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| Overview | This standard covers the competence required to operate fishing equipment. It includes the preparation of fishing gear as well as shooting away and hauling activities.  Planning, carrying out the correct procedures and working individually or as part of a team is also required.  **Target Group**  This standard applies to individuals at the support level with responsibility for operating fishing equipment. |

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| **Performance criteria**  You must be able to: | 1. prepare gear for shooting and secure the appropriate connections 2. shoot the gear in the correct sequence 3. operate machinery safely in accordance with recognised signals 4. use effective communication during fishing operations 5. monitor fishing activities 6. achieve safe recovery of the fishing gear in co-operation with others 7. identify and deal with any distortion in or damage to gear 8. use safe working practices |

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| Knowledge and understanding  You need to know and understand: | 1. how to prepare, shoot and retrieve gear and the duties of persons involved 2. how to use ancillary equipment and machinery 3. different gear types and their components, operating methods and main design features 4. how to recognise damaged gear and gear abnormalities 5. how gear can become fast, fouled or damaged 6. the implications of fast, fouled or damaged gear 7. how to deal with fast, fouled and damaged gear 8. fishing gear wear and tear and safe limits of operation 9. the dangers associated with operating fishing gear 10. how to observe and monitor gear performance 11. the importance of good communications 12. safe working practices 13. the legal requirements and industry guidance that control fishing activities 14. statutory regulations and guidelines, organisational instructions and guidance, and vessel contingency plans |

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