



National
Operational
Guidance

Training specification

Breathing Apparatus



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



Contents

- Introduction 5
- Strategic responsibilities 6
 - Operational training specification review protocols* 7
- Breathing apparatus role related training 7
 - Acquisition of breathing apparatus role related competence* 7
 - Maintenance of breathing apparatus role-related competence* 8
 - Active monitoring of breathing apparatus role related competence through assessment*
..... 8
 - Reducing the risk to personnel engaged in breathing apparatus training* 9
- Breathing apparatus wearer 10
 - BA Foundation element - Use breathing apparatus for respiratory protection* 11
 - BA Foundation element - Use navigation techniques and equipment whilst wearing breathing
apparatus for respiratory protection* 12
 - BA Foundation element - Use BA entry control procedures* 14
 - BA Foundation element - Use BA search and rescue procedures* 19
 - BA Foundation element - BA team briefing/debriefing* 20
 - BA Foundation element - Use BA guidelines* 21
 - BA Foundation element - Manage available air supply* 24
 - BA Foundation element - Use airlines* 25
 - BA Foundation element - Use procedures for pressurised atmospheres* 26
 - BA Foundation element - Withdraw from the risk area whilst wearing BA* 27
 - BA Foundation element - Use effective BA communications* 28
 - BA Foundation element - Use telemetry systems* 29
 - BA Foundation element - Minimise the risk of heat related conditions* 30
 - BA Foundation element - Use procedures for dealing with BA emergencies* 31
 - BA Foundation element - Identify and record BA set failure* 33
 - BA Foundation element - Use BA welfare arrangements* 34
 - BA Foundation element - Use interoperability and intraoperability to incorporate other
organisations* 35
 - BA Foundation element - Use breathing apparatus for compartment fire behaviour and
firefighting response* 36
 - BA Foundation element - Use breathing apparatus to implement ventilation tactics during a
fire and rescue response* 37
- Breathing apparatus wearer – Hazardous materials 38
 - BA Foundation element - Using reduced working time for BA teams wearing chemical*



<i>protective clothing (CPC)</i>	38
<i>BA Foundation element - Use BA team chemical protective clothing (CPC)</i>	39
<i>BA Foundation element - Use appropriate BA procedures and processes to deal with hazardous materials</i>	40
Breathing apparatus communications operative	42
<i>BA Foundation element - Use a BA communications operative</i>	43
<i>BA Foundation element - Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures</i>	43
<i>BA Foundation element - Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications</i>	44
Breathing apparatus entry control operative	45
<i>BA Foundation element - Operate and apply BA entry control systems</i>	45
<i>BA Foundation element - Use a BA communications operative</i>	50
<i>BA Foundation element - Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures</i>	51
<i>BA Foundation element - Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications</i>	52
Breathing apparatus team leader	53
<i>BA Foundation element - Use leadership skills and techniques</i>	53
<i>BA Foundation element - Make appropriate decisions</i>	54
<i>BA Foundation element - Take responsibility for the BA team</i>	55
Breathing apparatus entry control point supervisor	57
<i>BA Foundation element - Use additional entry control point supervision</i>	57
<i>BA Foundation element - Supervise the implementation of BA procedures</i>	58
Breathing apparatus welfare officer	59
<i>BA Foundation element - Use BA welfare arrangements</i>	60
Breathing apparatus sector commander	61
<i>BA Foundation element - Use a BA sector</i>	61
Breathing apparatus incident commander/incident monitoring officer	63
<i>BA Foundation element - Manage the deployment of BA wearers</i>	64
<i>BA Foundation element - Manage breathing apparatus operations</i>	65
<i>BA Foundation element - Manage breathing apparatus emergencies</i>	66
<i>BA Foundation element - Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials</i>	67
<i>BA Foundation element - Brief and debrief BA wearers</i>	68
Breathing apparatus trainer/instructor	69
<i>BA Foundation element - Deliver training and instruction on breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment</i>	70



BA Foundation element - Comply with BA training/instruction safety standards 72

BA Foundation element - Recognise the signs of physiological and psychological stress
..... 74

BA Foundation element - Carry out appropriate breathing apparatus training 76

BA Foundation element - Plan breathing apparatus practical training 78

BA Foundation element - Conduct post training event learning and development 79



Introduction

This breathing apparatus training specification has been prepared to help training providers produce suitable and sufficient theoretical and practical breathing apparatus training packages.

Whilst addressing the legislative requirements placed on duty holders, the main focus of this specification is the health and safety at work of all fire and rescue service personnel required to use breathing apparatus. It sets a benchmark in the form of good practice against which training providers can develop their breathing apparatus training products and associated arrangements.

The Health and Safety Executive, trade union safety representatives and others, such as independent auditors and operational assessment peer review teams, may also refer to this training specification when auditing fire and rescue authority arrangements for managing the health, safety and welfare of operational personnel.

The specification represents the current standard for breathing apparatus related training and is issued by the UKFRS National Operational Guidance Programme. It is anticipated that fire and rescue services will adopt the training specifications set out in this document.

The drive toward common principles, practices and procedures supports the development of safe systems of work on the incident ground and enhances intra and interoperability and national resilience.

It is for each individual fire and rescue service to decide whether or not to adopt and follow these specifications. The onus of responsibility for their application lies with the user.

Purpose

The specification has been developed using the fire and rescue service Health, Safety and Welfare Framework and the principles of the Health & Safety Guidance 65 (HSG 65) Successful Health and Safety Management. It provides a framework for how a service can discharge its duty of care for the training and assurance of competence for operational personnel who undertake the following roles:

- Breathing apparatus wearer
- Breathing apparatus team leader
- Breathing apparatus entry control operative
- Breathing apparatus entry control point supervisor
- Breathing apparatus communications operative
- Breathing apparatus sector commander

- Breathing apparatus welfare officer
- Incident commander/incident monitoring officer
- Breathing apparatus trainer/instructor

Scope

This specification presents a framework for the acquisition and maintenance of competence for breathing apparatus wearers, personnel responsible for the command, control and supervision of breathing apparatus at operational incidents and personnel responsible for the development and training of others to be able to undertake these roles competently.

It aims to provide a consistent approach across fire and rescue services and forms the basis for common operational practices, supporting interoperability across fire and rescue services, other emergency services and where appropriate, industry and other groups.

This guidance provides services with a clear framework for each breathing apparatus role identified above and should be used to ensure operational personnel acquire and maintain the required level of competence for their role.



Strategic responsibilities

Fire and rescue authorities and strategic managers in fire and rescue services are responsible for ensuring their personnel are suitably trained and competent to undertake the roles identified in this guidance.

A service can achieve this by ensuring they have the following:

- A breathing apparatus training policy (to meet the needs of their risk management plan) clearly endorsed by strategic management stating that the fire and rescue authority will ensure they have suitable and sufficient arrangements to provide both the training and the assurance of competence for personnel undertaking the roles identified in this specification.
- A clearly identified management structure, together with the roles and responsibilities, of staff responsible for delivering the policy.
- Established minimum breathing apparatus training standards, the frequency of breathing apparatus training activity and assessment for the breathing apparatus related roles identified in this training specification.
- Identified that breathing apparatus training, maintenance and assessment for the specified roles will be undertaken based on training needs analysis at a service and an individual level.
- Clearly defined how the fire and rescue service will measure the effectiveness of the



breathing apparatus training policy and identified how and when the fire and rescue service will audit and review the breathing apparatus training policy to ensure that it is current and enables continuous improvement based on local, regional and national developments.

