

Title	Exercise initial command and control at hazardous substance emergencies		
Level	5	Credits	6

Purpose	<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 incident, select strategy and tactics, and prepare the IAP for a hazardous substance emergency; and manage the IAP at a hazardous substance emergency.</p>
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Classification	Fire and Rescue Services > Fire and Rescue Services - Structural and Industrial
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit 3312, <i>Carry out decontamination procedures in emergency situations</i> ; and Unit 3315, <i>Carry out Incident Ground Safety Officer duties</i> ; or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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Guidance Information

- 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 relevant to this unit standard includes the Fire Service Act 1975, Resource Management Act 1991, and Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

4 Definitions

Fire and rescue service provider's requirements refers to policies and procedures on safety and operation set down by each fire and rescue service employer or host organisation.

Incident Action Plan (IAP) is a statement of the objectives, strategies, and critical functions to be taken at the incident.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 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 fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 1.2 The allocation of tasks is explained with respect to personnel training and equipment in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 1.3 Actual or potential hazards are identified and the action to be taken to mitigate the hazard explained in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Range hazards may include but are not limited to – chemical, biological, radioactive, explosive, bulk flammable liquids, pressurised vessels, clandestine laboratories.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge required to render hazardous substances emergencies safe.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 The powers and duties of the candidate's fire and rescue service employer or host organisation in relation to non-fire hazardous substance emergencies are explained in terms of the relevant legislation.
- 2.2 The personnel roles required to deal with hazardous substance emergencies are described in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 2.3 Hazardous substances are identified from resource information in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Range a minimum of three of the following resources – class labels, Kemler codes, United Nations number and class, chemical name, trade name, National Fire Protection Association labels, Hazchem codes.

- 2.4 Levels of protective clothing and equipment associated with the handling of each class of hazardous substance are identified and described in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Outcome 3

Analyse incident, select strategy and tactics, and prepare the IAP for a hazardous substance emergency.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Incident is analysed and the situation communicated in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range size up, assess and prioritise.
- 3.2 Strategy and tactics are decided and the IAP is developed from all available information in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range scene stabilisation, decontamination.
- 3.3 Resources required to implement the strategy and tactics are selected in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- Range may include but is not limited to – specialist equipment, water, other supporting agencies, neutralising agents, personal protective equipment, greater alarm.

Outcome 4

Manage the IAP at a hazardous substance emergency.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Facilities and cordons are established and communicated in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 4.2 Hazard management practices are employed in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 4.3 The IAP is communicated and managed in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.
- 4.4 Strategy and tactics are implemented and reviewed in response to incident variables in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

4.5 Incident is stabilised or responsibility is handed over in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Range may include but is not limited to – secure the scene, scene handover, recommissioning of equipment and appliances.

4.6 Information is collected to complete reporting requirements in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 March 1995	31 December 2025
Revision	2	21 May 1998	31 December 2025
Review	3	25 March 2004	31 December 2025
Review	4	20 November 2009	31 December 2025
Review	5	30 September 2021	31 December 2025

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0039
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.