

VOLUME TWO

GLOSSARY

Absorbent	<i>Able to absorb moisture</i>
Adsorbent	<i>To hold particles of a gas or liquid to its surface</i>
ADG	<i>Australian Dangerous Goods</i>
AFFF	<i>Aqueous Film Forming Foam</i>
AHD	<i>Australian Height Datum</i>
Anchor Point	<i>A place where a fire meets a road, train, creek etc. and provides a path of escape for firefighters should conditions deteriorate</i>
APP Code	<i>Additional Person Protection Code</i>
AS	<i>Australian Standards</i>
ASA	<i>Australian Standards Association</i>
Asphyxiation	<i>The suspension of respiration and animation as the result of the inhalation of substances such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen etc.</i>
Atmospheric Stability	<i>The degree to which the atmosphere resists turbulence and vertical motion</i>
BA	<i>Breathing Apparatus</i>
Back bearing	<i>A map reading term that describes the direction from an object back to the point of observation</i>
Back-burn	<i>A fire deliberately set by firefighters at a prepared or existing break (road, train, river etc.), designed to burn out fuel in the path of an existing bushfire</i>
Basin	<i>An area of reasonably level ground surrounded or nearly surrounded by hills, or an area drained by a river and its tributaries</i>
Bed-Fast Victim	<i>A person who because of illness or injury cannot leave their bed</i>
Bend (knot)	<i>A knot which fastens a line to an object or another line</i>
BFFF	<i>Bush Fire Fighting Foam</i>
Bight (knot)	<i>That part of a line between the running part and the standing part with which a knot can be formed. The line does not cross itself</i>
BKDI	<i>Byram-Keetch Drought Index</i>
Bodok Seal	<i>A composite seal fitted to an Oxy-Viva 3 unit to give a gas tight seal between the cylinder and yoke assembly</i>
BRO	<i>Brigade Rescue Operator</i>
Bushfire	<i>A generic term for forest, scrub or grass fire</i>
C	<i>Ceiling</i>
CABA	<i>Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus</i>
Carbonaceous	<i>Hard, blackened and appearing as if charred. Material containing carbon as such or as organic (vegetable or animal) matter</i>

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Chaining	<i>A term used for storing, packing transporting and washing a life/rescue line</i>
Chock-a-block	<i>A rescue term used to describe when top and bottom pulleys meet</i>
Chopped	<i>One of two modes fitted to a TIC in which a rotating shutter in the camera chops the incoming radiation</i>
CMA	<i>Central Mapping Authority</i>
Conduction (of heat)	<i>Transfer of heat through a solid material from a region of higher temperature to a region of lower temperature</i>
Contour	<i>The standard method of showing the shape of the ground on maps</i>
Controlled Release	<i>Controlling the pace and procedure of the extrication plan</i>
Convection (of heat)	<i>Transfer of heat in or by a liquid or gas by the movement of the medium. The liquid or gas rising directly above the heat source is known as a convection column e.g. warm air rising above a fire</i>
Cordage	<i>The description applied to all forms of fibre rope, including reference to all the ancillary equipment including hardware and software use with fibre rope slings</i>
Cordura	<i>A heavy duty material that is extremely durable</i>
CPR	<i>Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation</i>
Crest	<i>The highest part of a hill or mountain range, that line on a range of hills or mountains from which the ground slopes down in opposite directions</i>
Crib	<i>A structure of layered timber either loosely laid or fixed together. Each layer at right angles to the one beneath it</i>
Crown Fire	<i>A forest fire burning through tree tops. A running crown fire is usually independent of the surface fire</i>
Cumulus	<i>A form of cloud consisting of rounded masses heaped on a horizontal base</i>
Cyanosis	<i>A blue colouring of the skin</i>
DA	<i>Disrobe Assistant</i>
Dash-roll	<i>A rescue technique for pushing the A post and dash off a trapped front seat casualty</i>
DCP	<i>Dry Chemical Powder</i>
DisPlan	<i>Disaster Plan held by local council authorities</i>
DO	<i>Decontamination Officer</i>
Drought Index	<i>A numerical value, such as the BKDI, reflecting the dryness of soils, deep forest litter, logs and living vegetation</i>
DSC	<i>Decontamination Sector Commander</i>
Duroplast	<i>Glass reinforced fibre</i>
Dyking	<i>A temporary method used to prevent the passage of hazardous material waste by the application of a barrier</i>
EAC	<i>Emergency Action Code</i>
EPA	<i>Environmental Protection Authority</i>