This will ensure the fire and rescue service has established a systematic approach to breathing apparatus training encompassing the fire and rescue service health, safety and welfare framework.



Operational training specification review protocols

This specification will be reviewed for its currency and accuracy at intervals dictated by national operational learning. The Operational Guidance Group will be responsible for commissioning the review and any decision for revision or amendment.

The Operational Guidance Group may decide that a full or partial review is required during this period.



Breathing apparatus role related training



Acquisition of breathing apparatus role related competence

It is recommended that the learning outcomes in this specification are used by fire and rescue services to train and develop their personnel identified to undertake the roles described in the Foundation for Breathing Apparatus. This will promote a common approach to breathing apparatus training and support intra and interoperability and national resilience.

The use of compartment fire behaviour training can form part of an initial breathing apparatus development programme. However, the additional training content for compartment fire behaviour is set out in the training specification for Fires and Firefighting and should be used in conjunction with this training specification.

Due to the safety critical nature of breathing apparatus it is recommended that the delivery of initial breathing apparatus role related training be undertaken by competent breathing apparatus trainers/instructors.



Maintenance of breathing apparatus role-related competence

Each fire and rescue service should have an established maintenance of competence system that clearly identifies when and how an area of competence is to be maintained. This can be achieved through the use of both on and off station (local area/central training venue) continuation training. The training frequency identified by a fire and rescue service to maintain competence should take account of each individual's ability to acquire and maintain skills and the fire and rescue authority's risk profile to ensure their risk management plans are effectively delivered.

The learning outcomes identified in this training specification should be used by fire and rescue services to maintain the competence of their operational personnel.

Personnel delivering breathing apparatus training at station level may not be required to acquire and maintain all of the learning outcomes identified for a breathing apparatus trainer/instructor. The decision on which of the breathing apparatus instructor learning outcomes are selected depends on the fire and rescue service's maintenance of breathing apparatus competence strategy and what breathing apparatus training will be delivered at station level. Some services discharge this through the use of watch/station based trainers/instructors, others through district/division breathing apparatus trainers/instructors that visit stations to deliver training.



Active monitoring of breathing apparatus role related competence through assessment

Wearing breathing apparatus is a safety critical control measure in hazardous operations and whilst wearing breathing apparatus or managing the use of breathing apparatus at operational incidents assists in maintaining competence, it does not generally provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate continuing competence. All operational personnel required to undertake the roles identified in this guidance should therefore be able to demonstrate competence against the respective learning outcomes.

To address this each fire and rescue service should have a system for actively monitoring breathing apparatus role related competence through assessment. This system should provide the fire and rescue service with assurance of the competence of its operational personnel, assurance of their health, safety and welfare and to ensure their risk management plans are delivered effectively.

The competence of personnel who undertake any of the breathing apparatus roles identified in this training specification (not including the role of breathing apparatus trainer/instructor) should be assessed at least once within a two-year period. This assessment should be undertaken by a qualified and competent breathing apparatus trainer/instructor and should aim to demonstrate the practical application of knowledge, understanding and skills in realistic conditions. For example, personnel who undertake the operational breathing apparatus wearer role should do so in an environment that exposes them to realistic conditions, including heat and smoke.

The competence of personnel who undertake the role of Breathing Apparatus Trainer/Instructor should be assessed using methods and intervals deemed appropriate by their fire and rescue service. Methods and intervals of assessment for breathing apparatus trainers/instructors will depend on the frequency of training delivery and the training roles undertaken. For example, personnel who deliver training frequently and cover all aspects of this training specification (i.e. with a frequency that enables individuals to maintain competence) may be subject to recorded training delivery assessment. Where the frequency of training delivery is regarded as insufficient to maintain competence, a formal assessment of breathing apparatus trainers/instructors should be carried out.



Reducing the risk to personnel engaged in breathing apparatus training

In 2003 the Fire Research and Development Group conducted research into the physiological capabilities of breathing apparatus trainers/instructors when operating in hot conditions (**5/2003: Physical Capabilities of Instructors at the End of Hot Fire Training**). The research focused on the capability of a range of breathing apparatus trainers/instructors to take part in a hot and humid training session and to subsequently be required to perform a rescue of a trainee. Though all of the breathing apparatus trainers/instructors were able to complete the rescue, the research identified that they were placed under significant physiological stresses whilst doing so. As a result, the Fire Research and Development Group identified the importance of ensuring breathing apparatus trainers exposed to hot and humid conditions maintained a level of physical fitness commensurate with the role.

The Guidance and Compliance Framework for Compartment Fire Behaviour **Training** document

recommends the following:

“Brigades undertaking compliance framework for compartment fire behaviour training should satisfy themselves, in conjunction with their occupational health adviser, that their recording and monitoring systems are effective and that medical assessment arrangements are available for pre and post exposure for all personnel involved in compartment fire behaviour training”.

Each fire and rescue service should identify how they will monitor, manage and reduce the risk to personnel engaged in breathing apparatus training in realistic conditions, according to the **Guidance on the Management of the Risk of Heat Stress during Training**.

Due to the potential for breathing apparatus instructors to be regularly exposed to breathing apparatus training in realistic conditions, fire and rescue authorities must consider more frequent health screening/monitoring as part of their occupational health and welfare arrangements.



Breathing apparatus wearer

Prerequisites

Pre-entry fire and rescue service requirements, demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

The role of breathing apparatus wearer is made up of the following training elements:

- [Use breathing apparatus for respiratory protection](#)
- [Use navigation techniques and equipment whilst wearing breathing apparatus for respiratory protection](#)
- [Use BA entry control procedures](#)
- [Use BA search and rescue procedures](#)
- [BA team briefing/debriefing](#)
- [Use BA guidelines](#)
- [Manage available air supply](#)
- [Use airlines](#)
- [Use procedures for pressurised atmospheres](#)
- [Withdraw from the risk area whilst wearing BA](#)
- [Use effective BA communications](#)
- [Use telemetry systems](#)
- [Minimise the risk of heat related conditions](#)



- [Use procedures for dealing with BA emergencies](#)
- [Identify and record BA set failure](#)
- [Use BA welfare arrangements](#)
- [Use interoperability and intraoperability to incorporate other organisations](#)
- [Use breathing apparatus for compartment fire behaviour and firefighting response](#)
- [Use breathing apparatus to implement ventilation tactics during a fire and rescue response](#)



BA Foundation element - Use breathing apparatus for respiratory protection

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
The physiology and psychology of respiration and using breathing apparatus	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The composition of inspired and expired air • The effects of physiological exertion in relation to consumption of air and the use of breathing apparatus • The psychological effects of working in breathing apparatus and their impact on air consumption • How psychological effects may be controlled and managed

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Breathing apparatus set functionality

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and calculate the following:
 - Cylinder capacity
 - Full duration
 - Working duration
 - Safety margin
 - Turnaround time/pressure
 - Time of whistle



BA Foundation element - Use navigation techniques and equipment whilst wearing breathing apparatus for respiratory protection

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Navigating when wearing breathing apparatus in a limited visibility environment

Understand:

- The hazards associated with navigating in various risk environments whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- The procedures and techniques for safe movement as a BA team member within a risk area
- The navigational techniques appropriate to movement of BA wearers within the risk area
- The methods used to maintain close personal contact with BA team members
- The methods that a firefighter and the team can apply to retrace their steps along a path of entry
- The benefits of providing regular updates to the breathing apparatus entry control operative

