

HANDBOOK OF DEFENCE LAND RANGES SAFETY

VOLUME I – RANGE MANAGEMENT

**POLICY, RESPONSIBILITIES, AUTHORISATION, USE,
MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF LAND RANGES**

**BY COMMAND OF
THE DEFENCE COUNCIL**

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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RECORD OF CHANGES

CHANGE NUMBER	DATE OF CHANGE
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TWO	Jan 04
THREE	Feb 05
FOUR	Apr 06
FIVE	Apr 08
SIX	Mar 10

Joint Service Publication 403 - Handbook of Defence Land Ranges Safety
(Volumes I - V).

Volume I: Range management - policy, responsibilities, authorisation, use, maintenance and inspection of land ranges.

Volume II: Design, construction and maintenance of small arms, infantry and 30mm weapon systems ranges.

Volume III: **Part 1** - Use of fixed wing aircraft and helicopter mounted weapon systems, and unmanned aircraft aerial vehicle systems, on land ranges.

Part 2 - Use of surface to air weapon systems on land ranges.

Volume IV: Glossary of terms and definitions.

Volume V: Demolitions, ordnance disposal and battle simulation.

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VOLUME I – RANGE MANAGEMENT

POLICY, RESPONSIBILITIES, AUTHORISATION, USE, MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF LAND RANGES

RECORD OF RANGE SAFETY POLICY LETTERS

POLICY LETTER NUMBER	DATE OF LETTER	TITLE OF LETTER	INSERTED BY	SUPERSEDED BY
01/03	20 Aug 03	Classification of JSP 403 Volume II		
02/03	21 Aug 03	New Terms of Reference for the Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 2
03/03	29 Sep 03	Independent Range Safety Inspection of Indoor Ranges	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 2
01/04	11 Nov 04	Range Safety Inspection Competency	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
01/05	01 Feb 05	Selling Into Wider Markets	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
02/05	09 Feb 05	Registration of Ranges in Operational Theatres Overseas	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
03/05	25 Apr 05	Civilian Rifle Club and Cadet Use of Dispensation Ranges	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
04/05	26 Apr 05	Transferring a Range	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
01/06	07 Feb 06	Assimilation of DTE Into the Range Safety Management System	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
02/06	22 Mar 06	Assimilation of DTE Into the Range Safety Management System – First Revise	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 4
03/06	06 Nov 06	Selling Into Wider Markets	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
04/06	07 Nov 06	Range Safety Officer Competency	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
05/06	07 Nov 06	Range Administering Unit Competency	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
01/07	25 Jan 07	Temporary Exercise Ranges	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
02/07	17 Apr 07	Use of MOD Ranges by Civilian Contract Armourers	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5

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POLICY LETTER NUMBER	DATE OF LETTER	TITLE OF LETTER	INSERTED BY	SUPERSEDED BY
03/07	18 Jul 07	Guidance on Liability and Negligence With Third Party Use of MOD Ranges	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
04/07	18 Jul 07	Cessation of Advice and Assistance to Civilian Shooting Club Ranges	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
05/07	19 Jul 07	Civil Police Firearms Training on MOD Ranges	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
06/07	06 Aug 07	Operation and Enforcement of Military Byelaws	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 5
01/08	10 Jul 08	Civilian Use of MOD Ranges by Clubs Affiliated to the National Rifle Association	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 6
02/08	21 Jul 08	Land Range Log (MOD FORMS 906/906A).	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 6
01/09	22 Jul 09	Procedure to be followed once dispensation is authorised.	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 6
01/10	15 Jan 10	HM Ships Operating in Enduring Operational Theatres.	Superseded	Vol 1 Ed 2 Ch 6

FOREWORD

By

Secretary of State for Defence

SAFETY OF MOD LAND RANGES

The Ministry of Defence owns, uses or is otherwise responsible for a considerable number of land based firing ranges throughout the United Kingdom and abroad. Whether these are operated for training or testing purposes by military or by civilian personnel, safety is of paramount importance. There is always potential for serious accident to range users, to those who operate or maintain ranges and to the general public, if firing activities are not properly regulated and controlled.

