

Demonstrate awareness of rope rescue operations and hazards

Level 2

Credits 2

Purpose This unit standard is for people who are required to respond to a rope rescue incident.

People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of rope rescue strategies and related legislation; identify and describe the management of hazards associated with rope rescue operations, and demonstrate use of an established edgeline; and recognise and interpret signals and commands used in rope rescue operations.

Subfield Specialist Rescue

Domain Rope Rescue

Status Registered

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Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation by NZQA and industry.

Standard setting body (SSB) Fire and Rescue Services Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0039

This AMAP can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Special notes

- 1 Legislation and guidelines applying to this unit standard include the – Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Fire Service Act 1975, Police Act 1958, Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995, and OSH *Prevention of Falls Guidelines*, and their subsequent amendments.

- 2 Assessment against this unit standard may take place under real or simulated practical conditions.
- 3 The references for this unit standard include but are not limited to – the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) *Standard Guide for Using Whistle Signals During Rope Rescue Operations*, available from <http://www.astm.org>; James A. Frank, *CMC Rope Rescue Manual* (1998); Smith and Padgett, *On Rope* (2000); Hudson and Vines *High Angle Rescue Techniques* (2004).
- 4 Definitions
Rope rescue is a generic term that has been used to subsume the terms *high angle rescue*, *low angle*, *line rescue*, and *vertical rescue*.
USAR refers to Urban Search and Rescue. The New Zealand Urban Search and Rescue website is <http://www.usar.govt.nz>.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Demonstrate knowledge of rope rescue strategies and related legislation.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Rescue by phases is described and defined in order and in accordance with the references.

Range locate, access, stabilise, transport.
- 1.2 Tiered response plan is described and roles defined in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 1.3 The legal health and safety requirements for rope rescue training and operations are explained in accordance with relevant legislation.
- 1.4 Relevant sections of legislation that empower primary response agencies to undertake rope rescue operations are identified and explained.

Element 2

Identify and describe the management of hazards associated with rope rescue operations, and demonstrate use of an established edgeline.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Five general hazards associated with a rope rescue incident are identified in accordance with the references.

- 2.2 Equipment used and methods to manage the identified hazards are described in accordance with the references.
- Range hazard management methods may include but are not limited to – helmets, gloves, light sticks, high visibility garments, barrier tape, traffic cones, placement of response vehicles, portable lighting, restricting and securing scene access.
- 2.3 Conditions where existing and potential rope rescue operations will be performed are sized-up in accordance with the references.
- 2.4 Resources necessary to conduct safe and effective rope rescue operations are identified in accordance with the references.
- 2.5 Safe practices for handling and working with rope rescue equipment are described in accordance with the references.
- Range rescue rope, karabiners, technical hardware, technical software, rope rescue safety equipment.
- 2.6 The use of an established edgeline to provide safe viewing within fall risk area is demonstrated in accordance with the references.
- Range variable tether, fall restraint, don harness, helmet.

Element 3

Recognise and interpret signals and commands used in rope rescue operations.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Whistle commands used in rescue operations are recognised and interpreted in accordance with the references.
- Range rope rescue, USAR.
- 3.2 Operations where whistle commands used in rope rescue operations may be incompatible with other whistle command systems are identified in accordance with the references.
- 3.3 Hand signals used in rope rescue operations are recognised and interpreted in accordance with the references.
- Range rope up, rope down and stop rope.
- 3.4 Voice commands used in rope rescue operations are recognised and interpreted in accordance with the references.
- Range rope up, rope down, stop rope, rock and rope free.

- 3.5 Chemical light stick colour codes used in rope rescue operations are recognised and interpreted in accordance with the references.
- 3.6 Radio commands used in rescue operations are recognised and interpreted in accordance with organisational requirements.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report 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 organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

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