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Navigating when wearing breathing apparatus in a limited visibility environment

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the hazards when navigating in various risk environments whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- Perform the procedures and techniques for safe movement as a BA team member within a risk area
- Perform appropriate navigational techniques for the movement of BA wearers within the risk area
- Use appropriate methods to enable a BA team to retrace steps along a path of entry
- Use appropriate methods to maintain close personal contact with BA team members
- Perform the approved methods to search for fire and casualties
- Use appropriate equipment to achieve specific search objectives
- Perform the approved methods for providing regular updates to the breathing apparatus entry control operative



BA Foundation element - Use BA entry control procedures

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element	Learning outcome
Using BA entry control procedures	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The rationale for using BA entry control procedures whenever BA is worn• The purpose of the BA entry control point• Where BA entry control points should be established• How BA entry control points should be referenced• How BA teams should be identified via the BA entry control point• The purpose of a bridgehead or forward control point• The factors to be taken into account when determining the location of a bridgehead or forward control point
Working in accordance with Stage 1 BA entry control	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The circumstances where Stage 1 entry control procedures apply
Working in accordance with Stage 2 BA entry control	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The circumstances where Stage 2 entry control procedures apply• The additional provisions which should be established prior to the implementation of Stage 2 BA entry control procedures
Provision of a BA entry control point supervision	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The circumstances when a BA entry control point supervisor should be appointed
Provision of a BA Sector	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The circumstances when a BA Sector should be established• The process for the establishment of a BA Sector



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Working in accordance with rapid/initial deployment procedures

Understand:

- The circumstances when rapid/initial deployment may be undertaken
- The protocols to be applied during rapid/initial deployment of BA wearers
- The responsibilities of BA wearers using rapid deployment procedures

Working in accordance with single BA wearer procedures

Understand:

- The circumstances when BA single wearer procedures are permissible
- The responsibilities of a single BA wearer
- The responsibilities of the monitoring crew member

Deploying as a BA wearer

Understand:

- The considerations before deploying BA wearers
- The roles responsible for the deployment of BA wearers

Re-entering a risk area as a BA wearer

Understand:

- The conditions and controls applicable to re-entry of BA wearers
- The responsibilities of BA wearers for re-entering a risk area

Using BA in conjunction with Aerial appliances and ladders

Understand:

- The protocols surrounding the use of BA in conjunction with aerial appliances and ladders

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA entry control procedures	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use appropriate BA entry control procedures, whenever BA is worn • Confirm understanding of a received brief prior to entering risk areas • Report factors that do not conform to procedures for the positioning and use of BA entry control points • Report factors that do not conform to procedures for the positioning and use of bridgehead or forward control points
Work in accordance with Stage 1 BA entry control	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform allocated tasks in accordance with Stage 1 entry control procedures
Work in accordance with Stage 2 BA entry control	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform allocated tasks in accordance with Stage 2 entry control procedures
Provision of BA entry control point supervision	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the BA entry control point supervisor
Provision of a BA Sector	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and report to the BA Sector commander • Use appropriate equipment and skills to assist with the functions of the BA Sector



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Work in accordance with rapid/initial deployment procedures

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use of BA initial/rapid deployment procedures in accordance with operational practice
- Perform effective communications with the initial/rapid deployed BA team
- Perform effective communication with subsequent BA entry control operatives
- Perform initial /rapid deployment procedures to ensure;
 - Tallies are placed in the entry control board
 - Time in recorded on the tally (or automated)
 - Brief is received, understood and confirmed prior to deployment

Work in accordance with single BA wearer procedures

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use BA single wearer procedures in accordance with operational practice
- Select an appropriate position from which to maintain visual contact the BA wearer
- Use active monitoring to ensure that single BA wearers operate safely within the risk environment
- Use effective communication to establish and maintain communication with the BA wearer and the incident commander

Deploy as a BA wearer

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the circumstances where personal use of BA is required
- Use appropriate procedures and safe systems of work to deploy as a BA wearer

Re-enter a risk area as a BA wearer

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use re-entry procedures in accordance with operational procedures
- Confirm fitness to carry out the identified task
- Confirm understanding of the brief, received prior to deployment



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA in conjunction with aerial appliances and ladders

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use ladders to access and make egress from risk areas whilst wearing BA
- Use appropriate procedures for working from aerial appliances whilst wearing BA
- Use appropriate systems to maintain communication with operators of ladders and aerial appliances



BA Foundation element - Use BA search and rescue procedures

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Searching for casualties and fire in an irrespirable atmosphere

Understand:

- The rationale for using the directional search procedure as a BA wearer
- The rationale for using the compartment search procedure as a BA wearer
- The procedure for searching larger compartments as a BA team member
- The benefits of using search plans to assist BA operations
- The equipment used to achieve specific search objectives as a BA wearer
- The procedures for negotiating specific hazards whilst carrying out a search as a BA wearer

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Locating casualties

Understand:

- The information required prior to searching for casualties as a BA team member
- The procedure to be adopted by BA wearers when a casualty is discovered within a risk area
- The procedure to be adopted by BA wearers when multiple casualties are discovered within a risk area

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Search for casualties and fire in an irrespirable atmosphere

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Confirm the search procedures to be used
- Perform directional search procedures as a BA wearer
- Perform compartment search procedures as a BA wearer
- Perform search procedures as a BA team member of varying numbers, appropriate to tasks
- Perform search procedures as a BA team member within various environments
- Perform search procedures within large compartments as a BA team member
- Use Site Specific Risk Information (SSRI) and search plans to assist BA search operations
- Use appropriate equipment to achieve specific search objectives as a BA wearer
- Use procedures for negotiating specific hazards whilst carrying out a search as a BA wearer

Locate casualties

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Gather and use information required prior to searching for casualties as a BA team member
- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted when a casualty is discovered within a risk area
- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted when multiple casualties are discovered within a risk area



BA Foundation element - BA team briefing/debriefing

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Receiving and confirming briefing instructions

Understand:

- The content of briefing instructions which should be received and confirmed by BA wearers

Participating in a debrief following withdrawal from a risk area

Understand:

- The specific elements which should be discussed and recorded during a debrief of a BA team

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Receiving and confirming briefing instructions

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Communicate and confirm understanding of received briefing and specific instructions

Participate in a debrief following withdrawal from a risk area

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Communicate and confirm relevant information, in accordance with the agreed format, following withdrawal from a risk area



BA Foundation element - Use BA guidelines

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Using BA guidelines	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rationale for using BA guidelines • The purpose of BA guidelines • The purpose of a personal line • How the design of BA guidelines can assist navigation of BA teams
Laying BA guidelines	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the BA guideline laying team • The roles of additional BA guideline support teams • The method of designating BA main guidelines • The methods of securing a BA guideline, in the following circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Along a straight route - Up/down stairs and ladders - Around hazardous areas - In large compartments • The number of main guidelines that can be laid along a search route • The methods of minimising the potential for cross over of BA guidelines • The considerations and process prior to extending a BA guideline • The method of extending a BA guideline
Searching off BA guidelines	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The procedure to be adopted when BA teams meet, when searching off a BA guideline • The methods of traversing a BA guideline • The methods of searching off a guideline



