

ASTPES3

Minimise risk to health, safety and the environment



Overview

This unit is about ensuring that all the work you undertake yourself or work and actions which others may undertake on your behalf is completed to the highest standards of safety. It covers making sure that the safety of yourself, other people who may impact on your operations, non target species and the environment is protected.

- P1. Element 3.1 covers the competences required to ensure that risks are minimised and to take the appropriate action in the event of an emergency. You will need to be aware of possible risks involved in pest control and keep accurate records of all action taken to minimise those risks.

- P2. Element 3.2 covers the competence required to respond in emergency situations. You must be able to follow emergency procedures and practices and report all incidents to the appropriate person and/or authority.

- P3. Element 3.3 covers the competence required to respond following the event of illness or injury. You will need to identify the cause of the situation and take steps to ensure that the risk to others is minimised. This also involves maintaining first aid equipment and ensuring it is accessible at all times.

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Performance criteria

Take action to minimise risks

You must be able to:

- P1 ensure that those directly involved in activities or who could be affected by them are fully aware of potential hazards and risks, methods for minimising risks and of relevant emergency procedures
- P2 regularly and accurately carry out routine health, safety and security checks on site, vehicles, equipment, materials and PPE and monitor potential hazards
- P3 where a serious risk is identified, take immediate action to ensure the safety of the technician, customers, members of the public, non-target species and the environment
- P4 use approved/safe methods and techniques when lifting and handling equipment and materials
- P5 ensure all practices and actions taken conform to health and safety guidelines, both generally and specifically to the site, and that relevant personal health information is carried at all times
- P6 maintain clear and accurate records of action taken to minimise risks and maintain site safety and security

Ensure emergency procedures are followed

You must be able to:

- P7 follow procedures when an emergency arises, in accordance with approved practice
- P8 report to the appropriate authority any personal medical conditions likely to endanger self or others
- P9 ensure that the location of relevant equipment and information about emergency procedures is communicated clearly to those with a need to know
- P10 ensure that any information required to contact carers or next of kin for use in an emergency is easily accessible
- P11 practise emergency procedures regularly and in accordance with organisational guidelines
- P12 carry out correct procedures promptly and calmly in the event of an emergency
- P13 record accurately all incidents and promptly report to the responsible authority

Respond to injuries and signs of illness

You must be able to:

- P14 identify promptly and assess signs of injury / ill health to determine whether it can be dealt with personally or whether assistance should be summoned
- P15 use appropriate first aid techniques within limits of authority and expertise
- P16 contact qualified assistance promptly and provide them with clear and

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relevant information

- P17 take prompt action to ensure the safety of self and others potentially at risk
- P18 identify the probable cause and source of the problem and take prompt and appropriate action to minimize further hazard to self and others where possible and relevant
- P19 take necessary precautions to protect persons from further injury and offer comfort and reassurance
- P20 follow any necessary procedures for informing interested parties
- P21 ensure that first aid equipment is complete and kept accessible at all times

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Knowledge and understanding

Health & Safety

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the range of common hazards which may occur
- K2 how to inspect for potential risks
- K3 action to take appropriate to role and level of responsibility
- K4 safe systems of work including: how to lift and handle equipment safely; how to work at heights; how to work with electricity and inflammable chemicals and gases
- K5 the content of health and safety checks appropriate to role and level of responsibility
- K6 the reason for health and safety checks
- K7 pesticides in common use and group of chemicals to which the actives belong
- K8 precautions to be taken and for how long
- K9 emergency contacts
- K10 the customer's and your organisation's emergency procedures
- K11 sources of relevant information
- K12 recording procedures and the reasons for them
- K13 how to follow emergency procedures

Taking action in an emergency

You need to know and understand:

- K14 limits of personal authority (i.e. situations which may be dealt with personally and situations which require qualified assistance)
- K15 who to contact for qualified assistance
- K16 the procedures for contacting carers or next of kin
- K17 the necessary components of a first aid kit

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Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

Take action to minimise risks

1. **respond to potential** hazards:
 - 1.1. situations or practices contravening current Health and Safety legislation for example: noxious / inflammable substances, biological contamination, fire, accidental **spillages, equipment breakdown / malfunction, working at height**
2. **work within** Health and Safety guidelines:
 - 2.1. current Health and Safety legislation covering facilities
 - 2.2. for example: current guidelines from competent national organisations; manufacturer's guidelines for the use and maintenance of facilities and equipment; customers / your organisations guidelines

Ensure emergency procedures are followed

3. **respond to** emergencies:
 - 3.1. fires
 - 3.2. bomb alerts
 - 3.3. chemical spillages
 - 3.4. underground emergencies
 - 3.5. other emergencies requiring the protection and safe evacuation of customers/clients and staff
4. **ensure that** emergency procedures conform to:
 - 4.1. organisation's requirements for action and reporting
 - 4.2. customer's requirements for action and reporting (where relevant)
 - 4.3. industry Codes of Practice
 - 4.4. legal requirements for reporting injuries or dangerous occurrences

Respond to injuries and signs of illness

5. **inform:**
 - 5.1. responsible person on site / emergency services
 - 5.2. senior manager
 - 5.3. customer

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Developed by Asset Skills

Version number 1

Date approved March 2006

Indicative review date March 2008

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Asset Skills

Original URN PES3

Relevant occupations Pest Controller

Suite Pest Control

Key words pest, rodent, vermin, infestation, exterminators, rats, mice, ants, cockroaches, squirrels, bees