

## Risk Management Quick Reference Booklet

(For more detail, see ATP 5-19)

The purpose of this booklet is to provide a quick reference to the Risk Management (RM) process and Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet (DRAW). RM is the process of identifying, assessing, and controlling risks arising from operational factors and making decisions that balance risk cost with mission benefits. The Army uses risk management (RM) to help maintain combat power while ensuring mission accomplishment in current and future operations. RM applies to both operations and to nonoperational activities. It is an essential element of the Army Operations Process, Troop Leading Procedures, Military Decision Making Process, and other organizational planning processes. Commanders, staffs, Army leaders, Soldiers, and Army civilians integrate RM into all planning, preparing, executing, and assessing of operations. Commanders ensure first-line supervisors apply the process, where it has the greatest impact.

There are two recognized application levels for RM, deliberate and real-time. RM practitioners should use their best judgment to manage risk based on the situation. Approach RM at the appropriate application level, using either a deliberate approach or a real-time approach. The main factor that differentiates the application level is the amount of time available for planning. Regardless of the amount of time available, Army forces manage risk throughout the operations process using the five steps of RM.

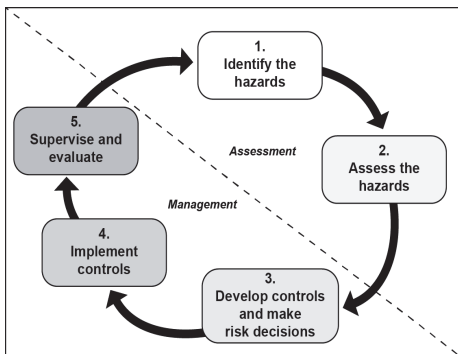


Figure 1: The Risk Management Process

RM is a five-step cyclic process broken down into assessment and management phases. When integrating the RM process, practitioners must keep the principles of RM in mind. This will help guide their efforts. The principles of RM are:

- Integrate RM into all phases of missions and operations.
- Make risk decisions at the appropriate level.
- Accept no unnecessary risk.
- Apply RM cyclically and continuously.

DD Form 2977, Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet (DRAW), is the Army's standard form for deliberate risk assessment. It provides a standardized means of documenting the RM process. A copy of the RM Worksheet may be found at the back of this booklet as well as at <http://www.apd.army.mil>.

***DRAW Heading and Preparer Instruction:***

**Block 1. Mission/Task Description:** Briefly describe the overall Mission or Task for which the deliberate risk assessment is being conducted, as well as the date(s) of the mission.

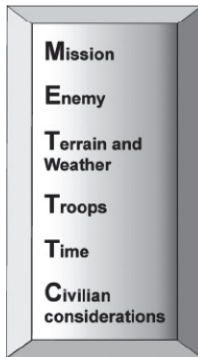
**Block 2. Date:** (DD/MM/YYYY): The date of form preparation.

**Block 3. Prepared By:** Information provided by the individual conducting the deliberate risk assessment for the operation or training. Legend: UIC = Unit Identification Code; CIN = Course Identification Number; OPOD = operation order; DSN = defense switched network; COMM = commercial

**Block 4. Sub-task/Sub-Step of Mission/Task:** Briefly describe all subtasks or substeps that warrant risk management. If necessary, refer to SOP, Field Manuals, Soldiers Manual of Common Tasks, Job Books, etc.

**Step 1: Identify Hazards**

- a. Hazards are conditions with the potential to cause personnel injury, equipment or property damage, environmental harm, or mission degradation.
- b. Use the mission variables of METT-TC to identify hazards:



**Figure 2: Mission Variables**

**Mission** - What hazards are unique to the mission? For example, improper material loading, and ineffective ground guide/driver communications are common hazards to rail operations.

**Enemy** - What hazards are posed by enemy forces? Can we expect IED, small arms, mortars, RPG?

**Terrain and Weather** - Are road conditions favorable? Are canal crossings stable? Are there dangers of personnel falling from dangerous elevations? Are there water obstacles to cross? What are the weather conditions? Will precipitation or obscuration (i.e. blowing sand) limit visibility? Is Heat or Cold injury a hazard? Are storms forecast?

**Troops and Equipment** - Are troops adequately trained and experienced? Are they in good physical and mental condition? Are leaders competent and experienced? Is command climate healthy? Are command/control/communication systems functioning? Do we have the right equipment for the mission? Is equipment in safe operating condition?

**Time** - Is there sufficient time to plan and prepare for the mission? Are we rushing the mission and overlooking hazards? Is there a safer time to conduct the mission?

**Civilian Considerations** - Will the mission create unacceptable risk to civilian personnel or property? Will civilians pose a hazard to the mission? What are the Rules of Engagement?

**NOTE:** To determine the root hazard, RM practitioners consider system inadequacies in areas such as support, standards, and training, or leadership and individual failures.

To illustrate, tripping is not considered a hazard because another condition or circumstance caused it. To identify the root hazard, the RM practitioner must ask why a person would trip in a certain location. Repeated questioning should lead to the logical answer. The root hazard is identified once there is no longer a logical answer to the question “why”.

