

# **TECHNICAL GUIDANCE MATERIAL**

## **for Explosives Detection Dog**

### **Assessment Criteria**

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**SUBJECT: AVIATION SECURITY CANINE ASSESSMENT**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 31 MAY 2022**

**1. APPLICABILITY**

Aviation Security Canine Teams, Canine/EDD Trainers and Assessors

**2. PURPOSE**

- 2.1. To establish an assessment standard for all aviation security service dogs, handlers and trainers.
- 2.2. This guidance material serves to provide the minimum criteria for the assessment of aviation Security Canine personnel as required by CAR Part 110 in order to enable screening personnel to be certified.

**3. REQUIREMENTS**

**3.1. Documentation**

**3.1.1. Checklist should reflect the following:**

- a. Date and Time
- b. Handler and K9 particulars
- c. EDD chip Number
- d. Area of Testing
- e. Type of screening (Cargo or Passenger or both)
- f. Scent list
- g. Comments

**3.2. EDD TEAM**

**3.2.1. A team must have:**

- a. Trained and immunised K9
- b. Initial and maintenance training
- c. Current (6 months) Assessment report

**4. REFERENCE:**

- i. The issuance of this guidance material is necessitated by the following Regulations and Technical Standards:
- ii. CAR Part 109 (109.01.1 c & d) and associated technical standards.

## 5. ABBREVIATIONS

| ABBREVIATION | DESCRIPTION                            |
|--------------|--|
| AVSEC        | Aviation Security                      |
| CAR          | Civil Aviation Regulations             |
| CATS         | Civil Aviation Technical Standards     |
| EDD          | Explosives Detection Dog               |
| EDDT         | Explosives Detection Dog Team          |
| FREDD        | Free Running Explosives Detection Dog  |
| NASP         | National Aviation Security Programme   |
| SACAA        | South African Civil Aviation Authority |

## 6. GENERAL

### 6.1. INTRODUCTION

This assessment will determine the operational proficiency and reliability of canine teams in the detection of explosives. All canine teams must be tested on all basic odours. It is recommended that authentic explosives to be used.

### 6.2. METHODOLOGY

- 6.2.1. The main purpose of this document is to guide the industry on assessment used by SACAA to assess the canine's ability to detect the explosive odours and to improve the canine team's proficiency on the detection of explosives. The team's ability to locate explosives and traces of explosives in operational or non-operational testing setting.
- 6.2.2. An authorised officer by SACAA will have the responsibility of testing and certifying AVSEC EDD handlers under the testing rules set forth as per part 110 technical standards.
- 6.2.3. AVSEC EDDs will be classified as the following:
- FREDD (free running explosive detector dogs)

### 6.3. EXPLOSIVE ODOUR RECOGNITION ASSESSMENT (Non-operational)

- 6.3.1. The odour recognition assessment consists of 16 scent pipes. Inside each box there should be a smaller container holding the aids or distractor or blank.
- 6.3.2. Scent pipes should have 10cm diameter hole and each lid should be perforated.
- 6.3.3. Selection and quantity of explosives used should be from approved list of basic odours list.
- 6.3.4. A minimum of three different distractor odours, uncontaminated by explosives, shall be placed randomly among the scent pipes.
- 6.3.5. The scent pipes can be set up in a straight line or a large circle or cross setup, giving the teams flexibility in working without changing the way the canine teams have been trained.

**Note:** The EDD assessment will be conducted using reliable, controlled verified samples of live explosives detailed in substance list. EDD assessor will decide in consultation with the screening organization the evaluation area.

### 6.4. BAGGAGE ASSESSMENT (Operational).

- 6.4.1. The baggage operational assessment shall contain a minimum of 08 baggage items.

- 6.4.2. The space between baggage items should be 1 metre, this is to allow the canine to move around each baggage item.
- 6.4.3. A minimum of two baggage items shall contain a target odour and the target odour shall be randomly placed within the baggage item.
- 6.4.4. No two target odours shall be placed next to each other.
- 6.4.5. Distractor items shall be placed at a maximum of three bags.
- 6.4.6. The exercise shall take no more than two minutes.

