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**SPECIALIST DRIVING KNOWLEDGE  
AND SKILLS**  
**Operate a light four wheel drive (4WD)  
vehicle in an off-road environment**

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<b>level:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>credit:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>final date for comment:</b>	May 2008
<b>expiry date:</b>	December 2009
<b>sub-field:</b>	Driving
<b>purpose:</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare a light 4WD vehicle for off-road use; drive a light 4WD vehicle off-road; drive a light 4WD vehicle through water; and prepare a 4WD vehicle for on-road driving after driving off-road.
<b>entry information:</b>	Candidates must have held a full Class 1 driver licence for a minimum of twelve months.
<b>accreditation option:</b>	Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.
<b>moderation option:</b>	A centrally established and directed national moderation system has been set up by the NZ Road Transport and Logistics Industry Training Organisation.
<b>special notes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 During assessment, candidates must comply with all legislative requirements including: Transport Act 1962 Traffic Regulations 1976 Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999 Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992.</li><li>2 For the purpose of assessment of this unit standard, any new, amended or replaced legislation, regulations, Rules, standards, codes of practice or Land Transport Safety Authority requirements or conditions affecting the outcome of this unit standard apply.</li></ol>

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- 3 The following unit standards are relevant to this unit standard, but are not prerequisite unit standards: Unit 17976, *Demonstrate knowledge of operating a light four wheel drive (4WD) vehicle in a off-road environment* and Unit 17977, *Develop a plan for off-road light four wheel drive (4WD) driving*.
- 4 Definitions  
*drive* includes to manoeuvre;  
*light 4WD vehicle* means any four wheel vehicle with a gross laden weight less than 3500kg and capable of having motive power applied simultaneously to all four wheels. It does not include an all-terrain vehicle for which a Class 6 driver licence is required;  
*low friction surface* is a surface on which traction and braking effect may be significantly reduced. Includes but is not limited to loose gravel, ice, mud, and wet grass;  
*off-road* means a surface other than a sealed or unsealed, formed road or track and includes but is not limited to bush tracks, beaches, river beds and open paddocks;  
*on-road* means a sealed or unsealed, formed road or track;  
*terrain* means a piece of ground having specific characteristics such as sloping, hilly, or undulating;  
*surface* means the outer or the top layer of the ground such as grass, sand, or dirt.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

### element 1

Prepare a light 4WD vehicle for off-road use.

### performance criteria

- 1.1 The preparations confirm the 4WD vehicle is suitable for the anticipated activity.

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- 1.2 Free wheel hubs (if fitted), centre differential lock (if fitted), and 4WD transmission are checked for engagement and disengagement.

**element 2**

Drive a light 4WD vehicle off-road.

**performance criteria**

- 2.1 Driving techniques on different terrain maximise driver and passenger safety, and minimise risk of damage to vehicle and equipment.

Range: includes but is not limited to - undulating ground, up and down a hill, on a soft surface, on a low friction surface.

**element 3**

Drive a light 4WD vehicle through water.

**performance criteria**

- 3.1 Water hazards are identified by inspection, and entry and exit points are identified that minimise risk to driver, passengers (if applicable), and vehicle.
- 3.2 Entry, traverse, and exit from water is completed without damage to vehicle and equipment.
- 3.3 Braking is tested at the completion of the water crossing, and action taken to restore efficiency as required.

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**element 4**

Prepare a light 4WD vehicle for on-road driving after driving off-road.

**performance criteria**

4.1 Vehicle is checked and any faults are rectified or noted for repair prior to resuming on-road use.

Range: checks include but are not limited to - brakes, lights, indicators, mirrors, windscreen, 4WD disengaged (if applicable), differential lock disengaged (if applicable), hubs, tyres.

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**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the New Zealand Road Transport and Logistics Industry Training Organisation office@roadtrain.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.

**Please Note**

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority or a delegated inter-institutional body before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for providers wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

This unit standard is covered by AMAP 0092 which can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/site/framework/search.html>.