My Health and Safety Policy Statement lays down the principles on which the safe conduct of the Department's activities are to be based. These include:

- compliance with the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and subordinate legislation where applicable;
- where specific exemptions apply, the introduction of Departmental standards which are, so far as is reasonably practicable, at least as good as those required by legislation;
- balancing short term risks to Ministry of Defence personnel, service and civilian, and to the general public against long term benefits.

In order to implement these requirements and to ensure the safe operation and use of our land ranges, a standing committee, the Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee, has been established to introduce and oversee safety standards across the Ministry of Defence. It is responsible through the Defence Environment and Safety Committee to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for all aspects of safety on Defence land ranges. A range safety management system conforming to policy laid down by the Committee has been in operation for some time and is reviewed on a regular basis. Safety management takes into account all aspects of the use, maintenance and inspection of land ranges for which there is no appropriate statute or equivalent civil practice with which to compare.

Detailed policy and guidance for safety on Defence land ranges is given in this Joint Service Publication 403, which has been approved by the Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee and which I endorse.

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INTRODUCTION

GENERAL

Joint Services Publication (JSP) 403 is issued under the overall direction of the Defence Council. It contains the Ministry of Defence regulations for the safety of land ranges and is a Ministry of Defence Approved Code of Practice (ACOP). Where issues of health and safety are concerned it takes into account the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act and other legislation.

JSP 403 is designed to provide a comprehensive handbook covering safety on Ministry of Defence land ranges. It provides direction, guidance and instructions on which the Services and Ministry of Defence civilian organisations and agencies can base their safety regulations. There are currently five volumes issued and further volumes may be produced if required. JSP 403 as a whole is sponsored by the Chairman of the Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee.

JSP 403 contains both regulation and best practice measures for range safety. Throughout Volume I the use of the verbs 'must', 'will' or 'is/are to' identifies mandatory requirements, whereas use of the verb 'should' indicates best practice. The application of best practice is to be considered mandatory unless other methods of keeping the risk of potential hazard as low as is reasonably practicable have been identified and can be successfully applied.

SCOPE OF VOLUMES

JSP 403 Volume I covers the range management aspects of the use of land ranges and deals specifically with policy, responsibilities, procurement, authorisation, use, maintenance and inspection of ranges. The current version, Edition 2, (January 2003) replaced the original version dated 31 August 1997.

JSP 403 Volume II covers the design and construction of land ranges and deals specifically with small arms, infantry and 30mm weapon systems ranges. Edition 3 (February 2003) of Volume II is the current version. Volume II replaced Infantry Training, Volume IV, Ranges, Pamphlet No. 22 Range Construction and Regulations (Army Code 71053).

JSP 403 Volume III is in two parts. Part 1 covers the firing of weapon systems from fixed wing aircraft and helicopters on to land ranges. It has introduced commonality into control systems, procedures and management. It also explains the terminology used in air to surface engagements. Part 2 details the policy and principles for the safety of surface to air weapon systems firing against air or surface targets on land ranges.

JSP 403 Volume IV provides a glossary of range safety terms and definitions and also lists the abbreviations used in the other volumes. It is intended as a reference tool for the better understanding of range safety policy, regulations and procedures. The current version, Edition 2, (January 2003) replaced the original version dated 31 August 1997.

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JSP 403 Volume V covers the design and construction of demolition ranges and explosive ordnance disposal training areas, the clearance of ordnance from ranges and training areas, the safe use of ranges and training areas for demolitions and ordnance disposal training, and the safe use of explosives and pyrotechnics for battle simulation on ranges and training areas and safety of ranges and training areas used for demolitions and ordnance disposal training and for battle simulation.

