



Offshore Norge training curriculum

Search and rescue refresher course

Version no: 4

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FOREWORD

This training curriculum has been compiled for course providers approved by Offshore Norge to provide the search and rescue refresher course.

The training is intended to provide competence on the emergency response function for search and rescue.

In this context, competence means *the ability to perform tasks and master complex challenges*.

The contact for this training curriculum in Offshore Norge is the manager, expertise development.

Offshore Norge training curricula are owned by Offshore Norge.

See [Offshore Norge 002 Recommended guidelines for safety and emergency preparedness training](#) and requirements for safety and emergency response training.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

This training curriculum describes requirements for the content and execution of the search and rescue refresher course.

The training is designed to provide competence on:

- search and rescue
- use of extinguishing agents
- protective equipment

1.2 Learning outcomes

After completing the training, the participant will have maintained and further developed their competence with search and rescue.

After completing the training, the participant must be able to:

- conduct search and rescue operations with the correct use of extinguishing and protective equipment
- use the correct extinguishing and protective equipment to extinguish a fire
- use protective and breathing equipment correctly and conduct safety checks of the equipment

1.3 Target group

The target group for the training is personnel who belong to a search and rescue team.

1.4 Refresher frequency

The training must be repeated every 24 months by personnel who belong to a search and rescue team.

2 CONTENT

2.1 Parameters for conducting the course

Teaching at the course centres must reflect a good safety culture.

Practical exercises: one instructor per five course participants.

Duration of the course is two days.

- One course day is eight hours with a minimum of six hours of effective training
- One hour is 60 minutes

A minimum of 12 hours of practical exercises.

Efforts must be made to ensure that participants with the leader role in their emergency response team are also able to practise this role during the practical exercises.

During practical exercises, the challenges and degree of difficulty must be increased in line with the rising level of mastery.

During practical exercises, the instructor will observe and give immediate feedback, and time must be allotted for feedback and guidance after the exercise is over.

The team must be observed to ensure that it has understood the response involved, and the way risk and risk-reduction measures are handled.

Combination course – search and rescue refresher/HLO refresher courses

This course can be taken in combination with Offshore Norge's helicopter landing officer refresher course. The duration of the combination course will be three days.

2.2 Teaching materials

Teaching materials used during the course must be tailored to the competence objectives specified in this training curriculum.

2.3 Prior knowledge

Basic course for search and rescue teams.

Personnel with a smoke diver function in the search and rescue team must submit valid documentation that the medical examination and physical tests (fitness test and strength requirements) have been conducted. [See the Offshore Norge guidance.](#)

A person who has not been in an emergency response role and has not completed an emergency response course or other equivalent training during the last 5 years, must complete a new basic course.

2.4 Facilities and equipment

The training can be conducted through classroom teaching, e-learning, simulator use, and use of other appropriate facilities and equipment.

Efforts must be made to use the same type of equipment found on offshore facilities. Practical exercises should be conducted in the most realistic possible manner with regard to flames, heat and noise.

2.5 Training curriculum

Participants must be given an introduction before the course starts which reviews the purpose of the course, assessments, the timetable and safety measures.

See the training curriculum set out in table 1 below.

Table 1: Training curriculum

Topic	1.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE			
Competence objectives After completing the training, the participant will be able to:	Specification of competence objectives	Method	Learning environment	References
<p>1.1 Implement a safe and efficient response in relation to plans, preparations, methods of execution, and follow-up</p>	<p>The participant must be able to demonstrate how the list of priorities is used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. own safety 2. save life 3. limit the extent of damage 4. normalisation <p>The participant must be able to implement the exercise with their attention concentrated on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding the position • preparing a strategy for the response • assessing risk before and during the response • resources required • communication flow and forms • securing the incident site • learning lessons and improvement (debriefing) <p>The participant must demonstrate that they perform in accordance with plans, and that the whole team acts in accordance with these.</p>	<p>Practical exercises</p>	<p>Fire drill field</p>	<p>The OODA loop (observe, orient, decide, act), for example.</p> <p>See guidance on smoke and chemical diving, Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)</p>

Topic	1.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE			
Competence objectives After completing the training, the participant will be able to:	Specification of competence objectives	Method	Learning environment	References
1.2 Conduct search and rescue in a secure, systematic and effective manner	<p>The participant must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plan the search (see section 2.1) • prepare and use protective and breathing equipment (see section 3.1) • choose the right search method for the conditions • conduct various forms of communication • conduct a simple ABC • pay out hoses for smoke diving (see section 2.1) • outline the use of a thermal camera <p>The participant must demonstrate at least two techniques for searching efficiently for one or more injured people in a dark, smoke-filled room:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two-person, fan, line or quartering <p>The participant must be able to exercise smoke diving leadership and have control over their own personnel.</p> <p>The participant must go through the use of a smoke diver log and calculation of air consumption.</p>	Practical exercises Demonstration Must be conducted with the full team in hot smoke	Fire drill field and modules for S&R	
1.3 The participant must demonstrate the use of rescue techniques	<p>The participant must demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lift and carry • buddy mask • release techniques and tools (air cushions, scissors and spreader) • evacuating injured people who are really heavy 	Practical exercises	Classroom	

