



Higher National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

Unit code: FA05 35

Superclass: LE

Publication date: August 2010

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to introduce the candidate to stage technology associated with rigging and flying scenic elements. The Unit will allow the candidates to develop an awareness of the range and diversity of flying systems and specialist scenic fittings in current usage. Health, Safety and professional practice are prominent within the Unit.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Explain the main components and operational principles of stage flying systems.
- 2 Explain the Health and Safety and maintenance requirements of stage flying systems.
- 3 Operate stage flying systems under supervision.

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the delivering centre.

Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 8: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

General information (cont)

Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Numeracy*, *Working with Others* and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment

Candidates could be assessed by observation checklists for practical exercises, and workshop activities.

Restricted response questions could be used to establish the candidate's knowledge of flying systems and scenic fittings.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

Unit code: FA05 35

The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Explain the main components and operational principles of stage flying systems.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Counterweight flying systems
- ◆ Hemp Sets
- ◆ Motorised Counterweight
- ◆ Hand winches
- ◆ Pulleys & mountings

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Explain the basic operating principles of the two main stage flying systems.
- ◆ Explain the components used to make up flying systems.
- ◆ Use accepted industry terminology

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed by a series of extended response questions to establish the candidate's knowledge of the operation and components of a flying system.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

Outcome 2

Explain the Health and Safety and maintenance requirements of stage flying systems.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Health and safety requirements for flying systems
- ◆ Safe use of lifting equipment
- ◆ Industry codes of practice
- ◆ Inspection of flying systems
- ◆ Maintenance of flying systems

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Explain the main health and safety regulations covering stage flying systems.
- ◆ Explain the relevant industry codes of practice for stage flying systems
- ◆ Explain the main features of a maintenance schedule for flying systems.

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed by a series of extended response questions.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

Outcome 3

Operate stage flying systems under supervision

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Stage flying systems
- ◆ Stage Hardware
- ◆ Knots used in rigging
- ◆ Health and Safety

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Operate a counterweight flying system under supervision
- ◆ Operate a hemp flying system under supervision
- ◆ Safely and accurately tie a minimum of 5 knots used in rigging.
- ◆ Comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed by the use of an observation checklist, designed to record the candidates ability to safely operate both stage flying systems. This should normally take place in a theatre flying workshop where candidates can develop and demonstrate their ability to use the systems in a safe environment.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Stage technology encompasses a wide range of equipment and specialist techniques, too numerous to include in one Unit so this Unit is intended as an introduction to some of the key areas. The practical nature of flying systems require specialist equipment and industry trained competent operators, this Unit should outline the basic features of flying systems and their range, function and physical make up within theatre.

Whilst flying of personnel is not within the scope of this Unit it could be highlighted as a specialist area within theatre flying systems.

Outcome 1

The content of this Outcome could include introduction to the component parts of the system, the range and diversity of systems. Backstage tours and workshops could be used to enhance learners understanding. The components of the flying system could be available for close study and identification. These could include but are not limited to:

- ◆ Hanging irons
- ◆ Shackles
- ◆ Thimbles
- ◆ Ropes and chain
- ◆ Steel wire rope
- ◆ Wire rope grips
- ◆ Grommets
- ◆ Ring plates
- ◆ Ceiling plates
- ◆ Tube clamps

Outcome 2

Candidates should have awareness of the recommendations regarding inspection and maintenance of commonly used items for theatre flying equipment. Candidates must be made aware of all relevant Health and Safety requirements, in addition to accepted industry codes of practice.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

Outcome 3

This Outcome provides candidates the opportunity to put in to practice the knowledge and skills developed through Outcomes 1 and 2. It is strongly recommended that the candidate undertakes this Outcome in a Stage Flying workshop and that the candidate is supervised at all times during the use of flying systems.

This Outcome also offers the opportunity to tie knots useful in rigging these could include reef knot, clove hitch, rolling hitch, sheet bend, figure eight, bowline, half hitch double overhand. Some elements may be integrated with stage carpentry and construction elements of their course.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Learning and teaching approaches can include professional workshops, lectures and tutorials, hands- on practical experience.

In Outcome 1 candidates could learn the basics of how a flying system works before attending a theatre workshop and backstage tours. Restricted response questioning could be used to assess knowledge about components, diversity and operation of flying systems. Extended response questions could be used to establish the candidate's knowledge of the operation of a flying system.

Outcome 2 requires an element of study into the health and safety aspects, legal regulations governing flying including Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER), Manual Handling and industry codes of practice.

The focus of both the delivery and assessment of Outcome 2 must be on the safe operation of the stage flying systems. As noted above it is expected that the practical elements of this Outcome will be undertaken during a stage flying workshop, run by suitably trained and qualified personnel. Assessment for Outcome 3 could be by observation checklists, witness testimony from those running the workshop could be used to supplement the observation checklist.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Numeracy*, *Working with Others* and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

Given the practical nature of aspects of this Unit it is unlikely to be suitable for Open or Distance Learning.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2010

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre, telephone 0845 279 1000.

General information for candidates

Unit title: Stage Technology and Stage Flying

This Unit is designed to introduce you to the technology associated with stage flying systems in the theatre. The Unit will allow you to practice some rigging techniques associated with flying and scenic hardware.

You will also develop an awareness of the range and diversity of specialist scenic fittings in current usage. Health and Safety and Professional Practice are prominent within the Unit and should be applied to all practical work you carry out

On completion of the Unit you should be able to:

- ◆ Explain the main components and operational principles of stage flying systems.
- ◆ Explain the Health and Safety requirements for and maintenance of stage flying systems.
- ◆ Operate stage flying systems under supervision.

You are likely to be assessed through observation of your practical work, a series of questions about Health and Safety and observation throughout participation in a workshop.

There will be opportunities for you to develop your Core Skills in *Working with Others*, *Numeracy*, *Problem Solving*, *Communication* and *I.T.*