SPONSOR

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACF Army Cadet Force
ACGS Assistant Chief of the General Staff
ACOP Approved Code of Practice
ACOS Assistant Chief of Staff
ACOS A3/5 FP Assistant Chief of Staff A3/5 Force Protection
ACPO Association of Chief Police Officers
AER Ammunition and Explosive Regulations
AFA Area Firearms Advisor
AFB Air Force Board
AG Adjutant General
AGL Above Ground Level
ALARP As Low As Is Reasonably Practicable
AOC Air Officer Commanding
ASSAWP Air to Surface Surface to Air Working Party
AOCinC Air Officer Commanding in Chief
AOCinC Air Officer Commanding in Chief
AOC & Comdt RAF College Air Officer Commanding & Commandant RAF College
ARA Army Rifle Association
AT Ammunition Technician
ATC Air Training Corps
ATE Army Training Estate (subsumed into the **DTE**)
ATO Ammunition Technical Officer
AWE Atomic Weapons Establishment

BDS British Deer Society
BSI British Standards Institution
BLB Basic Level Budget

CAA Civil Aviation Authority
CBD Chemical and Biological Defence
CCF Combined Cadet Force
CCMDP Chief Constable Ministry of Defence Police
CCTV Close Circuit Television
CDML Chief of Defence Materiel Logistics
CDP Chief of Defence Procurement
CE Chief Executive
CE(RAF) Chief Engineer (Royal Air Force)
CFP NIG Crown, Fire and Police National Interest Group
CGS Chief of the General Staff
CIE(MOD) Chief Inspector of Explosives (Ministry of Defence)
CinC Commander in Chief
CJO Chief Joint Operations
CNH Commander in Chief Naval Home Command
CO Commanding Officer
COO Chief Operating Officer
Comdt Commandant
COMNA Commodore Naval Aviation
COS Chief of Staff
COS(Spt) Chief of Staff (Support)

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COSHH Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
CPSA Clay Pigeon Shooting Association

DAP Directorate of Airspace Policy
DCI Defence Council Instruction
DCTA Defence Clothing and Textiles Agency
DDM Defence Deer Management
DE Defence Estates
DE&S Defence Equipment and Support
DERA Defence Evaluation and Research Agency
DESB Defence Environmental and Safety Board
DESC Defence Environment and Safety Committee (formerly the GHSPC)
DG Director General
DGTS(L) Director General Training Support (Land)
DIN Defence Information Notice
DLA Defence Land Agent (now Estate Advisor)
DLO Defence Logistics Organisation
DLRSC Defence Land Ranges Safety Committee
D Ops (DTE) Director Operations (Defence Training Estate)
DOSB Defence Ordnance Safety Board
DOSG Defence Ordnance Safety Group
DODABSWP Demolitions, Ordnance Disposal and Battle Simulation Working Party
DPA Defence Procurement Agency
DRAC Director Royal Armoured Corps
DSG Defence Support Group (formerly Army Base Repair Organisation)
DSTL Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (formerly Retained DERA)
DTA Dry Training Area
DTE Defence Training Estate
DTEG Defence Test and Evaluation Group

EA Estate Adviser (formerly DLA)
EinC(A) Engineer in Chief (Army)
EHO Environmental Health Organisation
EHT Environmental Health Team
EMAS Employment Medical Advisory Service
EMT Environmental Monitoring Team
ENO Environmental Noise Officer
EOC Explosive Ordnance Clearance
EOD Explosive Ordnance Disposal
EPA Environmental Protection Act
ER Explosive Regulation
ESA Explosives Safety Adviser
ESIT Explosives Safety Inspection Team
EU European Union
EWC Establishment Works Consultant

FFA Field Firing Area
FFTO Force Firearms Training Officer
FO Flag Officer
FOSNNI Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland
FOST Flag Officer Sea Training
FOTR Flag Officer Training and Recruiting
FW Fixed Wing

GHSPC General Health and Safety Policy Committee (now the DESC)
GOC General Officer Commanding
GW Guided Weapon