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using branch guidelines	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The circumstances where branch guidelines may be considered for use • The procedure for using branch guidelines • The method of designating branch guidelines • The method of attaching a branch guideline to a main guideline
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Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA guidelines	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use BA guidelines in various environments • Use the accepted method to identify the route to and away from risk areas, using guidelines
Lay BA guidelines	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform the role of BA guideline laying team member • Use appropriate techniques and procedures to co-ordinate BA guideline laying with the activities of BA guideline support teams • Select the correct BA main guideline according to the designated tally • Use appropriate techniques and procedures to secure a BA guideline, in the following circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - along a straight route - up/down stairs and ladders - around hazardous areas - in large compartments • Identify and report circumstances when laying guidelines, which may be hazardous for subsequent BA search teams • Use appropriate techniques and procedures to minimise the potential for cross over of BA guidelines • Use appropriate techniques and procedures for extending a BA guideline



Foundation element	Learning outcome
Search off BA guidelines	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform the role of BA guideline search team member • Use appropriate procedures to be adopted when BA teams meet, when searching off a BA guideline • Use appropriate methods and procedures when traversing a BA guideline • Use appropriate procedures and techniques to perform search operations off a guideline
Use branch guidelines	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use appropriate procedures and techniques to perform search operations off a branch guideline • Select the correct BA branch guideline according to the designated tally • Use appropriate methods and techniques to attach a branch guideline to a main guideline



BA Foundation element - Manage available air supply

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Air management	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reasons why BA wearers should manage their available air • The air management responsibilities of the BA wearer

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Air management

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the air management responsibilities of the BA wearer
- Use appropriate methods and procedures to check BA set gauge readings



BA Foundation element - Use airlines

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using airlines

Understand:

- The purpose of airlines
- The situations and incidents where using airlines would be appropriate
- The considerations prior to using airlines
- The procedures to be adopted when using airlines
- The responsibilities of the BA wearer whilst using airlines

Using extended air supply

Understand:

- The situations and incidents where extended air supply may be used

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use airline

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the circumstances where the use of airline would be appropriate
- Perform appropriate tasks and procedures prior to the use of airline
- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted when using airline
- Perform the airline responsibilities of a BA wearer

Use extended air supply

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted when using extended air supply



BA Foundation element - Use procedures for pressurised atmospheres

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Working in pressurised atmospheres

Understand:

- The limitations of BA in pressurised atmospheres
- The types of environment where pressurised atmospheres may be encountered
- The operational practice regarding pressurised atmospheres and the use of BA

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Working in pressurised atmospheres

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and report environments where pressurised atmospheres may be present
- Perform the operational practice and relevant procedures regarding pressurised atmospheres and the use of BA



BA Foundation element - Withdraw from the risk area whilst wearing BA

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Withdrawing from a risk area

Understand:

- The considerations regarding the timing of withdrawal from a risk area
- The circumstances when BA teams must withdraw from a risk area
- The procedure to be followed when withdrawing from a risk area

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

	Demonstrate the ability to:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use appropriate procedures to ensure a timely withdrawal from a risk area
Withdraw from a risk area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use appropriate procedures to be adopted when circumstances necessitate the emergency withdrawal from a risk area• Use appropriate procedures to be followed when withdrawing from a risk area



BA Foundation element - Use effective BA communications

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Communicating whilst using BA

Understand:

- The methods used to establish and maintain communication links with the BAECO
- The information which should be communicated between BA team members
- The information and updates which should be communicated to the BA entry control operative
- The communications structure and process for BA related incidents
- The relevant communications equipment used by BA crews to communicate with relevant people throughout the operation
- The procedure to be adopted in the event of loss of communications
- The process for appointing a BA communications operative
- The responsibilities of the BA communications operative
- The circumstances where BA line communications would be considered

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Communicate whilst using BA

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Carry out consistent tests to establish and maintain communication links with the BAECO
- Communicate relevant information to other BA team members
- Use an appropriate communication structure and process whilst wearing BA
- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted in the event of loss of communications
- Use appropriate procedures for BA line communications





BA Foundation element - Use telemetry systems

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Using telemetry systems and procedures	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of telemetry systems • The methods to enhance the signal strength for telemetry systems • The procedure to be followed for the loss of contact or breakdown of telemetry systems • The responsibilities of the BA wearer when using telemetry systems

Practical application

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Use telemetry systems and procedures	Demonstrate the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use telemetry systems in accordance with service procedures • Use appropriate procedures and equipment to enhance the signal strength for telemetry systems • Use the procedure to be followed for the loss of contact or breakdown of telemetry systems • Perform the responsibilities of the BA wearer when using telemetry systems



BA Foundation element - Minimise the risk of heat related conditions

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Minimise the risk of heat related conditions-BA	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential effects of wearing BA and personal protective equipment • The methods to minimise the risk of heat related conditions whilst wearing BA within a risk area • The term heat related conditions • The symptoms of heat related conditions • The treatment for heat related conditions • The responsibilities of BA wearers regarding heat related conditions

Practical application

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Use appropriate methods to minimise the potential of heat stress	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and report any ill effects experienced personally or by others as a result of wearing BA and personal protective equipment • Identify and report any signs or symptoms of heat stress whilst wearing BA • Perform appropriate actions and use appropriate procedures to deal with BA wearers suffering from heat stress • Perform the responsibilities of BA wearers regarding heat stress



BA Foundation element - Use procedures for dealing with BA emergencies

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Using BA emergency procedures when wearing breathing apparatus

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The purpose of emergency procedures
- The circumstances when emergency procedures should be considered
- The circumstances when emergency procedures must be initiated
- The considerations for establishing BA emergency arrangements
- The contingency and standby arrangements for BA emergency teams
- The equipment which may be used by BA emergency teams
- The minimum requirements for the provision of a BA emergency team
- The procedures to be adopted in the event of becoming entrapped as a BA wearer
- The role and responsibilities of a nominated BA emergency team member
- The process for the deployment of BA emergency teams
- The procedure to be followed should a BA wearer become distressed
- The procedure to be adopted for the rescue of a colleague whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- The actions to be taken in the event of a team member experiencing distress
- The circumstances when partial BA set removal can be considered
- The procedure for partial BA set removal
- The BA emergency arrangements to be applied at hazardous material incidents



Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using BA emergency procedures when wearing breathing apparatus

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify relevant circumstances when emergency arrangements should be considered
- Identify relevant circumstances and initiate emergency procedures as a BA wearer
- Use appropriate contingency and standby arrangements as a BA emergency team member
- Selection and use of appropriate equipment which may be used by BA emergency teams
- Use appropriate procedures to ensure the minimum requirements for the provision of a BA emergency team
- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted in the event of becoming entrapped as a BA wearer
- Perform the responsibilities of a nominated BA emergency team member
- Use appropriate processes for deploying as a member of a BA emergency team
- Use appropriate procedures to be followed in the event of a distressed BA wearer
- Use appropriate procedures to be adopted for the rescue a colleague whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- Identify the circumstances when partial BA set removal is required
- Use appropriate procedures for partial BA set removal



BA Foundation element - Identify and record BA set failure



TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Identifying and recording BA set failure

Understand:

- The circumstances which dictate a BA set failure is reportable under the Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrence Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)
- The procedure to report and defect a BA set using RIDDOR

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Identifying and recording BA set failure

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify BA Set failure reportable under the Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrence Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)
- Use appropriate procedures to report and defect a BA set using RIDDOR