GLOSSARY

ERF	<i>Exposure Report Form</i>
Escarpment	<i>The steep hillside formed by a sudden drop in the general ground level, usually from a plateau</i>
ETA	<i>Estimated Time of Arrival</i>
Fall Factor	<i>A standard measurement to estimate the impact force on a rope or the capacity of a static life/rescue line</i>
FBA	<i>First Breath Activated</i>
Fend off Position	<i>A position that NSWFB vehicles should be placed in on arrival at an accident scene i.e. at an angle of 30°</i>
Fingering Out	<i>A term use to describe more than one head on the perimeter of the fire</i>
Firebreak	<i>An open space separating building, stored products or other combustible materials, which is capable of restricting the spread of fire. Can be natural such as water or bare rock, or man-made such as roads or railway easements</i>
Fire Retardant	<i>A chemical generally mixed with water, designed to retard combustion. It is applied as a slurry from the ground or air</i>
Flanks	<i>A term used to describe the sides of a fire i.e. left or right flank, east or west flank</i>
FML	<i>Fuel Moisture Content</i>
Geodetic Stations	<i>Usually shown on maps and defined on the ground normally by a mark in a concrete block under a survey beacon or concrete observing pillar</i>
Gorge	<i>A deep ravine, usually with steep sides</i>
Grid North	<i>The direction of all the vertical grid lines on a topographical map</i>
Ground Fire	<i>Fires slowly burning or smouldering below the surface of the terrain in thick layers of vegetation such as peat</i>
Hachures	<i>A method of showing rising ground on a map by means of shading fine lines. Lines are drawn down the line of the slope with the heaviest on the steepest slopes</i>
Haemoglobin	<i>The red oxygen-carrying substance in the blood</i>
HAG	<i>HazMat Action Guide</i>
Hazard Reduction	<i>A generic term used for an activity designed to control the quantity of fuel available to burn</i>
HazChem	<i>Hazardous Chemicals</i>
HazMat	<i>Hazardous Materials</i>
HCO	<i>HazMat Control Officer</i>
Head	<i>Part of the perimeter of a fire where it is making the most progress</i>
Head-On	<i>A term for a collision when a vehicle strikes a static object such as a tree, pole, an abutment or another vehicle. The impact is relatively square on to the front of the vehicle</i>
Heel	<i>The section of the perimeter opposite to and generally upwind (or downslope) from the head of the fire</i>

GLOSSARY

Hitch (knot)	<i>A simple fastening of a line to an object by passing the line around it and crossing one part of the line over the other</i>
HIWB	<i>Health Identification Wrist Band</i>
Hot Zone	<i>A designated area (min 30 m radius) around the centre of hazardous material</i>
Humidity	<i>The degree of dampness in the air. Calculated as the ratio of the water vapour present in unit volume of the air, to the weight of water vapour which would be present in the same volume, if the air were saturated</i>
Hypoxia	<i>A physiological effect caused by reduced oxygen</i>
IAW	<i>In Accordance With</i>
IC	<i>Incident Controller</i>
ICS	<i>Incident Control System</i>
IMDG	<i>International Maritime Dangerous Goods</i>
IMS	<i>Incident Management System</i>
Incandescent	<i>Made luminous by heat - white or glowing with heat</i>
IDLH	<i>Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health</i>
Karabiner	<i>A common item used in most modern cordage systems. It is normally manufactured from steel into a D shape and incorporates a spine, gate keeper, knurled nut and hinge pin. Used to attach safety rescue lines for anchorage</i>
KED	<i>Kendricks Extrication Device</i>
Kernmantle	<i>A type of rope construction similar to braided with a sheath that covers the central core. Made from unbroken polyamide fibres and is free of knots and joins</i>
Kickback	<i>One of the most common causes of chainsaw accidents. It occurs when a moving chain contacts an obstacle and rather than cutting through it, a recoil occurs</i>
Knoll	<i>A small knob-like hill</i>
Lassitude	<i>Tiredness, listlessness</i>
LCD	<i>Liquid Crystal Display</i>
LCV	<i>Light Commercial Vehicle</i>
LED	<i>Light Emitting Diode</i>
LEL	<i>Lower Explosive Limit</i>
LO	<i>Liaison Officer</i>
LOC	<i>Location</i>
Loop (knot)	<i>A closed curve in a rope or a line</i>
LPG	<i>Liquid Petroleum Gas</i>
MA	<i>Mechanical Advantage</i>
Magnetic North	<i>The direction in which the magnetic compass needle points i.e. towards the magnetic North Pole</i>
Manila	<i>A type of fibre that comes from the leaf sheaths of the Abaca plant</i>