**DRAW Instruction: Hazard:** Specify hazards related to the task or subtask in *Block 5*.

## Step 2: Assess Hazards

a. Consider each hazard identified in Step 1. When hazards are assessed and risk levels are assigned, the resulting analysis is a measurement of *risk*—probability and severity of loss linked to hazards. In the context of RM, **probability is the likelihood an event will occur; it is assessed as frequent, likely, occasional, seldom, or unlikely**. In the context of RM, **severity is the expected consequences of an event in terms of injury, property damage, or other mission-impairing factors; it is assessed as catastrophic, critical, moderate, or negligible**.

b. Once the probability and severity levels of a hazard have been determined, use the risk matrix below to determine the initial risk level for the hazard(s). For example, if the probability of a hazard occurring is "Likely" and the severity would be "Critical", the initial risk level is "High".

Risk Assessment Matrix	Probability (expected frequency)					
	Frequent: Continuous, regular, or inevitable occurrences	Likely: Several or numerous occurrences	Occasional: Sporadic or intermittent occurrences	Seldom: Infrequent occurrences	Unlikely: Possible occurrences but improbable	
Severity (expected consequence)	A	B	C	D	E	
Catastrophic: Mission failure, unit readiness eliminated, death, unacceptable loss or damage	I	EH	EH	H	H	M
Critical: Significantly degraded unit readiness or mission capability; severe injury, illness, loss or damage	II	EH	H	H	M	L
Moderate: Somewhat degraded unit readiness or mission capability; minor injury, illness, loss, or damage	III	H	M	M	L	L
Negligible: Little or no impact to unit readiness or mission capability; minimal injury, loss, or damage	IV	M	L	L	L	L
Legend: EH - Extremely High Risk H - High Risk M - Medium Risk L - Low Risk						

**Figure 3: Risk Assessment Matrix**

**DRAW Instruction: Initial Risk Level.** Enter the initial risk level for each hazard in *Block 6*.

## Step 3: Develop Controls and Make Risk Decisions

a. **Develop controls.** Controls are actions taken to eliminate or reduce risk to an acceptable level. Many controls may be found in SOPs, regulations, field manuals, and operator manuals. Controls normally fall into one of three categories:

- Educational: i.e. HMMWV Egress/Assistance Training
- Physical: i.e. signs, fences, and body armor
- Hazard Elimination: i.e. repairing an unsafe bridge, choosing an alternate route, or mandating the wear of flotation devices

The three methods of hazard elimination controls should be utilized, in order of preference: engineering controls, administrative controls, or personal protective equipment.

**DRAW Instruction: Control.** Identify the risk mitigation resources/controls identified to abate or reduce risk relevant to the identified hazard and in enter such into *Block 7*.

b. **Determine How to Implement.** Controls must be implemented to be effective. They must be feasible, suitable, acceptable, and clearly communicated to those who will implement them. Verbal or written orders, mission briefings, SOPs, load plans, pre-combat checks safety briefings, and mission briefings, are some examples of how to implement controls.

c. **Determine Who Will Implement.** Direct responsibility for implementation and supervision of controls must be established in order to ensure that everyone understands, implements, and maintains the controls. The responsible leader should prevent complacency and indiscipline while identifying any new hazards.

**DRAW Instruction: How to Implement / Who Will Implement:** Briefly describe the means of employment for each control (i.e., OPORD, briefing, rehearsal) and the name of the individual unit or office that has primary responsibility for control implementation in *Blocks 8*.

d. **Reassess Risk to Determine Residual Risk Level.** Once effective controls have been developed, and identified how they will be implemented and supervised, each hazard must be reassessed to determine the Residual Risk Level, which is the risk remaining after controls are applied. Controls should reduce the probability and severity of hazards, and may reduce the risk level of a hazard.

***DRAW Instruction: Residual Risk Level:*** After controls are implemented, determine resulting probability, severity, and residual risk level in *Block 9*.

e. **Determine Overall Risk Level.** The overall risk level for the mission or activity must be equal to, or greater than, the highest residual risk level for any given hazard. The overall risk level for the mission or activity may be even higher based on the number of lower risks, and overall complexity of the mission.

***DRAW Instructions:***

***Block 10. Overall Risk After Controls are Implemented:*** Assign an overall residual risk level. This is equal to or greater than the highest residual risk level (from *Block 9*).

***Block 11. Supervision Plan and Recommended Course of Action:*** Completed by preparer. Identify specific tasks and levels of responsibility for supervisory personnel and provide the decision authority with a recommend course of action for approval or disapproval based upon the overall risk assessment.

f. **Approval or Disapproval of Mission or Task.** Risk decisions must always be made at the appropriate level of command. Check your organization's risk decision approval policy to determine who has the authority to approve your mission or activity. Remember, when off-duty, a risk decision may be a personal one. Would you sign your family up for a High or Extremely High Risk activity

***DRAW Instruction:***

***Block 12.*** Enter the name, rank, and duty position of the appropriate Risk Decision Authority.  
Forward DD Form 2977 to the appropriate Risk Decision Authority for review and signature in *Block 12d*.