BA Foundation element - Use BA welfare arrangements

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using BA welfare arrangements to maintain the health and wellbeing of BA wearers

- Understand:
- The role and responsibilities of BA wearers regarding BA welfare
 - The procedures for minimising the risk of heat stress
 - The arrangements, which can be implemented at incidents to minimise the effects of heat stress
 - The equipment, which may be considered for use at a rest and recovery area
 - The ideal rest and recovery procedures and water consumption rates
 - The procedure for dealing with illness and/or injury of personnel whilst wearing BA

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA welfare arrangements to maintain the health and wellbeing of BA wearers

- Demonstrate the ability to:
- Perform the role and responsibilities of BA wearers regarding BA welfare
 - Perform the procedures for minimising the risk of heat stress
 - Use the arrangements, which can be implemented at incidents to minimise the effects of heat stress
 - Select and use the appropriate equipment, which may be considered for use at a rest and recovery area
 - Use the ideal rest and recovery procedures and water consumption rates
 - Perform the procedure for dealing with illness and/or injury of personnel whilst wearing BA



BA Foundation element - Use interoperability and intraoperability to incorporate other organisations

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Use interoperability and intraoperability to incorporate other organisations

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The circumstances when BA teams from different fire authorities can work together
- How and when BA teams may be required to work alongside multi-agency or category one response BA teams
- How and when BA teams may be required to work alongside members of other industry service BA teams

Practical application

Foundation element

Work with and alongside other organisations using BA operations

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the circumstances when BA teams from different fire authorities may be required to work together
- Use appropriate procedures as a BA wearer to work alongside multi-agency or category one response BA teams
- Use appropriate procedures as a BA wearer to work alongside members of other industry personnel BA teams



BA Foundation element - Use breathing apparatus for compartment fire behaviour and firefighting response

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Using breathing apparatus resources to deal with compartment fire behaviour and firefighting response

Learning outcome

Understand

- The relevant hazards and how to apply appropriate control measures of Fires and firefighting training specification,
 - Fire and thermal radiation
 - Flashover, backdraught and fire gas ignition

Practical application

Foundation element

Use breathing apparatus resources to deal with compartment fire behaviour and firefighting and rescue response

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply learning outcomes from hazards and associated control measures of [Fires and firefighting training specification](#)
 - Fire and thermal radiation
 - Flashover, backdraught and fire gas ignition



BA Foundation element - Use breathing apparatus to implement ventilation tactics during a fire and rescue response



TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Use breathing apparatus to implement ventilation tactics during a fire and rescue response

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The relevant content of Fires and firefighting training specification
 - Uncontrolled ventilation
 - Consider employing tactical ventilation

Practical application

Foundation element

Use breathing apparatus resources to ventilate structures during firefighting and rescue response

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply learning outcomes from hazards and associated control measures of [Fires and firefighting training specification](#)
 - Uncontrolled ventilation
 - Consider employing tactical ventilation



Breathing apparatus wearer – Hazardous materials

Prerequisites

Pre-entry fire and rescue service requirements, demonstrated via the current recommended service process. Attained the appropriate level of background knowledge and understanding.

The additional roles of breathing apparatus wearer - hazardous materials are covered by the following training elements:

- [Using reduced working time for BA teams wearing chemical protective equipment](#)
- [Use BA team chemical protective equipment](#)
- [Use appropriate BA procedures and processes to deal with hazardous materials](#)



BA Foundation element - Using reduced working time for BA teams wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Operating within reduced working time procedures

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The considerations for shortened working durations for wearers of chemical protective clothing (CPC) at hazardous materials incidents

Practical application

Foundation element

Operate within reduced working time procedures

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform BA operations using shortened working durations for wearers of chemical protective clothing (CPC) at hazardous materials incidents



BA Foundation element - Use BA team chemical protective clothing (CPC)

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using appropriate equipment to deal with hazardous substances whilst wearing BA

Understand:

- The procedures to don and start up a breathing apparatus set and chemical protective clothing (CPC)

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use appropriate equipment to deal with hazardous substances whilst wearing BA

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate procedures to don and start up a breathing apparatus set and chemical protective clothing (CPC)



BA Foundation element - Use appropriate BA procedures and processes to deal with hazardous materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using appropriate BA procedures and processes to deal with hazardous materials

Understand:

- The capabilities and procedures for performing snatch rescue of people from hazardous materials, whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- The procedures for checking in through the breathing apparatus entry control whilst wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)
- The procedure used to augment the air supply of BA wearers wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)
- The process used to communicate progress with the team and breathing apparatus entry control, whilst maintaining physical contact with own team throughout
- The procedure and equipment used to capture and communicate hazardous material information whilst wearing chemical protective equipment (CPC)
- The process used for BA teams to enter the decontamination area and to checkout through the breathing apparatus entry control
- The relevant feedback which should be provided by the BA team to the decontamination team and incident commander

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use appropriate BA procedures and processes to deal with hazardous materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate procedures to perform a snatch rescue of people from hazardous materials, whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- Use appropriate procedures for checking in through the breathing apparatus entry control whilst wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)
- Use appropriate procedures to augment the air supply of BA wearers wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)
- Use appropriate processes to communicate progress with the team and breathing apparatus entry control, whilst maintaining physical contact with own team throughout, whilst wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)
- The use of appropriate procedures and equipment to capture and communicate hazardous substance information whilst wearing chemical protective clothing (CPC)
- Use appropriate processes for BA teams to enter the decontamination area and to checkout through the breathing apparatus entry control
- Communicate relevant feedback which should be provided by the BA team to the decontamination team and incident commander



Breathing apparatus communications operative

Pre-requisites

Pre-entry fire and rescue service requirements, demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

The role of breathing apparatus communications operative is covered by the following training elements:

- [Use a BA communications operative](#)



- [Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures](#)
- [Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications](#)



BA Foundation element - Use a BA communications operative

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Using a BA communications operative to ensure maintenance of BA communications	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The circumstances which may necessitate the requirement for a BA communications operative

Practical application

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Use a BA communications operative to ensure maintenance of BA communications	Demonstrate the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and report circumstances which may necessitate the requirement for a BA communications operative



BA Foundation element - Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures-BA-TS

Understand:

- The responsibilities of the BA communications operative
- The lines of communication to be used by the BA communications operative
- The processes used to establish and maintain communications with all BA teams

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA communications equipment and procedures to ensure maintenance of BA communications

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the responsibilities of the BA communications operative
- Use appropriate lines of communication to request resources, report to, and inform relevant personnel
- Use appropriate processes and equipment to establish and maintain communications with all BA teams



BA Foundation element - Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Using appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The methods and systems used to record BA communications

Practical application

Foundation element

Log and record BA communications to assist BA operations and subsequent learning

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate methods and systems to record and report BA communications, according to service policy
- Use appropriate methods and systems to record and report key information following the withdrawal of a BA team



Breathing apparatus entry control operative

Prerequisites

Pre-entry fire and rescue service requirements, demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

Operate and apply BA entry control systems.

