

## PIROBS3.03C – Work effectively and safely as an observer

**Functional area** Observer operations

**Prerequisites** None required

### **Descriptor**

This unit covers the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge necessary for a person to prepare for a trip as an observer; maintain professional standards while undertaking observer duties; work effectively, harmoniously and safely both personally and with the vessel's crew; and participate in the prevention of pollution.

### **Elements**

#### **1. Prepare for an extended trip to sea**

### **Performance criteria**

1.1 Make arrangements to ensure personal relationships and finances and the security of personal possessions and property are maintained while at sea

1.2 Ensure that personal health, recreation and comfort necessities and required quantities of observer duties related materials, tools and equipment necessary for the trip are available

1.4 Identify the correct observer placement procedures and develop a voyage work plan

#### **2. Maintain professional and ethical standards**

2.1 Follow the regional rights, roles and responsibilities of observers and applicable observer codes of conduct

2.2 Comply with the drugs and alcohol policies of observer codes of conduct and any specific vessel policies

2.3 Maintain professional integrity, impartiality and confidentiality when undertaking observer duties

2.4 Manage any situation that conflicts with a fisheries observer's professional and ethical responsibilities

2.5 Report any efforts to compromise the observer duties such as the offering of gifts or bribes, intimidation and any other conflicting situations

#### **3. Maintain personal well being**

3.1 Follow personal and work related hygiene practices

3.2 Manage the effects of tiredness, boredom, stress, loneliness and home sickness that may occur during extended trips to sea

3.3 Manage the causes, impacts and preventive measures related to HIV and AIDS and other common sexually transmitted infections

#### **4. Maintain effective human relationships**

4.1 Demonstrate an understanding of and tolerance for the different personalities and cultures that can exist amongst crew on a fishing vessel

4.2 Manage situations that may result in physical conflict

#### **5. Participate in life aboard a fishing vessel**

5.1 Engage in the day to day environment of a fishing vessel and a crew's role in the working day

5.2 Conform with the vessel hierarchy and chain of command that exists on a fishing vessel

- 6. Observe safe work practices**
- 6.1 Follow safe work practices at all times
  - 6.2 Identify potential hazards associated with the vessel working environment and take all necessary action to eliminate or minimise those hazards
  - 6.3 Wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment when working
  - 6.4 Follow instructions outlined on material safety data sheets if exposed to dangerous goods
  - 6.5 Take all necessary precautions prior to entering any enclosed spaces on a vessel

### Evidence guide

Each unit of competency has an evidence guide that relates directly to the performance criteria. Its purpose is to guide assessment of the unit in the workplace and/or training program. The following components provide information to assist this purpose.

#### Required knowledge

The essential knowledge and understanding a person needs to perform work to the required standard include:

- Materials, tools and equipment necessary for an observer trip
- Regional and national codes of conduct relevant to observer operations
- Drugs and alcohol policies from relevant observer codes of conduct and vessel policies and procedures
- Professional and ethical standards expected of an observer
- Causes, impacts and preventive measures related to HIV and AIDS and other common sexually transmitted infections
- Personal and work related hygiene practices, managing mental well being
- Risks, hazards and correct safe work practices associated with observer duties
- Protective clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) for working on a fishing vessel
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) common on fishing vessels
- Safe work practices when entering enclosed spaces on a fishing vessel

#### Required skills

- The essential skills a person needs to perform work to the required standard include:
- Preparing personally and professionally for an extended trip to sea
- Maintaining professional and ethical standards and observing drugs and alcohol policies
- Maintaining professional integrity, impartiality and confidentiality when undertaking observer duties
- Managing conflicts of interest between expected standards and commercial sensitivity
- Following personal and work related hygiene practices
- Taking all precautions to prevent catching and spreading sexually transmitted diseases
- Maintaining good working relationships with all on board and respecting differing personalities and cultures
- Engaging effectively with the work environment and hierarchy of the vessel
- Identifying potential hazards, following safe work practices and wearing appropriate PPE

- Entering confined spaces safely and correctly
- Preventing pollution and monitoring and reporting any environmental issues that occur

Literacy skills used for:

- Reading observer codes of conduct and related policies and procedures
- Interpreting information on Material Safety Data Sheets

### **Critical aspects of competence**

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- Prepare for an extended trip to sea
- Act professionally and ethically as an observer
- Maintain safe health practices
- Maintain harmonious working relationships
- Perform safe work practices
- Prevent pollution

Assessment must confirm knowledge of:

- Observer placement procedures
- Professional and ethical standards expected of an observer
- Different personalities and cultures common on fishing vessels
- Common sexually transmitted diseases and prevention methods
- Day to day life aboard a fishing vessel
- Safe work practices
- MARPOL 73/78

### **Context of assessment**

Assessment is likely to be conducted in a simulated workplace environment and every effort should be made to ensure the simulated assessment is as realistic as possible

Method of assessment

- The following assessment methods are suggested:
- Practical exercises involving the observation of the candidate undertaking activities related to the required skills
- Written or oral short answer questions to assess underpinning knowledge
- Examples of records, reports and other documentation completed by the candidate
- Third-party reports, including reports from observer programme coordinators and observer programme trainers

### **Interdependent assessment of units**

This unit can be assessed in conjunction with other units relating to observer duties

### **Resources required for assessment**

Resources may include:

- Observer trip work plan example
- Regional and national codes of conduct relevant to observer operations
- Common personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Copy of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships