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**COMPONENT HEAD  
FIREARMS, LIQUOR AND SECOND-  
HAND GOODS SERVICES  
VISIBLE POLICING  
HEAD OFFICE**

- A. All Provincial Commanders  
**FIREARM, LIQUOR AND SECOND-HAND GOODS SERVICES**
- B. All Section Commanders  
**CENTRAL FIREARMS REGISTER**

**RE: AMENDMENT OF THE DESCRIPTION OF THE SUB-CATEGORIES OF COMPETENCIES TO POSSESS A FIREARM: CLARIFICATION OF RELEVANT TYPES OF FIREARMS IN TERMS OF THE FIREARMS CONTROL ACT, 2000 (ACT NO. 60 OF 2000)**

- A.1 In terms of section 10 of the Firearms Control Act, 2000 (Act No. 60 of 2000), the categories which relates to competency certificates includes *inter alia* "to possess a firearm". Currently the sub-categories under the main category "to possess a firearm" reflects on the Enhanced Firearms Register System (EFRS) as follows:
- Handgun;
  - Shotgun;
  - Rifle; and
  - Hand Machine Carbine.
2. The current terminology used on the EFRS is outdated terminology therefore, it is necessary to align the system with the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA) registered unit standards requirements. The SAQA unit standards requirements make provision for the following categories :

**Category 1**

SAQA Identity: 117705

Description: Knowledge of the Firearms Control Act, 2000 (Act No. 60 of 2000)

Explanation: This category is applicable for all applicants and is the entry level to Category 2.

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**Category 2**

SAQA Identity: 119649

Description: Handle and use a Handgun.

SAQA Identity: 119650

Description: Handle and use a self-loading Rifle or Carbine.

SAQA Identity: 119651

Description: Handle and use a manually operated Rifle or Carbine.

SAQA Identity: 119652

Description: Handle and use a Shotgun.

Explanation: This category is for competency relating to private firearm ownership. The applicable unit standard relates directly to the type of firearm being applied for.

3. The following table provide the new terminology and indicate the type of firearms referred to in the specific sub-category:

<b>OLD (CURRENT) TERMINOLOGY</b>	<b>NEW (FUTURE) TERMINOLOGY</b>	<b>APPLICABLE FIREARM TYPE(S)</b>	<b>SAQA UNIT STANDARD</b>
Handgun	Handgun	Pistol and Revolver	119649: Handle and use a handgun
Shotgun	Shotgun	Shotgun	119652: Handle and use a shotgun
Rifle	Manually Operated Rifle	Rifle	119651: Handle and use a manually operated rifle or carbine
Hand Machine Carbine	Self-loading Rifle/ Carbine/ Pistol Caliber	Machine Gun; Sub-Machine Pistol; and	119650: Handle and use a self-loading rifle or

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<b>OLD (CURRENT) TERMINOLOGY</b>	<b>NEW (FUTURE) TERMINOLOGY</b>	<b>APPLICABLE FIREARM TYPE(S)</b>	<b>SAQA UNIT STANDARD</b>
	Carbine	Self-Loading (semi-automatic) Rifle	carbine

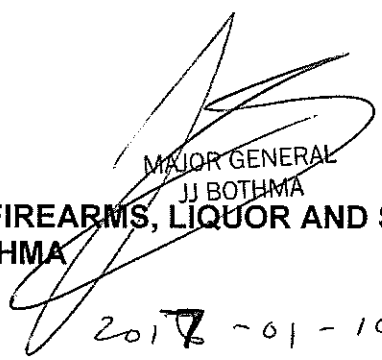
4. The following are examples of firearms which are included in the Firearm Types listed in the table as per paragraph 2, supra:

<b>FIREARM TYPE</b>	<b>EXAMPLES OF FIREARMS</b>
Pistol and Revolver	All forms of pistols and revolvers which may either be single shot or self-loading but not fully automatic e.g. Z88 9mm pistol; Taurus .38Spl revolver, etc.
Shotgun	All forms of firearms which are indicated as "shotguns" but which are not fully automatic e.g. 12Ga shotgun; 16Ga shotgun; etc.
Rifle	All forms of manually operated commercial rifles (bolt action and single shot) which are not self-loading or fully automatic e.g. Musgrave .308 Win rifle; BSA .303 rifle; etc.
Machine Gun	All forms of fully automatic firearms which are also regarded as prohibited firearms e.g. R1 Assault Rifle; .50 BMG; Fully automatic AK 47; etc.
Sub-Machine Pistol	All forms of pistol caliber sub-carbines which are self-loading but not fully automatic and which are regarded as restricted firearms e.g. BXP; MP 5; Uzi; Scorpion; etc.
Self-Loading (semi-automatic) Rifle	All forms of rifles which are self-loading but not manually operated or fully automatic and which are regarded as restricted firearms e.g. LM 4; LM 5; LM 6; Semi-Automatic AK 47; etc.

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5. In light of the above it is clear that an applicant who obtained a proficiency certificate to "Handle and use a self-loading Rifle or Carbine" may apply for a competency certificate to possess a firearm within the sub-category "Self-loading Rifle/ Carbine/ Pistol Calibre Carbine".
6. Applicants, as mentioned in paragraph 4 supra, may therefore apply for a licence to possess a firearm, which include machine guns, sub-machine pistols and self-loading rifles.
7. A person who obtained a proficiency certificate for "Handle and use a Manually Operated Rifle or Carbine", may apply for a competency certificate to possess a firearm within the sub-category "Manually Operated Rifle" and may therefore only apply for a license to possess a rifle which is manually operated and not self-loading (semi-automatic).
8. A person who obtained a proficiency certificate for the handling and use of a shotgun may apply for a competency certificate to possess a shotgun within the sub-category shotgun and may apply for a license to possess a shotgun which is manually or self-loading (semi-automatic) operated.
9. It is vital to note that the amendments to the EFRS will come into effect on Wednesday, 1 February 2017. All competency certificate applications received as of 1 February 2017 must be dealt with according to the above new terminology and related firearm type.
10. The above information must be disseminated with immediate effect to all Designated Firearms Officers in your respective province.
11. Your support in the effective implementation of the above is highly appreciated.

B.1 Copy for your information.

  
MAJOR GENERAL  
J J BOTHMA  
**HEAD: FIREARMS, LIQUOR AND SECOND-HAND GOODS SERVICES**  
MAJOR GENERAL  
J J BOTHMA

Date: 2017-01-10