

**performance criteria**

4.1 Facilities and perimeter control are established and communicated in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.

4.2 Hazard management practices are carried out in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.

4.3 The incident action plan is communicated and managed in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.

4.4 Strategy and tactics are reviewed in response to incident variables in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.

4.5 Incident is stabilised or responsibility is handed over in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.

Range: secure the scene, scene handover, re-commissioning of equipment and appliance/s.

4.6 The incident is managed to secure and preserve evidence in accordance with requirements of the SOPs.

4.7 Information is collected to complete reporting requirements in accordance with the requirements of the SOPs.

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**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the Fire and Rescue Services Industry Training Organisation [info@frsito.org.nz](mailto:info@frsito.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.

**Please Note**

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority or a delegated inter-institutional body before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for providers wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

This unit standard is covered by AMAP 0039 which can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/site/framework/search.html>.