GLOSSARY

Minimum Breaking Force	<i>The lowest force in Kgs that breaks a rope when subjected to a break force test</i>
Monkey Grip	<i>A method of attaching chain slings to achieve greater length</i>
MSA	<i>Mines Safety Organisation</i>
MSL	<i>Mean Sea Level</i>
MVA	<i>Motor Vehicle Accident</i>
NEOP	<i>Neoprene</i>
NFPA	<i>National Fire Protection Association</i>
Night Inversion	<i>A layer of the atmosphere in which temperature increases with increasing elevation. A condition of strong atmospheric stability</i>
NPWS	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Service</i>
NSWFB	<i>New South Wales Fire Brigades</i>
Off-Set Head-On	<i>A term used for a vehicle collision similar to a head-on but the impact is taken at an oblique angle to the front of the vehicle</i>
OIC	<i>Officer in charge</i>
One-lick	<i>A rural fire fighting method used when the use of a variety of hand tools are required. As firefighters move forward, each does some work appropriate to the tool being used</i>
OTWO Demand Resuscitator	<i>Type of oxygen regulation mask fitted to an Oxy-Viva 3 unit</i>
Overhand Loop (knot)	<i>A loop made by crossing the end over the standing part</i>
Pack as you jack	<i>A phrase used to describe the placing of wooden wedges into strategic cuts</i>
Panned	<i>One of two modes fitted to a TIC. In the panned mode, the image on the monitor represents changes in the temperature differences in the field of view, and the picture will disappear if the camera steadily views a constant temperature distribution in the scene</i>
PCB	<i>Polychlorinated Biphenyl</i>
PDU	<i>Personal Distress Unit</i>
PEL	<i>Permissible Exposure Limit</i>
PIN	<i>Product Identification Number</i>
Pinching Out	<i>A process used when attacking a fire from the flanks, working from the tail to the head</i>
Plateau	<i>A tableland; an elevated region of considerable extent, generally fairly level</i>
Point of Origin	<i>The area where a fire starts (originates)</i>
Polyamide	<i>A commercial fibre used for life/rescue lines</i>
Polyester	<i>A commercial fibre used for general purpose lines</i>
Polymerisation	<i>A chemical process in which two compounds (polyester/polyamide) are placed together in water, and the water is boiled off to form a polymer</i>

GLOSSARY

PO	<i>Pump Operator</i>
PPM	<i>Parts per million</i>
Prescribed Burning	<i>As for Hazard Reduction</i>
PTT	<i>Press to talk (Temco Earspike)</i>
Pulmonary Oedema	<i>Excess of fluid in the lung tissues causing swelling</i>
Radiation (heat)	<i>Transfer of heat through a gas or vacuum other than be heating of the intervening space</i>
Ravine	<i>A long deep valley worn by a stream</i>
Re-entrant	<i>A valley or ravine, usually between two spurs, running inwards towards the hill or mountain top</i>
Reynaud's Phenomenon	<i>An occurrence that happens in cold climates when a tingling sensation occurs in the finger tips and they become white and numb. It can occur when chainsawing in low temperatures</i>
RFS	<i>Rural Fire Service</i>
RHIB	<i>Rigid Hulled Inflatable Boat</i>
Ridden-Up	<i>A term used for a vehicle accident when in a head-on collision a truck rides up onto and comes to a rest on top of another vehicle</i>
Ridge	<i>The line along a hill or range of hills or mountains from which the water flows in opposite directions. Sometimes the crest of a line of hills as it appears along the horizon</i>
Robert Shaw Head	<i>Type of oxygen regulation mask fitted to an Oxy-Viva 3 unit</i>
Roll-Over	<i>A term for a vehicle accident when a driver loses control and the vehicle overturns</i>
Round Turn (knot)	<i>Two turns or loops of the line around an object</i>
RTA	<i>Roads and Traffic Authority</i>
Running-end (knot)	<i>The free end of the line which can be used for operations</i>
Saddle	<i>A depression between adjacent hills or mountain tops; also called a col</i>
Scabbard	<i>The guide bar cover fitted to a chainsaw</i>
SCBA	<i>Self Contained Breathing Apparatus</i>
SDS	<i>Spline Drive System</i>
SES	<i>State Emergency Services</i>
SG	<i>Siebe Gorman</i>
Shards	<i>Fragments or broken pieces</i>
SIPS	<i>Side Impact Protection Systems</i>