The additional role of a breathing apparatus entry control operative are covered by the following elements:

- [Operate and apply BA entry control systems](#)
- [Use a BA communications operative](#)
- [Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures](#)
- [Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications](#)



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BA Foundation element - Operate and apply BA entry control systems

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using BA procedures and processes to effectively control BA operations

Understand:

- The capabilities and limitations of breathing apparatus entry control procedures
- The testing and checks applicable to breathing apparatus entry control boards
- The responsibilities of a breathing apparatus entry control operative
- The process for establishing a breathing apparatus entry control point
- The procedure to check in breathing apparatus wearers through a breathing apparatus entry control point
- The procedure to checkout breathing apparatus wearers through a breathing apparatus entry control point
- The methods and techniques used to monitor feedback from breathing apparatus teams
- The methods and equipment used to record feedback from breathing apparatus teams
- The methods used to provide the relevant incident/sector commander with up-to-date information
- The process used to implement emergency procedures when necessary
- The processes used to support breathing apparatus sector operations
- The additional responsibilities of a BA entry control operative appropriate to the following procedures:
 - Pre-incident
 - All incident
 - Stage 1 BA entry control
 - Stage 2 BA entry control
 - BA entry control point supervision
 - BA sector command
 - Single BA wearer
 - Re-entry into a risk area
 - Search and rescue within structures
 - Guidelines and branch guidelines
- The use of BA entry control telemetry systems and procedures to monitor BA wearers, in conjunction with the learning outcomes above



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Practical application



National
Operational
Guidance



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Chiefs Council

Foundation element

Learning outcome



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA procedures and processes to effectively control BA operations

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate breathing apparatus entry control procedures operating within the capabilities and limitations of BA entry control systems
- Use appropriate testing and checks for breathing apparatus control boards
- Perform the responsibilities of a breathing apparatus entry control operative
- Perform the process for establishing a breathing apparatus entry control point
- Perform appropriate procedures to check in breathing apparatus wearers through a breathing apparatus entry control point
- Perform appropriate procedures to checkout breathing apparatus wearers through a breathing apparatus entry control point
- Use appropriate methods and techniques used to monitor feedback from breathing apparatus teams
- The use of appropriate methods and equipment to record feedback from breathing apparatus teams
- Use appropriate methods to provide the relevant incident/sector commander with up-to-date information
- Perform the process to implement emergency procedures when necessary
- Perform the processes to support breathing apparatus sector operations
- Perform the additional responsibilities of a BA entry control operative appropriate to the following procedures:
 - Pre-incident
 - All incident
 - BA entry control
 - Stage 2 BA entry control
 - BA entry control point supervision
 - BA sector
 - Single BA wearer
 - Re-entry into a risk area
 - Search and rescue within structures
 - Guidelines and branch guidelines
- Use BA entry control telemetry systems and procedures to monitor BA wearers, in conjunction with the learning outcomes above



BA Foundation element - Use a BA communications operative

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Using a BA communications operative to ensure maintenance of BA communications

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The circumstances which may necessitate the requirement for a BA communications operative

Practical application

Foundation element

Use a BA communications operative to ensure maintenance of BA communications

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and report circumstances which may necessitate the requirement for a BA communications operative



BA Foundation element - Operate and apply BA communications equipment and procedures

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using BA communications equipment and procedures to ensure maintenance of BA communications

Understand:

- The responsibilities of the BA communications operative
- The lines of communication to be used by the BA communications operative
- The processes used to establish and maintain communications with all BA teams

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use BA communications equipment and procedures to ensure maintenance of BA communications

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the responsibilities of the BA communications operative
- Use appropriate lines of communication to request resources, report to, and inform relevant personnel
- Use appropriate processes and equipment to establish and maintain communications with all BA teams



BA Foundation element - Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA communications

Understand:

- The methods and systems used to record BA communications

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Log and record BA communications to assist BA operations and subsequent learning

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate methods and systems to record and report BA communications, according to service policy
- Use appropriate methods and systems to record and report key information following the withdrawal of a BA team



Breathing apparatus team leader

Prerequisites

Pre-entry fire and rescue service requirements, demonstrated via the current recommended service process. Attained the appropriate level of knowledge, understanding, practical application and practical experience of wearing breathing apparatus.

The additional roles of a breathing apparatus team leader are covered by the following elements:

- [Use leadership skills and techniques](#)
- [Make appropriate decisions](#)
- [Take responsibility for the BA team](#)



BA Foundation element - Use leadership skills and techniques



TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Applying appropriate leadership skills and techniques as a BA team leader

Learning outcome

Understand:

- How to apply the relevant learning outcomes from the Incident Command training specification
 - Leadership
 - Command skills
- The procedures to lead a BA team into risk areas via the breathing apparatus entry control point
- The procedures to lead the return of the BA team to breathing apparatus entry control point

Practical application

Foundation element

Apply appropriate leadership skills and techniques as a BA team leader

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply relevant learning outcomes from the Incident Command training specification
 - Leadership
 - Command skills
- Perform appropriate procedures to lead a BA team into risk areas via the breathing apparatus entry control point
- Perform appropriate procedures to lead the return of the BA team to the breathing apparatus control point



BA Foundation element - Make appropriate decisions

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Making calculated decisions as a BA team leader

Understand:

- How to apply learning outcomes from the Incident Command training specification, knowledge and understanding
 - Command decision making
- The considerations of the BA team leader when deciding on actions of the BA team

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Make calculated decisions as a BA team leader

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply relevant learning outcomes from the Incident Command level 1 training specification, practical application
 - Command decision making
- Select appropriate actions, to be carried out by the BA team, following consideration of available options



BA Foundation element - Take responsibility for the BA team

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using responsibilities to lead a team when wearing breathing apparatus

Understand:

- The all incident responsibilities of the BA team leader
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader whilst performing search and rescue procedures
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader regarding air management of BA team members
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader when withdrawing BA wearers from a risk area
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader regarding communication with relevant operatives and team members
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader when telemetry is in use
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader regarding the welfare of BA wearers
- The responsibilities of the BA team leader when emergency procedures are in use

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use responsibilities to lead a team when wearing breathing apparatus

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform all incident responsibilities of the BA team leader
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader whilst carrying out search and rescue procedures
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader regarding air management of BA team members
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader when withdrawing BA wearers from a risk area
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader regarding communication with relevant operatives and team members
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader when telemetry is in use
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader regarding the welfare of BA wearers
- Perform responsibilities of the BA team leader when emergency procedures are in use



Breathing apparatus entry control point supervisor

Prerequisites

Appropriate level of managerial knowledge, understanding, practical application and experience demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

See Incident Command Foundation - [effective selection process](#)

The additional roles of an entry control point supervisor are covered by the following elements:

- [Use additional entry control point supervision](#)
- [Supervise the implementation of BA procedures](#)



BA Foundation element - Use additional entry control point supervision

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Using situational awareness to identify the requirement for additional entry control point supervision

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The circumstances which may necessitate the appointment of a BA entry control point supervisor

Practical application

Foundation element

Use situational awareness to identify the requirement for additional entry control point supervision

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and report the circumstances which may necessitate the appointment of a BA entry control point supervisor



BA Foundation element - Supervise the implementation of BA procedures

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using appropriate knowledge, skills and understanding to supervise the implementation of BA procedures

Understand:

- The responsibilities of the entry control point supervisor
- The lines of communication to be used by the entry control point supervisor
- The relevant support functions applicable to the role of entry control point supervisor

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using appropriate knowledge, skills and understanding to supervise the implementation of BA procedures

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform responsibilities of the entry control point supervisor
- Select and use appropriate lines of communication to be used by the entry control point supervisor
- Select and use appropriate support functions applicable to the role of entry control point supervisor