***Block 13. Risk Assessment Review:*** Should be conducted on a regular basis. Reviewers should have sufficient oversight of the mission or activity and controls to provide valid input on changes or adjustments needed. If the residual risk rises above the level already approved, operations should cease until the appropriate approval authority is contacted and approves continued operations.

***Block 14. Feedback and Lessons Learned:*** Provide specific input on the effectiveness of risk controls and their contribution to mission success or failure. Include recommendations for new or revised controls, practicable solutions, or alternate actions. Submit and brief valid lessons learned as necessary to persons affected.

**Block 15. Additional Comments or Remarks:** Preparer or approval authority provides any additional comments, remarks, or information to support the integration of risk management.

*NOTE: Block 14 is not to be completed until after the mission or activity is completed.*

#### **Step 4: Implement Controls**

Having completed steps 1 through 3 of the RM process, Step 4 takes place during the preparation, execution, and evaluation phases of any mission or activity. This is the step where we put our planning into practice; where we implement our controls. Selected controls are translated into briefings and curricula and then integrated with training events for missions.

#### **Step 5: Supervise and Evaluate**

##### **Supervise**

Leaders must be engaged as supervisors to ensure that RM controls are properly implemented. Leaders supervise to find and correct complacency, indiscipline, and lack of understanding. They must also maintain situational awareness to identify new hazards, and adjust controls as necessary. This is reapplying Step 1, which demonstrates the cyclical nature of the RM process.

##### **Evaluate**

Evaluation must occur during all phases of any mission or activity. Evaluations reveal deviations from the standards. After-Action-Reviews (AAR) must be conducted following completion of any mission to answer the following questions:

- Were hazards correctly identified? Were new hazards discovered during the mission/activity?
- Were hazard assessments accurate?
- Were controls effective? Did solutions match the problems?
- Were controls understood, implemented, and effective?
- Was supervision effective?
- Were RM guiding principles adhered to?

##### ***DRAW Instruction:***

*Block 14*, enter whether each control was effective or not. File your RM Worksheet for future reference.

## DELIBERATE RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

DELIBERATE RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET					
1. MISSION/TASK DESCRIPTION				2. DATE (DDMMYYYY)	
3. PREPARED BY					
a. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)			b. Rank/Grade	c. Duty Title/Position	
d. Unit		e. Work Email		f. Telephone (DSN/Commercial (Include Area Code))	
g. UIC/CIN (as required)		h. Training Support/Lesson Plan or OPORD (as required)		i. Signature of Preparer	
Five steps of Risk Management: (1) Identify the hazards (2) Assess the hazards (3) Develop controls & make decisions (4) Implement controls (5) Supervise and evaluate <small>(Step numbers not equal to numbered items on form)</small>					
4. SUBTASK/SUBSTEP OF MISSION/TASK	5. HAZARD	6. INITIAL RISK LEVEL	7. CONTROL	8. HOW TO IMPLEMENT/ WHO WILL IMPLEMENT	9. RESIDUAL RISK LEVEL
				How: Who:	
				How: Who:	
				How: Who:	
				How: Who:	
				How: Who:	
Additional entries for items 5 through 9 are provided on page 2.					
10. OVERALL RESIDUAL RISK LEVEL (All controls implemented): <input type="checkbox"/> EXTREMELY HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> MEDIUM <input type="checkbox"/> LOW					
11. OVERALL SUPERVISION PLAN AND RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION					
12. APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF MISSION OR TASK <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVE					
a. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)		b. Rank/Grade	c. Duty Title/Position		d. Signature of Approval Authority
e. Additional Guidance:					



DELIBERATE RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET					
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Severity (expected consequence)	A	B	C	D	E
<b>Catastrophic:</b> <i>Death, unacceptable loss, or damage, mission failure, or unit readiness eliminated</i>	I	EH	EH	H	M
<b>Critical:</b> <i>Severe injury, illness, loss, or damage; significantly degraded unit readiness or mission capability</i>	II	EH	H	H	L
<b>Moderate:</b> <i>Minor injury, illness, loss, or damage; somewhat degraded unit readiness or mission capability</i>	III	H	M	M	L
<b>Negligible:</b> <i>Minimal injury, loss, or damage; little or no impact to unit readiness or mission capability</i>	IV	M	L	L	L
<b>Legend:</b> EH – extremely high risk    H – high risk    M – medium risk    L – low risk					
<b>13. RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW</b> (Required when assessment applies to ongoing operations or activities)					
a. Date	b. Last Name	c. Rank/Grade	d. Duty Title/Position	e. Signature of Reviewer	
<b>14. FEEDBACK AND LESSONS LEARNED</b>					
<b>16. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR REMARKS</b>					

## NOTES