HD NV Div Head of Department Noise and Vibration Division
HIAT Hazard Impact Area Trace
HLB Higher Level Budget
HQ AC Headquarters Air Cadets
HQ AG HQ Adjutant General
HQ AIR Headquarters Air Command
HQ DTE TAS(RE) Headquarters Defence Training Estate Technical Advisory
Section (Royal Engineers)
HQ Inf Headquarters Infantry
HQ LAND Headquarters Land Command
HQ STC Headquarters Strike Command
HSC Health and Safety Commission
HSE Health and Safety Executive
HSW Health and Safety at Work
HSW Act Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974

IE Inspector Explosives
INM Institute of Naval Medicine
IRSI Independent Range Safety Inspectors
ITDU Infantry Trials & Development Unit
ITT Indoor Training Theatre

LAIT Land Accident Investigation Team
LFMT Live Firing Marksmanship Training
LFTT Live Firing Tactical Training
LRWP Land Ranges Working Party
LTAR Land Training Areas & Ranges

MD Managing Director
MDP Ministry of Defence Police
MLAGB Muzzle Loaders Association of Great Britain
MLSC Military Laser Safety Committee
MLSRP Military Laser Review Panel
MOD Ministry of Defence

MOD RM MOD Range Manager
MOD RR MOD Range Representative

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NBSA Naval Bases and Supply Agency
NHSG Naval Health and Safety Group
NIPS Northern Ireland Prison Service
NOS National Occupational Standards
NOTAM Notice to Airmen
NPA National Pistol Association
NRA National Rifle Association
NSRA National Smallbore Rifle Association

OB Ordnance Board (now incorporated into the DOSG)
OC Officer Commanding
OC OHD OC Occupational Hygiene Department
OIC Officer in Charge
OME Ordnance Munitions & Explosives
OTR Operational Theatre Range

PATO Principal Ammunition Technical Officer
PAU Practice Authorising Officer
PEXA Practice and Exercise Area
PLO Project Liaison Officer
PMO Principal Medical Officer
POB President of the Ordnance Board
PPE Personal Protective Equipment
PRTL Policy and Regulation Team Leader
PT Project Team
PUS Permanent Under Secretary

RAA Range Allocating Authority
RAF Royal Air Force
RAF ESIT Royal Air Force Explosives Safety Inspection Team
RAF IIR Royal Air Force Independent Inspector of Ranges
RAF IHMT RAF Institute of Health and Medical Training
RAO Range Authorising Officer
RAU Range Administering Unit
RCO Range Conducting Officer
RDA Range Danger Area
RFCA Reserve Forces and Cadets Association
RLO Range Liaison Officer
RM Royal Marines
RMCC Royal Marine Cadet Corps
RN Royal Navy
RN EOD Royal Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal
RNRSO Royal Naval Range Safety Officer
RO Range Officer
RPE Respiratory Protective Equipment
RSIT(A) Range Safety Inspection Team (Army)
RSO Range Safety Officer
RSO(ATC) Range Safety Officer (Air Traffic Control)
RSPSC Range Safety Policy Sub-Committee
RSRWG Range Safety Review Working Group

RTAAB Range and Training Area Audit Board

SA Small Arms

SASC Small Arms School Corps

SATO Senior Ammunition Technical Officer

SCC Sea Cadet Corps

SCOTS(A) Standing Committee on Training Safety (Army)

SDR Site Director's Representative

SOR Statement of Requirement

SSA Senior Safety Advisor

SSD&C Safety, Sustainable Development & Continuity

SST Safe System of Training

SSW Safe System of Work

2 PUS Second Permanent Under Secretary

2SL Second Sea Lord

T&E Test and Evaluation

TAS(RE) Technical Advisory Section (Royal Engineers)