## **6.5. CARGO SEARCH (Operational)**

- 6.5.1. Each assigned area should contain min of 3 hides of explosives substances according to the substance list in the guidelines for assessment test and at least some blanks.
- 6.5.2. Systematic search technique should be observed.
- 6.5.3. Search area must be cleared of all explosive substance other than training aids.

## **6.6. SEARCH BREAK**

Search break may be requested at any time during an assessment. A break may be required because a provisional lapse, or dog or handler needs to drink water etc.

## **6.7. PASS CRITERIA**

- 6.7.1. Approved screener organisation SOP is followed correctly
- 6.7.2. 100% indication of all explosive hides should be indicated on first attempt.
- 6.7.3. Only one false indication should be reported
- 6.7.4. Canine detection capability threshold should be such it indicates first time

## **6.8. FAILURE CRITERIA**

- 6.8.1. EDD scratches or physically manipulates the scent source
- 6.8.2. EDD actively manipulates or damage the environment
- 6.8.3. EDD fails to detect explosive aid

## **6.9. ASSESSMENT**

- 6.9.1. Procedure
  - a. Assessment is performed in a controlled environment.
  - b. Minimum set time shall be 30 minutes or determined by the certifying official(s).
  - c. Target odour(s) shall not be placed in plain sight. The concealment should be sufficient to avoid visual cues indicating the location of the target odour to the canine and/or handler.
  - d. Dog handler will follow instructions given by the authorised officer.
  - e. The dog team must be in good health/physical condition and well rested.
  - f. The dog must be silent during the exercises.
  - g. Commands shall be given to the dog in normal tone verbal correction is not allowed.
  - h. The assessment can be performed with the dog on or off leash as per the handler preference or training.
  - i. Passive indication is mandatory; type of indication is announced by the handler before starting the exercise.
  - j. The handler must await acknowledgement confirmation from the authorised officer before rewarding the dog.
  - k. Finding and correctly indicating all hides in the excises is mandatory.
  - l. Only one false indication is allowed.

- m. Search items will be presented by authorised officer, the dog handler has no knowledge about how many hides are to be found (Single -Blind) and he/she is instructed-in case of indication to continue to search the remaining area.
- n. Explosive aids may not be pinpointed to source by the dog due to height, wind current or placement of the aid. (Not at source)
- o. Reasonable judgement should be considered to all changes in behaviour by the dog towards explosive odour.

## **6.10. DISQUALIFICATION**

- 6.10.1. The dog shows uncontrolled submissive or aggressive behaviour
- 6.10.2. The dog handler is not able to control the dog during the assessment which may lead to safety issues
- 6.10.3. Physical punishing canine.
- 6.10.4. The dog handler does not follow the instructions of the EDD assessor
- 6.10.5. The dog shows uncontrolled barking
- 6.10.6. Spike collars or e collars are used
- 6.10.7. Failure to detect the explosive aid
- 6.10.8. Handler fails to present for the EDD to search the productive areas.
- 6.10.9. EDD exhibiting any aggressive response
- 6.10.10. Any communication concerning specifics of the evaluation will constitute a compromise and will lead to termination of the team's certification.

## **6.11. THE TEAM WILL BE TESTED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**




- 6.11.1. Pipes or Boxes
- 6.11.2. Baggage
- 6.11.3. Cargo

## **6.12. CERTIFICATION**

- 6.12.1. A final report and certification letter will be issued detailing the EDD handler, ID number, EDD name and chip number as well as type and method of screening. This certification is renewable every twelve months.
- 6.12.2. It is the responsibility of the screener organisation to submit an application 60 days prior to expiry to ensure that a certification assessment for an EDDT is managed in time to renew certification

## **6.13. QUERIES**

Any queries or requests for further guidance as a result of this communications should be sent to: The M: PC E-mail address: [ArnoldM@caa.co.za](mailto:ArnoldM@caa.co.za)

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**END**