Develop a communications strategy for an expedition



Overview

Effective communications are very important to the success of any expedition. In planning an expedition, co-ordinators and leaders should have a tested strategy which should cover:

- 1. routine communication
- 2. emergency communication
- communication when leaders or members are expected to contact the home agent
- 4. backup communications in the event of equipment failure

The unit is recommended for Expedition Managers and Leaders.

Develop a communications strategy for an expedition

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 research best practice in communications for expeditions
- P2 identify the expedition's communications needs and those who will be involved
- P3 develop clear specifications for your communications strategy and agree these with the expedition's key stakeholders
- P4 identify and evaluate possible procedures, systems and resources for strengths and weaknesses against agreed specifications
- P5 customise, establish and test the chosen procedures, system and resources
- P6 identify and agree what information is released to whom in certain situations
- P7 agree communication protocols with relevant expedition members and stakeholders
- P8 ensure all relevant expedition members and stakeholders understand and can use procedures, systems, resources and protocols
- P9 monitor the procedures, systems, resources and protocols and make improvements as necessary

Develop a communications strategy for an expedition

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

General knowledge and understanding

- K1 explain why effective communications are so important to expeditions
- K2 identify sources of information on good practice for expedition communication
- K3 describe general requirement for expedition communications, including:
 - K3.1 routine communication
 - K3.2 emergency communication
 - K3.3 communication when leaders or members are expected to contact the home agent
 - K3.4 backup communications in the event of equipment failure
- K4 describe the types of procedures, systems and resources that address these requirements
- K5 describe how to identify an expedition's communication needs
- K6 describe how to specify appropriate procedures, systems and resources to meet communication needs
- K7 describe the types of resources that can be used for expedition communications
- K8 explain why it is important to consult with stakeholders on communications and describe who these stakeholders may be
- K9 describe what types of information may be restricted to certain audiences
- K10 describe the types of training required to ensure expedition members and others are able to use systems, procedures, resources and protocols
- K11 describe the types of improvements that could be made to communications systems and procedures and the reasons for these improvements

You need to know and understand:

Industry/sector specific knowledge and understanding

K12 identify and describe any specific communications requirements, systems and procedures that apply to expeditions in your sector

You need to know and understand:

Context specific knowledge and understanding

- K13 identify the relevant colleagues and other stakeholders you would consult with on communication systems
- K14 describe your own responsibilities for communications and the responsibilities of others with whom you work

Develop a communications strategy for an expedition

Additional Information

Behaviours

- 1. You constantly seek to improve performance
- 2. You reflect regularly on your own and others' experiences, and use these to inform future action
- 3. You analyse and structure information to develop knowledge that can be shared
- 4. You generate and recognise imaginative and innovative solutions
- 5. You accurately calculate risks, and make provision so that unexpected events do not impede the achievement of objectives
- 6. You monitor the quality of work and progress against plans and take appropriate corrective action, where necessary
- 7. You identify and work with people and organisations that can provide support for your work

Skills

- 1. Research
- 2. Analysis
- 3. Communicating by speaking and writing
- 4. Consulting
- 5. Monitoring
- 6. Supporting others

Develop a communications strategy for an expedition

Developed by	SkillsActive
Version number	1
Date approved	April 2009
Indicative review date	April 2014
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	SkillsActive
Original URN	SA44NA48
Relevant occupations	Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations; Leisure, travel and tourism; Sport, leisure and recreation; Sports and Fitness Occupations
Suite	Expedition Leadership and Management
Key words	develop, communicate, strategy, expedition