

For more information

For further details on our hot fire training activities please contact your local Fire Station Manager.

Fire Station Managers

Adelaide	(08) 8154 4020	Hobart	(03) 6248 3420
Alice Springs	(08) 8958 4720	Karratha	(08) 9183 6220
Avalon	(03) 5282 7020	Launceston	(03) 6391 6820
Ayres Rock	(08) 8956 1920	Mackay	(07) 4968 3020
Ballina	(02) 6618 7720	Melbourne	(03) 9286 3120
Brisbane	(07) 3860 3220	Newman	(08) 9130 7120
Broome	(08) 9194 3320	Perth	(08) 9373 9220
Cairns	(07) 4042 4920	Port Hedland	(08) 9158 5920
Canberra	(02) 6243 2120	Rockhampton	(07) 4930 7420
Coffs Harbour	(02) 6691 7620	Sunshine Coast	(07) 5458 2920
Coolangatta	(07) 5590 2720	Sydney	(02) 9556 5520
Darwin	(08) 8920 4820	Townsville	(07) 4759 1820
Gladstone	(07) 4973 5420	Whitsunday Coast	(07) 4945 6920
Hamilton Island	(07) 4948 5620		

airservices
australia



Hot Fire Training

Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting



Airservices Australia provides Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) services at 27 aerodromes across the country.

ARFF operates in accordance with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulations, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standard rules and recommended practices to:

- conduct operations to rescue persons and property from an aircraft that, as the result of an incident at, or in the vicinity of, an aerodrome, has crashed or caught fire
- conduct operations to control and extinguish, and to protect persons and property threatened by:
 - a) a fire at an aerodrome, whether in an aircraft or elsewhere, or
 - b) a fire in the vicinity of an aerodrome that is in, or that started in, an aircraft.



Our people

We are committed to providing a world class service. To achieve this we must be confident our specialised team can apply their skills when called upon in an emergency.

Rigorous training is critical to ensuring we have the professional capability to respond to a diverse range of airport emergencies.

The regulations require that fully equipped fire fighters and fire vehicles must achieve a response time not exceeding three minutes to the end of each runway in optimum visibility and surface conditions.

A further 60 seconds is allowed to gain 90 per cent control of any situation.

Every time we respond to an airport emergency, time is of the essence.

As part of our program of continuous improvement, an operational objective is to reduce that time to two minutes under the same conditions.

This level of preparedness requires 'hot fire training' and involves fire fighters practising their skills in a 'mock disaster' at least once every 90 days.

The most visible impact of the exercise is the resulting smoke, so if you have observed smoke around an airport in your region, this vital training is probably the cause.



Environmental responsibilities

ARFF is continually monitoring the performance of pollution control systems which ensure that our training activities minimise any damage to the environment.

To minimise the atmospheric impact of the smoke we carefully control the lighting and response to the training fire.

This ensures that the actual burn time is limited to a period rarely exceeding three minutes.

Only clean fuel is used during these training sessions resulting in minimal atmospheric effect.

Sophisticated pollution control systems are in place to separate effluent residue of the fire fighting activity from the unburned fuel, this is captured and reused.

In seeking continual operational improvement we constantly investigate alternative fuel sources for application during such training activities.

Extensive research to ensure minimal impact on our environment continues to be a challenge.



Legislative requirements

The Airports Environment Protection Regulations 1997 (part of the *Airports Act 1996*) limit the amount of pollution from industrial chimney stacks.

An agreement between the ARFF and the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) monitors the conditions under which hot fire training occurs.

The agreement states ARFF must:

- provide information to the public about such activities
- advise key airport tenants of fire training events
- prevent hot fire training activities during unfavourable weather conditions.

During hot fire training activities ARFF is permitted to exceed stated smoke limits.

