



Explosive Detector Dog (EDD) Handler

This position description is designed to give an overview of the type of work and performance required for this role and may include other duties as required.

Who we are

Everything we do is related towards the achievement of our **outcome** - 'safe and secure skies to help New Zealand fly'. Our success in this is simple: we will have the following **impacts**:

Being safe – fewer people die or sustain injury while participating in the aviation system.

Feeling safe – people's choice to participate in the aviation system is not limited by perception of unsafe practices.

Our **objectives** are:

Improved sector safety performance – we target areas of risk within the aviation system, and work to diminish these risks, improving the overall performance of the system.

Effective and efficient security services – we continue to effectively identify and mitigate security threats, while making sure passengers and goods can travel smoothly.

A vibrant aviation system is one that makes a strong contribution to the wellbeing of New Zealanders, through enabling quality of life, and supporting a strong economy.

Values

- **Me mahi tahi – Collaboration**
We work together to achieve and succeed.
- **Me mahi pono – Transparency**
We are open and honest communicators.
- **Me mahi tika – Integrity**
We do the right thing.
- **Me manaaki – Respect**
We treat all people with consideration and kindness.
- **Kia tū rangatira ai – Professionalism**
We act in a way that brings credit to ourselves and our organisation.



Scope

Reports to: EDD Team Leader

Group: AvSec Operations

Location: Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch & Queenstown airports



Role Overview

An EDD Handler works closely with the wider AvSec team at their local airport to undertake various operational duties within the airport environment. They are responsible for checking aircraft, cabin and stowed baggage, unattended or suspicious items, terminal facilities, lounges, cargo, airport carparks and other security enhanced areas.

They have a responsibility to maintain an operational standard of security, and this includes the standard of their dog. Often a handler is responsible for managing their own time when carrying out operational duties. They are part of a local team and a larger national team. On occasions they may be asked to travel to other regions to help support another airports operation.

EDD Handlers can operate in stressful situations and are required to make good decisions quickly and independently. On occasion an EDD Handler may assist another external agency with matters related to national security, and this may require travel at short notice throughout New Zealand and include locations away from the airport.

Training Requirements

EDD Handlers are required to undergo training to achieve operational certification standard at the New Zealand Police Dog Training Centre in Trentham and at our Airports. Once full operational status is achieved, the trainee assumes the rank of Operational EDD Handler and then continues to train and maintain an Explosive Detector Dog to provide Explosive Detection services for AvSec.

The Explosive Detector Dog training at the New Zealand Police Dog Training Centre and Airports is 10 weeks total duration. It includes practical sessions, formal lectures and written examinations. It also covers the care for an Aviation Security Service dog to the required standards including housing, healthcare, feeding, exercise, transport and ongoing training.

Core Competencies

Interpersonal Savvy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relates well to all kinds of people – at all levels, inside and outside the organisation; builds appropriate rapport; builds constructive and effective relationships; uses diplomacy and tact; able to defuse high-tension situations comfortably.
Decision Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Makes good decisions based upon a mixture of analysis, experience and judgment; sought out by others for advice and solutions.
Composure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is cool under pressure, considered and mature; can be counted on to remain calm and collected; can handle stress; is not knocked off balance by the unexpected; is persistent and is a settling influence in a crisis.
Customer Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is dedicated to meeting the expectations and requirements of internal and external customers; gathers and responds to customer feedback; acts with customers in mind;



	establishes and maintains effective relationships with customers and gains their trust and respect
Action Oriented	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enjoys working hard; is action oriented and full of energy for the things he/she sees as challenging; not fearful of acting with a minimum of planning; seizes opportunities.
Peer Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can quickly find common ground and solve problems for the good of all; can represent his/her own interests and yet be fair to other groups; can solve problems with peers in a collaborative way; is seen as a team player and cooperative; easily gains trust and support of peers; encourages collaboration; can be candid with peers
Drive for Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be counted on to exceed goals successfully; is constantly and consistently one of the top performers; steadfastly pushes self and others for results
Self-Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is personally committed to and actively works to continuously improve him/herself; understands that different situations and levels may call for different skills and approaches; works to deploy strengths; works on areas for development.

Core Responsibilities

- Maintain the standard of an operational dog with the support of the EDDU Training team.
- Successfully complete four Certified Assessments and an Annual Assessment.
- Manage own time to carry out duties that enhance the security to aviation.
- Complete Explosive Handling training in accordance with the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act.
- Identify and communicate animal health and training problems to their Team Leader.
- Act as an effective ambassador for AvSec by applying high standards in dealings with the NZ Police training personnel and other agencies.
- Comply with all AvSec and New Zealand Police policies and procedures, relating to animal health, animal management, and EDD unit management.
- Apply all Aviation Security Service health and safety procedures and contribute to the maintenance of a safe workplace.
- Carry out other such duties as may be required from time to time for the efficient and effective performance of the Aviation Security Service.

Outcomes

- Operational certification conducted by the New Zealand Police is successfully achieved.
- The Aviation Security Service dog that the Handler is responsible for is cared for and housing, feeding, exercise, transport, animal health care and training are provided to the required standard.



- Training and certification for the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act Explosive Handling Certificate is successfully completed.
- AvSec's reputation with the New Zealand Police and other agencies is upheld.
- A seamless and effective Explosive Detector Dog service is provided by Aviation Security Service to all stakeholders
- The Aviation Security Service is fully enabled to achieve its overall mission of improving aviation safety in New Zealand.
- The Authority is a safe workplace and meets legislative standards.

Skills and Experience to be Successful

- Ideally a warranted AvSec Aviation Security Officer able to demonstrate experience in all officer duties, or able to become one.
- Demonstrates a sound understanding of the responsibilities and demands of an AvSec EDD Handler.
- Displays confidence in basic dog handling skills, including a sound understanding of the responsibilities involved in caring for a working dog.
- Understands the deployments required of explosive detector dogs.
- Demonstrates temperament to consistently and reliably perform EDD duties to a high standard.
- Willingness to be trained in handling explosives.
- Meets the medical and fitness requirements of an AvSec EDD Handler as established by a comprehensive medical examination.
- Resides in suitable accommodation for the development and security of an AvSec explosive detector dog and any accompanying equipment.
- Ability to perform effectively and consistently in a pressured environment.
- Must be flexible regarding rostered shift allocations and hours worked.
- Must reside within 50 minutes of the Airport of employment.
- Live on a property suitable for the housing of a dog.