

RISK ASSESSMENT OF: USAR Challenge

PREMISES

EQUIPMENT

VEHICLE

SYSTEM OF WORK

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RISK ASSESSMENT BY: Phill Mould

DATE COMPLETED: 29/08/2023

DISCIPLINE LEAD SIGN OFF:

DATE FOR REVIEW: after event for any learning

Notes:

Additional risk assessment may be required for venue/site

Includes breaching and breaking and technical search

Includes generic Canine considerations

TASK	HAZARDS IDENTIFIED	WHO MAY BE HARMED AND HOW?	EXISTING CONTROLS	IS THE RISK ADEQUATELY CONTROLLED? (YES / NO)	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES & COMMENTS	SECTION / PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Setting up of scenarios	Heavy loads	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews Musculoskeletal injuries, impact and crush	Loads manoeuvred using safe system, aids and utilising team lifts where appropriate Lightening the load – smaller loads handled where practical to do so Use of mechanical assistance – telehandler/plant used by logistic team or Service competent person Appropriate level of PPE for foot protection, head and eye protection and	Yes		

		Public coming to watch construction of rigs	coveralls for abrasion protection. Area cordoned off and no public access, security in place over night			
	Constructing of rig	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews Use of mechanical and hand tools, abrasions, and lacerations Collapsing of rig causing crush injuries	PPE including gloves Experienced and competent individuals Construction of rig is designed and planned Rig is tested before use. Pre-scenario checks in place	Yes		
	Rough conditions underfoot	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews Ankle injuries, slips, trips and falls, sharp items trod on leading to foot injuries	Appropriate foot and ankle protection and toe and sole protection	Yes		
	Moving vehicles	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews	Marshal in use for all vehicle movements within competition zones. Cordons in place Safety briefing for volunteers	Yes		
	Refuelling petrol engine/generators	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews	Competent volunteers/USAR	Yes		

		<p>Fire</p> <p>Burns</p> <p>Fuel spillage and contamination of clothing leading to skin irritation</p>	<p>equipment team refuel equipment</p> <p>Refuelling done when engine cool</p> <p>Restricted access to and storage of fuel supplies</p>			
<p>Demonstration and Event</p>	<p>Handling and using power tools, hydraulic, air powered, or battery</p>	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Injuries from cutting, spreading, nips, traps, entanglement, contact with surfaces, impacts, flying objects causing impact wounds - face, eyes</p> <p>Injuries due to traversing rubble pile</p>	<p>Only competent staff are allowed in risk areas</p> <p>Observers/event staff to check control measures are in place</p> <p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews to wear own provided PPE</p> <p>Equipment familiarisation carried out prior to using it</p> <p>Equipment checks carried out prior to</p> <p>Standard tests take place each day by competent Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p>	<p>Yes</p>		



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		<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Musculoskeletal injuries from handling heavy equipment or in awkward postures</p>	<p>Awareness of weights of equipment and methods of use</p> <p>Correct manual handling techniques at all times</p>	Yes		
	<p>Use of generator for power</p>	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Electrical shock</p> <p>Trailing cables creating trip hazards</p>	<p>Generators hired in from reputable hirer if not host's own</p> <p>Cables routed and covered if coming from public areas. Cables managed in work area</p> <p>RCB protection. Checks in place prior to use and daily checks</p> <p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews are experienced and competent in the use of the equipment</p> <p>Generators are positioned so fumes are not hazardous to the team or assessors</p> <p>Awareness of positioning of equipment and good</p>	Yes		

			<p>practice regarding safety officers used to manage cables/hydraulic hose</p> <p>Refuelling by competent individuals and fuel stored safely</p>			
	Unstable/uneven structures	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Crush injuries</p>	<p>Competent Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews using equipment</p> <p>Area cordoned off</p>	Yes		
	Noise, dust and vibration	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Noise induced hearing loss and temporary threshold shift</p> <p>Vibration syndrome</p> <p>Respiratory irritation</p>	<p>Appropriate hearing protection and RPE provided to Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Host checks noise impact with local authority as part of permission to hold event</p> <p>Awareness of HAVS through own Service training and health surveillance.</p> <p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews PPE</p> <p>Host checks dust impact with local authority</p>	Yes		

		<p>Creation of dust considered to be an environmental hazard</p> <p>Contamination within dust such as asbestos</p>	<p>Design of scenario takes into account levels of dust likely to be created and any environmental impacts</p> <p>The host is responsible for ensuring any screening takes place of any rubble or components to be used that may have the potential to contain harmful substances such as asbestos</p>			
	Physical exertion	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Heat Stress/ Exhaustion/ Heat Stroke</p>	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews are experienced and are aware of the arduous nature of USAR work.</p> <p>Assessors competent and experienced in USAR</p> <p>First Aid trained supervision.</p> <p>Access to water, shade and rest where required</p>	Yes		
	<p>Rough underfoot conditions</p> <p>Rubble pile and debris</p>	<p>Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews</p> <p>Ankle injuries, slips, trips and falls, puncture wounds and sharp items trod on leading to foot injuries</p>	<p>Awareness of conditions due to experience</p> <p>Areas kept tidy and equipment areas set up as per training</p> <p>Adequate footwear and hand protection, coverall</p>	Yes		

		Abrasion injuries	protection as part of PPE selection by Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews			
	Sawdust from timber	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews Eye injury Respiratory irritation Windy conditions could exacerbate situation	Appropriate RPE used Eye protection worn by everyone within hot zone Cordon in place to prevent access of unauthorised individuals including public Public areas for spectating are at safe distance	Yes		
	Heavy objects require moving	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews Crushing from unstable load Impact injuries Musculoskeletal injuries	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews are experienced and competent Mechanical lifting equipment used. Equipment has been tested prior to use and selected for its capacity	Yes		

Entering & exiting hides	Slips, Trips Falls	Volunteers/UKRO team/USAR crews/canine handlers	Observation & PPE	Yes	Safety Briefings for all involved and in proximity.	
Awaiting rescue	Hypothermia		Minimise exposure to elements and suitable outdoor clothing			
Working with animals	Animal Borne Diseases		Minimise exposure and provide hand wash facilities		Cordons in place, only approved staff inside cordons.	
Working with animals	Bite		Close supervision and control from handler			
Fail safe procedure for personal emergency	Lost / distressed					
Awaiting Rescue & Dog Handling						
Awaiting Rescue & Dog Handling	Rubble Pile		Radio & Mobile phone communication & more than 1 person aware of the location of the casualty.	Yes		
Awaiting Rescue & Dog Handling	Steep Terrain & Loose Rocks		Minimise casualty time in risk area			
			Do not climb on simulation area			
			Observation & PPE including helmet.			