GLOSSARY

SIS	<i>Sleeved Index System</i>
Sisal	<i>A type of fibre that comes from the leaves of the Henequen plant</i>
SOG's	<i>Standard Operating Guidelines</i>
Splaying	<i>Spreading apart so that the inside is wider than the outside or vice versa</i>
Splicing	<i>A method of making an eye or a loop in the end of a line by unlaying the strands for a short distance</i>
Spot Fire	<i>Occur when sparks or pieces of burning or smouldering material are projected beyond the perimeter of a bushfire and start new fires</i>
Spur	<i>A minor topographical feature, generally in the form of a ridge running out from a fill or mountain</i>
SRB	<i>State Rescue Board</i>
SRS	<i>Supplementary Restraint System (Airbags)</i>
Standing Part (knot)	<i>The inactive part of the line, or that part of a bight nearest the eye, bend or hitch, in contrast to the running end.</i>
STEL	<i>Short Term Exposure Limit</i>
Step-up	<i>A rural fire fighting method that involves crew member spaced out along a propose line or trail so that each one has a section to complete</i>
Structure Triage	<i>A technique to maximise the effectiveness of fire fighting resources</i>
Stuffing	<i>A term use to describe a storage method for life/rescue lines greater than 50 m in length</i>
Surface Fire	<i>A fire which travels just above ground surface in grass, low shrub, leaves and litter</i>
Swaging	<i>A method of line termination that uses a pair of metal tubular shaped clamps that are pressed onto the end of a line</i>
SWL	<i>Safe Working Load - the measure of the maximum permitted working load of an item of equipment</i>
Synergistic	<i>A substance which when combined with another produces a total effect greater than the sum of the effects of the two components</i>
Tail	<i>A term used to describe the area of least progress in a fire spread. Generally found close to the point of fire origin</i>
T-Bone	<i>A term for a side impact collision between a vehicle and another object, such as another vehicle, tree or pole</i>
Thimble	<i>A grooved, pear-shaped metal or nylon fitting used to terminate a rope or a line</i>
TIC	<i>Thermal Imaging Camera</i>
TLV	<i>Threshold Limit Value</i>
Tooth Jump	<i>A term used on a chainsaw when the chain loses its tension and the chain jumps off the saw teeth</i>
Topographic	<i>A term used to describe maps that display the surface features of a region, such as hills, rivers and roads</i>
Tpi	<i>Teeth per inch</i>

GLOSSARY

TREMCARD	<i>Transport Emergency Card</i>
True North	<i>The direction toward the Earth's geographic North pole</i>
Tuck (knot)	<i>End or bight of the line which passes through a loop after a turn around the standing part</i>
Turn (knot)	<i>A loop of the line around an object or around another section of the line itself</i>
TWA	<i>Time Weighted Average</i>
UBD	<i>Universal Business Directory</i>
UN	<i>United Nations</i>
Underhand Loop (knot)	<i>Made by crossing the end under the standing part</i>
Under-Ride	<i>A term for a vehicle accident that usually results from a vehicle impacting on the rear of a truck</i>
Undulating Ground	<i>Ground which rises and falls slowly</i>
VI	<i>Vertical Interval</i>
VOX	<i>Voice Activated (Temco Earspike)</i>
WA	<i>Wash Assistant</i>
Watch Out	<i>A term used to describe a set of situations that a firefighter could encounter when at a fire incident</i>
Whipping (rope)	<i>The end of a line bound with twines to prevent the strands from unlaying</i>
Wildfire	<i>An unplanned fire. A generic term which includes grass fires, forest fires and scrub fires. Also commonly referred to in NSW as Bushfire</i>
Willy Willies	<i>A term for an unstable atmospheric condition - dust whirls</i>
WO	<i>Wash Operator</i>
Yankauer	<i>A plastic suction tube fitted to an Oxy-Viva 3 unit</i>
Yarn	<i>A generic term for a continuous strand of textile fibres, filaments or materials in a form suitable for processing to form a textile fabric</i>