TAG Training Advisory Group

TCO Trial Conducting Officer

TER Temporary Exercise Range

TERP Test, Evaluation, Research and Proof

TEST Trials, Evaluation Services and Targets

TEST RM TEST Range Manager

TEST RPO TEST Resident Project Officer

TLB Top Level Budget

TLFTT Transitional Live Firing Tactical Training

TSM Trials Safety Manager

TSO Technical Staff Officer

TWG Training Working Group

URD User Requirement Document

URSO Unit Ranges Specialist Officer

UK DAUG United Kingdom Danger Area Users Group

UKPSA United Kingdom Practical Shooting Association

UAS Unmanned Aircraft System

UAV Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

UAVS Unmanned Aerial Vehicle System

UCAV Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle

WDA Weapon Danger Area

WSM Works Service Manager

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ASSOCIATED PUBLICATIONS

Where an associated publication is referred to in this volume or any other volume of JSP 403 it is to be taken as the authoritative MOD document on the subject.

Reference	Code	Title
A2	JSP 403 Vol 2	Handbook of Defence Land Ranges Safety Volume II - Design, Construction and Maintenance of Small Arms, Infantry and 30mm Weapon System Ranges.
A3	JSP 403 Vol 3	Handbook of Defence Land Ranges Safety Volume III – Part 1: Use of Fixed Wing and Helicopter Mounted weapon Systems, and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Aerial Vehicles, on Land Ranges. Part 2: Use of Surface to Air Weapon Systems on Land Ranges.
A4	JSP 403 Vol 4	Handbook of Defence Land Ranges Safety Volume IV - Glossary of Terms and Definitions.
A5	JSP 403 Vol 5	Handbook of Defence Land Ranges Safety Volume V - Demolitions, Ordnance Disposal and Battle Simulation.
B	Army Code No. 71855	Infantry and Armoured Training Volume IV, Ranges and Training Safety, Pamphlet 21, Regulations for Training with Armoured Fighting Vehicles, Infantry Weapon Systems and Pyrotechnics
B1	Army Code No. 71855 - C	Regulations for the Planning, Conduct and Supervision of Firing and Training for Cadets.
C1	Army Code No. 71810	Army Operational Shooting Volume 1 - Personal Weapons.
C2	Army Code No 71850	Army Operational Shooting Volume 2 – Individual Weapons.
C3	Army Code No. 71852	Army Operational Shooting Volume 3 – Support Weapons.

Reference	Code	Title
C4	Army Code No. 71671	Army Operational Shooting Policy Volume 4- AFV Weapons
D	JSP 315	Service Accommodation Code.
E	JSP 375	MOD Health and Safety Handbook.
F	JSP 362	Defence Lands Handbook.
G	JSP 434	Defence Construction in the Built Environment.
H	JSP 482	Explosives Regulations
I	JSP 462	Financial Management Policy Manual.
J	JSP 435	Defence Estate Management
K	JSP 390	Military Laser Safety.
L	Army Code 71670	Military Engineering Volume II, Field Engineering Pamphlet No. 4, Demolitions.
M	Army Code 71035	Artillery Training Volume III, Field Artillery, Pamphlet No. 19, Regulations for Planning, Control, Conduct and Safety for Firing Practices.
N	Army Code 71687	Helicopter Training Volume III, Ranges, Pamphlet No. 300, Regulations for the Planning, Conduct and Supervision of Firing (Helicopter Weapons).
O	JSP 418	Environment Manual
P	AP 3205	RAF Land Ranges Policy
Q- V	Reserved	
W	Army Code No. 71053	Infantry Training Volume IV, Ranges, Pamphlet No. 22, Range Construction and Regulations (All Arms), 1976 (for historical reference only).

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Reference	Code	Title
X	Army Code No. 62230	Limitations in the Use of Missiles and Ammunition for Training (LUMAT), Volume 2, Ammunition other than Field Artillery Natures.
Y	ACAWEWRO	Air Command Air Weapon and Electronic Warfare Range Orders
Z1		The Setting of Safety Standards - A Report by an Interdepartmental Group and External Advisers, HM Treasury, 28 June 1996.
Z2		Managing risks to the public: appraisal guidance - draft for consultation, HM Treasury, October 2004.