Topic	1.0 SEARCH AND RESCUE			
Competence objectives After completing the training, the participant will be able to:	Specification of competence objectives	Method	Learning environment	References
1.4 The participant must outline the response under different circumstances	<p>The participant must be able to outline the response and use of different techniques in the event of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fire/short-circuit in electric switchboard • tanks • areas exposed to chemicals • areas exposed to heat/smoke/fire • areas exposed to gas • fire in battery room/batteries <p>The participant must outline hazards posed by battery fires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ignition temperatures and temperature development • explosion hazards • gases • liquids/acids • different battery types and dealing with these in fires 	Theory lesson(s)	Classroom	
1.5 Communicate effectively within the team	<p>The participant must be able to use various forms of communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verbal • walkie-talkie • signing • confirming 	Presentation	Exercise area	
1.6 The participant must be able to use various types of stretchers	The participant must be able to use the stretchers most widely utilised offshore	Practical exercises	Exercise area	

Topic	2.0 USE OF EXTINGUISHING AGENTS			
Competence objectives After completing the training, the participant will be able to:	Specification of competence objectives	Method	Learning environment	References
<p>2.1 Use available extinguishing agents and equipment, and combine these in an effective manner</p>	<p>The participant must be able to select the correct extinguishing agent and technique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • combined water/powder • foam • powder • water spraying • water curtain • CO₂ <p>The participant must demonstrate fire extinguishing with the use of water and technique for hose spraying. and be able to demonstrate normal paying out. They must also demonstrate the use of at least two other extinguishing agents.</p> <p>The participant must demonstrate cooling of equipment, structures and plant which need to be cooled/protected.</p> <p>The participant must demonstrate a safe and effective response to fire involving gas and/or liquid under pressure.</p> <p>The participant must have mastery of all positions in the team and of the available extinguishing equipment.</p>	<p>Practical exercises</p>	<p>Fire drill field</p>	<p>Defined in the guidance to the Norwegian regulations on smoke and chemical diving</p>

Topic	3.0 PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT			
Competence objectives After completing the training, the participant will be able to:	Specification of competence objectives	Method	Learning environment	References
3.1 Use protective and breathing equipment and conduct safety checks and emergency procedures with the aid of this equipment	The participant must be able to conduct safety checks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assembly check • functional check • buddy check The participant must be able to demonstrate the use of emergency procedures with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of regulator • closed cylinder valve • loosened mask clips 	Practical exercises Demonstration	Fire drill field	

3 ASSESSMENT AND DOCUMENTATION OF TRAINING

3.1 Assessment

The participant must be assessed during all practical exercises.

Should the participant fail the practical exercise, they must be given a reason.

Should the participant be assessed as falling short of the competence objectives, the participant must be failed.

3.2 Documentation

A course certificate must be issued on passing the course.

The course certificate expires on the last day of the 24th month since the most recent course was completed.

4 REVISIONS

The following revisions have been made to this document:

Revision:	Date:
<p>Version 4</p> <p><u>Section 2.3</u></p> <p>Added "A person who has not been in an emergency response role and has not completed an emergency response course or other equivalent training during the last 5 years, must complete a new basic course."</p>	31 May 2023
<p>Version 3</p> <p><u>Section 1.1</u></p> <p>Changed the order of the bullet points to accord with changes in section 2.5.</p> <p><u>Section 1.2</u></p> <p>Changed "extinguishing agent" to "extinguishing and protective equipment" in second bullet point.</p> <p><u>Section 2.1</u></p> <p>Added paragraph concerning leader role.</p> <p><u>Section 2.5</u></p> <p><u>Topic 1.0 Search and rescue</u></p> <p>Former topic 3.0 Search and rescue changed to topic 1.0 Search and rescue.</p> <p>Competence objective 1.1, changed item 3 under specification from "contain fire" to "limit the extent of damage". Added new bullet point "understanding the position". Added references.</p> <p>Competence objective 1.2, removed "by looking for one or more injured people in a</p>	4 November 2021

<p>dark, smoke-filled room”. Added to second and seventh bullet points under specification. Deleted “The participant must demonstrate the use of a thermal camera for search and rescue” and “The participant must demonstrate the use of rescue techniques from specification. Added demonstration as method.</p> <p>Competence objectives 1.3 and 1.4 added as new objectives.</p> <p>Competence objective 1.4, added “the participant must outline hazards posed by battery fires” and associated bullet points under specification.</p> <p>Former competence objectives 3.3 and 3.4 changed to 1.5 and 1.6.</p> <p><u>Topic 2.0 Use of extinguishing agents</u></p> <p>Former topic 1.0 Use of extinguishing agents changed to topic 2.0 Use of extinguishing agents.</p> <p>Competence objective 2.1, removed requirement for m² from first, second and third bullet points (combined water/powder, foam, powder) under specification.</p> <p><u>Topic 3.0 Protective equipment</u></p> <p>Former topic 2.0 Protective equipment changed to topic 3.0 Protective equipment.</p>	
<p>Version 2</p> <p><u>Section 2.1</u></p> <p>Added a section about combination courses.</p>	<p>20 March 2018</p>