

**SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY**



**CORE UNIT STANDARDS IN NATIONAL CERTIFICATE: USE OF FIREARMS NQF LEVEL 4.**

**UNIT STANDARD REFERENCE NUMBER:** 10748

**TITLE:** Use of a handgun.

**LEVEL:** 4

**CREDITS:** 10

**FIELD:** Law, Military Science and Security

**SUBFIELD:** Safety in Society

**ISSUE DATE:**

**REVIEW DATE:**

**PURPOSE OF THE UNIT STANDARD:**

This unit standard is for relevant persons to competently carry, handle, shoot and maintain a handgun through the application of knowledge of the relevant legislation and skills in the safe and responsible handling of a handgun.

This unit standard includes the requirements to gain the appropriate licence for the possession and/or carrying of handguns both private and for business purposes.

Benefit for society of this unit standard is that the person who completes this will contribute to safety in society.

A person credited with this unit standard will be able to:

- Understand the relevant legislation required for the lawful possession and use of a handgun
- Handle a handgun safely
- Operate, use and maintain a handgun
- Shoot a handgun competently

**LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE:**

The following knowledge, skills, attitude and / or equivalent:

- A knowledge, comprehension and application of language at NQF 03.

**RANGE STATEMENTS:**

This unit standard applies to persons competently carrying, handling, shooting and maintaining a handgun.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1:**

Apply knowledge and understanding of the relevant legislation required for the lawful possession and use of a handgun

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

- 1.1 The application of knowledge and understanding on the possession of a handgun is demonstrated in accordance with relevant legislation
- 1.2 The application of knowledge and understanding on the use of a handgun is demonstrated in accordance with relevant legislation

- 1.3 The requirements for possession of a handgun is demonstrated in accordance with relevant legislation
- 1.4 The requirements for the use of a handgun is demonstrated in accordance with relevant legislation
- 1.5 Handgun and ammunition is kept according to operational procedures and legal requirements for safekeeping of firearms and ammunition.

*Range: The types of relevant legislation should include:*

- *Applicable sections of the Firearms Control Act 60/2000.*
- *Applicable section of the Criminal Procedures Act, 1977.*
- *Applicable section of the Regulation of Gatherings Act, 1993.*
- *Applicable sections of the Dangerous Weapons Act.*
- *Applicable sections of the SIRA Act 56/2001.*
- *Applicable sections of specific Acts relevant to unique job/workplace environments*
- *Private defence*
- *Moral & humanitarian considerations (proportionality)*
- *Continuum of force*
- *Vicarious liability*
- *Civil liability*

*Handgun should include:*

- *Semi automatic pistol and revolver*

## **SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2:**

Handle handguns safely

## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

- 2.1 Demonstrate and apply knowledge of safe handling of handguns in accordance with standard safe handling procedures .

- 2.2 Safety of self and others ensured by handling and/or carrying handguns in appropriate operational, handgun specific tactical manner and in holsters that comply with legal requirements.
- 2.3 Safety of self and others ensured through proper retention of handgun in accordance with standard safe handling procedures .
- 2.4 Ammunition carried is appropriate to handgun being handled and manufacturers *specifications*.

*Range: Standard safe handling procedures should include:*

- *Safe handling rules & Safety procedures/drills.*
- *Loading & unloading*
- *Handgun retention*

*Appropriate operational, specific tactical manner and in holsters should include:*

- *Types of holsters.*
- *Company policy/operational procedures*
- *Handgun conditions of readiness*
- *Handgun holster use*
- *Handgun carry methods*

### **SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3:**

Operate, use & maintain handguns

### **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

- 3.1 Handguns operated and used safely according to manufacturers guidelines, operational procedures and prevailing legislation
- 3.2 Handgun used with specific attention to threat identification & analysis

- 3.3 Safety of handgun and/or ammunition ensured by checking the handgun, ammunition and equipment on receipt and return to ensure they are in a safe and serviceable condition
- 3.4 Demonstrate and apply maintenance procedures according to manufacturers specifications and safety procedures
- 3.5 Visible faults identified and action taken according to operational procedures and prevailing legal requirements.
- 3.6 Handgun and ammunition received, kept and issued in a clean and serviceable condition.
- 3.7 Handguns and ammunition not in use transported & stored in a manner as required by prevailing legislation and employer requirements.