Breathing apparatus welfare officer

Prerequisites

Appropriate level of managerial knowledge, understanding, practical application and experience demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

See Incident Command Foundation – [effective selection process](#)

The role of breathing apparatus welfare officer is covered by the following element:

- [Use BA welfare arrangements](#)



BA Foundation element - Use BA welfare arrangements

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Use BA welfare arrangements	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The methods to address BA welfare, safety and effectiveness• Who is responsible for the implementation of BA welfare arrangements• The responsibilities of the BA welfare officer• The procedures for minimising the risk of heat stress• The arrangements, which can be implemented at incidents to minimise the effects of heat stress• The equipment, which may be considered for use at a rest and recovery area• The ideal rest and recovery procedures• The procedure for dealing with illness and/or injury of personnel whilst wearing BA• The methods of identifying and recording illness and/or injury of personnel following the wearing of BA

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Make appropriate arrangements to ensure the welfare of BA wearers

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Select and use appropriate means to be identifiable as a BA welfare on the incident ground
- Perform the responsibilities of the BA welfare officer
- Use appropriate procedures for minimising the risk of heat stress
- Use appropriate arrangements, which can be implemented at incidents to minimise the effects of heat stress
- Select and use appropriate resources and equipment, for a rest and recovery area
- Use ideal rest and recovery procedures
- Use the procedure for dealing with illness and/or injury of personnel whilst wearing BA
- Use appropriate methods for identifying and recording illness and/or injury of personnel following the wearing of BA



Breathing apparatus sector commander

Prerequisites

Appropriate level of managerial knowledge, understanding, practical application and experience demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

See Incident Command Foundation – effective selection process

The role of breathing apparatus sector commander is covered by the following element:

- [Use a BA sector](#)



BA Foundation element - Use a BA sector

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using a BA sector to manage all BA resources

Understand:

- The purpose of establishing a BA sector
- How the BA sector commander is identifiable on the incident ground
- The required level of competence for nomination as a BA sector commander
- How and to whom, the establishment of BA sector command should be communicated
- The responsibilities of the BA sector commander
- The lines of communication to be used by the BA sector commander
- How the BA sector operates within the incident command structure
- The support and resourcing functions applicable to a BA sector
- The methods and systems of recording BA resource usage and requirements
- The methods for acquiring appropriate BA resources

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use a BA sector to manage all BA resources

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate procedures and resources to establish a BA sector
- Use appropriate methods to ensure the BA sector commander is identifiable on the incident ground
- Communicate the establishment of a BA sector to all relevant personnel
- Perform the responsibilities of the BA sector commander
- Use appropriate lines of communication to request resources, report to, and inform relevant personnel
- Use appropriate methods to ensure the BA sector operates within the incident command structure
- Use appropriate support and resourcing functions applicable to a BA sector
- Use appropriate methods and systems of recording BA resource usage and requirements
- Use appropriate methods for acquiring BA resources



Breathing apparatus incident commander/incident monitoring officer

Prerequisites

Appropriate level of managerial knowledge, understanding, practical application and experience demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

See Incident Command Foundation – [effective selection process](#)

The role of a breathing apparatus incident commander and incident monitoring officer are covered by:

- [Manage the deployment of BA wearers](#)
- [Manage breathing apparatus operations](#)
- [Manage breathing apparatus emergencies](#)

- [Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials](#)
- [Brief and debrief BA wearers](#)



BA Foundation element - Manage the deployment of BA wearers

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element	Learning outcome
Managing the deployment of BA wearers	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The responsibilities of the incident commander for all incidents involving the use of BA • The selection of the following roles for BA teams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Firefighting - Hose management - Search and rescue • The responsibilities of the incident commander for the rapid/initial deployment of BA wearers • The responsibilities of the incident commander for re-entry of BA wearers • The responsibilities of the incident commander for single BA wearer deployment • The responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of search and rescue BA teams • The responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA guideline teams • The responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA wearers using airline equipment

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Manage the deployment of BA wearers

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for incidents involving the use of BA
- Select the appropriate roles for BA teams following scene assessment:
 - Firefighting
 - Hose management
 - Search and rescue
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the rapid/initial deployment of BA wearers
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for single BA wearer deployment
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for re-entry of BA wearers
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of search and rescue BA teams
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA guideline teams
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander for the deployment of BA wearers using airline equipment



BA Foundation element - Manage breathing apparatus operations

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using appropriate procedures and risk management skills to manage breathing apparatus operations

Understand:

- The responsibilities of an incident commander in relation to breathing apparatus entry control
- The capabilities and limitations of breathing apparatus entry control systems and procedures
- How risk is managed through the systems of breathing apparatus control
- The responsibilities of the incident commander in relation to BA welfare

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use appropriate procedures and risk management skills to manage breathing apparatus operations

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Perform the responsibilities of an incident commander in relation to breathing apparatus entry control
- Use appropriate breathing apparatus entry control systems and procedures and operate within their capabilities and limitations
- Use breathing apparatus entry control systems to manage risk
- Perform the responsibilities of the incident commander in relation to BA welfare



BA Foundation element - Manage breathing apparatus emergencies

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Using appropriate processes and procedures to manage breathing apparatus emergencies

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The process for establishing emergency arrangements at incidents where BA is used
- The actions to be followed in the event of a BA emergency
- The emergency procedures for rescuing a breathing apparatus wearer in distress
- The actions to be taken in the event of loss of communications with a BA team

Practical application

Foundation element

Use appropriate processes and procedures to manage breathing apparatus emergencies

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish appropriate emergency arrangements at incidents where BA is used, using the relevant process
- Perform the actions to be followed in the event of a BA emergency
- Use emergency procedures for rescuing a breathing apparatus wearer in distress
- Perform the actions to be taken in the event of loss of communications with a BA team



BA Foundation element - Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Managing BA operations involving hazardous materials

Understand:

- The rationale for shortened working durations for wearers of chemical protective clothing (CPC) at hazardous materials incidents
- The procedures to be used for the deployment of BA wearers, where hazardous materials are present

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Manage BA operations involving hazardous materials

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use procedures to implement shortened working durations for wearers of chemical protective clothing (CPC) at hazardous materials incidents
- Use procedures for deploying BA wearers, where hazardous materials are present



BA Foundation element - Brief and debrief BA wearers

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Using methods and techniques to effectively communicate information prior to and following withdrawal of BA wearers from the risk area

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The methods and processes used to communicate essential information to BA wearers prior to entry into a risk area
- The methods and processes used to gather essential information from BA wearers following withdrawal from the risk area
- The methods and systems used to record briefing and debriefing information
- The methods and systems used to communicate information to other relevant personnel including BA wearers

Practical application

Foundation element

Use methods and techniques to effectively communicate information prior to and following withdrawal of BA wearers from the risk area

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate methods and processes to communicate essential information to BA wearers prior to entry into a risk area
- Use appropriate methods and techniques to gather essential information from BA wearers following withdrawal from the risk area
- Use appropriate methods and systems to record briefing and debriefing information
- Use appropriate methods and systems to communicate information to other relevant personnel including BA wearers



Breathing apparatus trainer/instructor

Prerequisites



Appropriate level of knowledge, understanding, practical application and experience demonstrated via the current recommended service process.

Appropriate instructional techniques/teaching qualification.

