

Learning by burning

Putting real fire into your training



–Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre
and the University of Tasmania

–Department of Sustainability &
Environment and Melbourne Water in
Victoria

- Simulation-based training
- Bushfire behaviour knowledge

How simulation-based training improves the training possibilities and workplace outcomes for bushfire fighters.

- What does the research say about simulation-based training?
- What is this type of training?
- What is the focus of the study ?

Empirical research has demonstrated that simulation-based training provides effective outcomes for building:

- New knowledge and skills
- Team building skills
- Situational awareness
- Complex skills

Simulation-based training provides *unique opportunities* to improve learning outcomes for training in complex workplaces.

- better understanding of the effective use of the new tools ,
- how trainer knowledge and skills develop when using new training tools, and
- how effective this type of training is for the range of trainees who participate in training?

What do we know about the way
the 'bushfire table'
has been implemented and
delivered?

“The fire table was very effective because it’s all good and well to talk about things but its better to be talking about principles while actually seeing it on the table and being put in a situation where you actually have to think about what you would do rather than just having information thrown at you all the time.”

- Present scenarios that are relevant to trainee's environment.
- Providing the back-story helps contextualise the scenario but needs to be succinct
- Provide a 'think aloud' narrative to make hidden processes more overt to the observer
- Use questioning to get feedback about the level of prior knowledge and 'science' knowledge
- Provide trainees with a 'verbal' outline of a potential scenario and ask them to predict what might happen when the fire moves through this part of the fire ground
- Be clear about the objectives, this helps bring clarity about the choice of problems presented to the trainees

- “It really showed how fire behaves and was able to put it in a nice, neat way. It’s something you could probably read or have someone tell you about but to see it happening while someone was explaining it, the thought processes that go on when you’re trying to put the fire out ...”

summary....







Bushfire behaviour field trip