*Range: Operated safely must include:*

- *Range safety*
- *Personal safety*
- *Public safety*

*Threat identification & analysis must include:*

- *Conditions of readiness*
- *Mental conditions*
- *Mindset*
- *Immediate surroundings*
- *Alertness*
- *Stress awareness*
- *Pre-emption & pre-visualisation*

*Manufacturers guidelines/operational procedures must include:*

- *Specific handgun (manufacturers) operating manual*

- *Names, parts & function of handgun*
- *Basic internal, external and terminal ballistics*
- *Components and functioning of handgun ammunition*
- *Disassembling and assembling of handgun*
- *Charge & emptying of magazine/cylinder*
- *Loading & unloading (range & operational)*

*Maintenance must include:*

- *Cleaning of handgun*
- *Cleaning equipment*
- *Care of handgun*
- *Care of ammunition*

*Visible faults must include:*

- *Fail to feed*
- *Fail to chamber*
- *Fail to fire*
- *Fail to extract*
- *Fail to eject*
- *Fail to cycle*

#### **SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4:**

Shoot handgun competently

#### **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

- 4.1 Handgun fired competently and accurately in accordance with current legal, operational and shooting range procedures
- 4.2 Handgun fired competently and accurately during low light situations, in accordance with current legal, operational and shooting range procedures

- 4.3 Handgun fired competently and accurately in accordance with current legal, operational and shooting range procedures whilst making use of a barricade/cover.
- 4.4 Malfunction and immediate action drills identified and corrected in accordance with standard safety procedures and in line with operational conditions.

*Range: Malfunctions and immediate action drills must include :*

- *Firearm misfires*
- *Abuse*
- *Mechanical malfunction*
- *User malfunction*
- *Clearing of malfunction (range & operational)*

*Accurately must include:*

- *Accurate up to a minimum of 10 meters distance using all stances and light conditions.*

*Shooting range procedures must include:*

- *Range rules & safety*
- *Range commands*
- *Safety equipment*

*Handgun fired competently must include:*

- *Shooting fundamentals*
- *Fault analysis*
- *Low light shooting*
- *Cover (barricades) & concealment*

#### **ACCREDITATION AND MODERATION OPTIONS:**

1. Anyone assessing a learner or moderating the assessment of a learner against this unit standard must be registered as an assessor with the POSLEC SETA ETQA/and any other body with whom a MOU was entered into.

2. Any institution offering learning that will enable achievement of this unit standard must be accredited as a provider through the POSLEC SETA ETQA by SAQA/ and any other body with whom a MOU was entered into.
3. The POSLEC SETA ETQA/ and any other body with whom a MOU was entered into will oversee assessment and moderation of assessment according to the moderation guidelines in the relevant competency and the POSLEC SETA ETQA/ and any other body with whom a MOU was entered into.

## **NOTES:**

### **1. CRITICAL CROSS-FIELD OUTCOMES**

The following critical outcomes are addressed in this unit standard:

- 1.1 Collect, analyse, organise and critically evaluate information related to the relevant legislation so that these are accurately interpreted into application performance standards.
- 1.2 Understand the world as a set of related systems in that legislative requirements are interrelated with the overall safe and lawful possession and use of a handgun.
- 1.3 Organise oneself and one's activities so that all requirements are met in achieving competence in lawfully possessing and using a handgun.
- 1.4 Identify and solve problems related to the achievement of relevant legislative competencies

### **2. ESSENTIAL EMBEDDED KNOWLEDGE**

Refer to Specific Outcomes 1,2, 3 and 4, Assessment Criteria and the Range of variables contained in this unit standard and specifically to,

- A comprehensive understanding of the relevant legislation, licensing requirements and procedures and practices.
- A comprehensive understanding of discretion in the use of firearms
- A comprehensive understanding of the operation & mechanics of handguns
- A broad understanding of ammunition and ballistics
- A broad understanding of shooting range procedures
- A comprehensive understanding of Guidelines for the safe use and handling of handguns
- A comprehensive understanding of Fundamentals of shooting a handgun



