

COGN403

Undertake decontamination operations



Overview

This unit covers the competence required for the preparation and decontamination, to the required levels, of items and areas which include: components for re-use, building floor and wall areas and decommissioned items en route for disposal, etc.

This unit deals with the following:

1. Undertake decontamination operations

Note: This unit does not relate to the preparation of purpose built decontamination facilities such as process plant.

During this work you must take account of the relevant worksite operational requirements, procedures and safe working practices AS THEY APPLY TO YOU.

Previous Version:

Adapted from Unit N403 of Nuclear Decommissioning NOS – version October 2005.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 work safely at all times, complying with health and safety and other relevant regulations and guidelines
 - P2 obtain clear and complete instructions on the **decontamination methods** and levels to be achieved before work begins
 - P3 obtain the necessary materials, **equipment**, tools and personal protective equipment and make them ready for use
 - P4 clearly identify the handling and treatment requirements of secondary waste generated by the **decontamination method**
 - P5 correctly apply the specified decontamination method to achieve required results and minimise spread of contamination
 - P6 record correct measurements of radioactivity at appropriate intervals to check progress towards and achievement of required radioactivity levels
 - P7 promptly report and resolve difficulties with the specified work method and levels of secondary waste to and with the relevant people
 - P8 maintain containment in good condition throughout
 - P9 monitor the operation of **support systems** continuously and respond to any alarms safely and in line with specified procedures
 - P10 segregate and deal with secondary waste according to specified instructions and ensure that the decontamination area is cleared up to the required standard after use

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the internal documentation and control systems
- K2 how to access and use material, tools and equipment
- K3 the use of personal protective equipment for different types of activity and the fitness for purpose checks which are necessary
- K4 the key points to consider when determining the handling and treatment requirements of secondary waste generated by different decontamination methods
- K5 typical deficiencies in the information, equipment and tools obtained, and who should be involved in discussions to resolve them
- K6 the principles of waste generation and avoidance
- K7 radioactive waste types and their segregation
- K8 the principles of radiation and contamination
- K9 the principles of working area demarcation and control
- K10 the principles of risk minimisation
- K11 decontamination methods and techniques
- K12 how to measure radioactivity and identify required radioactivity levels
- K13 typical difficulties which may be encountered and who should resolve them
- K14 how to maintain containment in good condition
- K15 the aspects of personal and environmental support systems which are monitored
- K16 the main points to consider when segregating secondary waste and clearing up decontamination sites

Additional Information

Glossary

The following terms have a specific meaning in this unit:

Equipment

- Portable
- Hand tools
- Equipment needed to enable the control of radioactive waste

Decontamination methods

- Washing
- Mechanical abrasion
- Application of coatings

Support systems

- Personal support systems
- Alarms

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Developed by Cogent

Version number 1

Date approved September 2008

Indicative review date September 2010

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Cogent

Original URN N403

Relevant occupations Professional Occupations; Engineering Professionals; Engineering and manufacturing technology; Engineering

Suite Nuclear Decommissioning

Key words equipment, decontamination, support