See Incident Command Foundation – [effective selection process](#)

The role of breathing apparatus trainer/instructor is covered by the following elements:

- [Deliver training and instruction on breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment](#)
- [Comply with BA training/instruction safety standards](#)
- [Recognise the signs of physiological and psychological stress](#)
- [Carry out appropriate breathing apparatus training](#)
- [Plan breathing apparatus practical training](#)
- [Conduct post training event learning and development](#)



BA Foundation element - Deliver training and instruction on breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Using training/instructional techniques to deliver training on breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment

Understand:

- The component features of the breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment in accordance with relevant standards
- The breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment in terms of:
 - Capabilities
 - Limitations
- The donning and operation of the breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment
- The testing requirements and procedures for the breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Use training/instructional techniques to deliver training on breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate instructional techniques to explain and demonstrate the features and purpose of breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment to learners
- Use appropriate instructional techniques to explain and demonstrate how the breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment function, in terms of:
 - Capabilities
 - Limitations
- Use appropriate instructional techniques to explain and demonstrate the donning and operation of the breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment
- Use appropriate instructional techniques to demonstrate the procedure for checking condition and operational servicing of breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment



BA Foundation element - Comply with BA training/instruction safety standards

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Carry out breathing apparatus training sessions

Understand:

- Risk assessment in relation to planning breathing apparatus training sessions
- The methods and techniques used to supervise BA trainees whilst operating in the following hazardous training environments:
 - Using obscurity
 - Heat and humidity
 - Fire
 - At height
 - In darkness
 - In smoke/limited visibility
- The legislation and service operating procedures relating to breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment
- Anticipated hazards associated with BA training
- Risks associated with BA training
- Control measures used to maintain a safe breathing apparatus learning environment
- Safety incidents in the learning environment which are reportable under Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR)
- The available training establishment safety facilities, arrangements and procedures to be used during BA training sessions
- The health, safety and welfare procedures relating to breathing apparatus instruction, including:
 - Disqualifications for BA wearing
 - Frequency of BA wears
 - Hydration
 - Rest periods
 - Fitness levels and occupational health procedures

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Apply safety procedures and processes relating to breathing apparatus training/instruction

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Risk assess breathing apparatus training sessions, as part of the planning process including;
 - Anticipating hazards associated with BA training
 - Deciding on risks associated with BA training
 - Applying control measures used to maintain a safe breathing apparatus learning environment
- The methods and techniques used to supervise BA trainees whilst operating in the following hazardous training environments:
 - Using obscurity
 - Heat and humidity
 - Fire
 - At height
 - In darkness
 - In smoke/limited visibility
- Use service operating procedures relating to breathing apparatus set and ancillary equipment
- Report safety incidents in the learning environment which are reportable under Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR)
- Use available training establishment safety facilities, arrangements and procedures to be used during BA training sessions
- Use health, safety and welfare procedures relating to breathing apparatus instruction



BA Foundation element - Recognise the signs of physiological and psychological stress

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Identifying the signs of physiological and psychological stress and take appropriate action

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The physiology of respiration in relation to wearing breathing apparatus
- The impact of the working environment on the breathing apparatus wearer
- The signs and symptoms of physiological and psychological stress in those required to wear breathing apparatus
- The procedures for dealing with individuals who show signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses, whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- The procedures for dealing with individuals who show signs and symptoms of psychological stress, whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- The arrangements for BA instructor welfare

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Identify the signs of physiological and psychological stress and take appropriate action

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the impact of the working environment on the physiology and psychology of the breathing apparatus wearer
- Identify the signs and symptoms of physiological and psychological stress in those required to wear breathing apparatus
- Use procedures for dealing with individuals who show signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses, whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- Use procedures for dealing with individuals who show signs and symptoms of psychological stress, whilst wearing breathing apparatus
- Use appropriate arrangements for BA instructor welfare



BA Foundation element - Carry out appropriate breathing apparatus training

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Understanding how to carry out breathing apparatus training sessions

Understand:

- The process of progressive training for BA wearers
- The health and safety factors to be managed in setting up a breathing apparatus session
- The control measures needed for breathing apparatus sessions
- How to set realistic and safe training conditions to achieve specific training objectives
- How to deliver relevant health and safety briefings to students and instructional staff, prior to breathing apparatus session
- How to brief all those involved on objectives of the breathing apparatus session
- How to monitor and supervise progress of individuals and teams in the breathing apparatus session
- How to monitor and supervise the welfare of all individuals involved in the breathing apparatus session
- How to manage the progress of the breathing apparatus session
- How and when to intervene in progress, to reinforce the learning objectives
- How to respond to emergencies which arise during breathing apparatus sessions

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Understand how to carry out breathing apparatus training sessions

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Plan and use appropriate processes for progressive training of BA wearers
- Manage the health and safety factors when setting up a breathing apparatus session
- Use appropriate control measures needed for breathing apparatus sessions
- Set realistic and safe training conditions to achieve specific training objectives
- Deliver appropriate health and safety briefings to students and instructional staff, prior to breathing apparatus session
- Deliver appropriate briefings all those involved on objectives of the breathing apparatus session
- Monitor and supervise of progress for individuals and teams in the breathing apparatus session
- Monitor and supervise of welfare for all individuals involved in the breathing apparatus session
- Manage the progress of the breathing apparatus session
- Intervene in progress, to reinforce the learning objectives, at appropriate times and using appropriate methods
- Use appropriate processes to respond to emergencies which arise during breathing apparatus sessions



BA Foundation element - Plan breathing apparatus practical training

TRAINING SPECIFICATION



Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Planning breathing apparatus training using appropriate processes

Understand:

- The production of appropriate and specific practical BA training plans
- The safety checks of the training environment, facilities and equipment prior to breathing apparatus session
- Select and use appropriate resources according to a defined training plan
- The provision of sufficient and appropriate resources to achieve specified breathing apparatus training learning outcomes
- The emergency safety procedures relevant to the breathing apparatus session and learning outcomes

Practical application

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Plan breathing apparatus training using appropriate processes

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Produce appropriate and specific practical BA training plans
- Conduct appropriate safety checks of the training environment, facilities and equipment prior to breathing apparatus session
- Select and use appropriate resources according to a defined training plan
- Ensure the provision of sufficient, appropriate resources to achieve specified breathing apparatus training learning outcomes
- Ensure the emergency safety procedures are in place relevant to the breathing apparatus session and learning outcomes



BA Foundation element - Conduct post training event learning and development

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Foundation element

Learning outcome

Conduct post training event learning and development

Understand:

- The methods used to review outcomes of the breathing apparatus session with those involved:
 - Individuals
 - Groups
- The methods used to identify lessons learned from the breathing apparatus session:
 - For self
 - For participants
- How to provide feedback on team and individual performance in the breathing apparatus session
- How to provide opportunities for the those involved to give their own feedback on the breathing apparatus session
- How to use the appropriate methods to make recommendations for improvements to BA training

Practical application



Foundation element

Learning outcome

Plan breathing apparatus training using appropriate processes

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate methods to review outcomes of the breathing apparatus session with those involved:
 - Individuals
 - Groups
- Use appropriate methods to identify lessons learned from the breathing apparatus session:
 - For self
 - For participants
- Use appropriate methods to provide feedback on team and individual performance in the breathing apparatus session
- Use appropriate methods to provide opportunities for the those involved to give their own feedback on the breathing apparatus session
- Use the appropriate methods to make recommendations for improvements to BA training (may be local, regional and/or national forums)