### 3. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### SPECIFIED REQUIREMENTS

**Specified requirements** include legal and legislative specific requirements and are:

##### LEGAL

- Applicable sections of the Firearms Control Act 60/2000.
- Applicable section of the Criminal Procedures Act, 1977.
- Applicable section of the Regulation of Gatherings Act, 1993.
- Applicable sections of the Dangerous Weapons Act.
- Applicable sections of the SIRA Act 56/2001.
- Applicable sections of specific Acts relevant to unique job/workplace environments
- Private defence
- Moral & humanitarian considerations (proportionality)
- Constitution
- Continuum of force
- Vicarious liability
- Civil liability

##### CONTEXT SPECIFIC

- Training provider user manuals
- Specifications, company operational agreements and policies and procedures

##### Resources required for Assessment

- Relevant shooting range.
- Shooting exercise order.
- Tools, equipment and materials for range set up.
- Drill rounds and replica firearms
- Relevant handguns, magazines/speed loaders and ammunition.
- Holsters and magazine/speed loader pouches.
- Firearm cleaning equipment
- Safety equipment and protective uniform/clothes
- Communications equipment.
- Necessary administrative and stationary issue.
- First aid/fire fighting equipment.
- Criterion referenced assessment instructions/tools.
- Relevant shooting range standing orders.
- A suitable venue: either in the workplace or classroom.

## UNIT STANDARDS JUSTIFICATION

### LEVEL

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Justification</b>
<b>Skills</b>	4	Definite variety within critical stress, with drastic consequence.
<b>Procedures</b>	4	Familiar procedures apply but not repetitively
<b>Context</b>	5	An endless number of variations can and does occur.
<b>Knowledge</b>	4	Relevant theory is required to address different conditions that may occur.
<b>Information Processing</b>	5	Information is dynamically processed to constantly identify threat
<b>Problem Solving</b>	5	Discretion responsibility and reliability is required to execute the process effectively.
<b>Orientation of activity</b>	4	Follows instructions, works under supervision and must refer any abnormal conditions to the Supervisor, but must be prepared to act on discretion of need.
<b>Application of Responsibility</b>	4	Works under supervision and regular quality control inspection is required, though degree of responsibility is critical, and measurable by preservation of life as primary factor.
<b>Orientation and scope of Responsibility</b>	4	Responsible for own quality and quantity which can have an impact on others in the process

**Average Level: 4.3**

**Actual Level Assigned: 4**

### CREDITS

Total hours required by the learner to achieve the required outcomes:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Classroom learning	30
On-the-job learning	10
Self directed learning	10
Coaching required	50
Other	00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

**CREDITS ACHIEVED: 10**

**SPECIAL NOTES WITH REFERENCE TO LEARNING HOURS REQUIRED WHEN  
LEARNING TOWARDS A COMBINATION OF UNIT STANDARDS:**

Should a learner attempt the unit standard: Use of a handgun in combination with the three other unit standards namely, use of a shotgun/hand machine carbine/rifle the total hours required by the learner to achieve the required outcomes of all four standards (in combination) would be: 190 hours. The rationale for shortening the total learning hours by more than half is that similar knowledge and skills are present in some of the specific outcomes and assessment criteria.

Such similarities is evident in outcomes such as the application of knowledge and understanding of the relevant legislation required for the lawful possession and use of a shotgun/handgun/hand machine carbine/rifle and in the assessment criteria: demonstrate and apply knowledge of safe handling of a shotgun/handgun/hand machine carbine/rifle in accordance with standard safe handling procedures of specific outcome: handle handguns safely.

Finally, the learning hours required, combination should be as follows:

Learning towards first unit standard: 100 notional training hours.

Additional learning towards any one of the three remaining unit standards: 30 notional training hours.

Example:

**First unit:**

Unit Standard No. 10748: Use of a handgun. 100 notional training hours.

**Combined with:**

Unit Standard No. 10754: Use of a shotgun. 30 notional training hours and/or;

Unit Standard No. 10756: Use of a hand machine carbine. 30 notional training hours and/or;

Unit Standard No. 10750: Use of a rifle. 30 notional training hours.

When standards are attempted as a combination total notional training hours required for all four standards should be 190 notional training hours.