



University  
of Glasgow

## Degraded Modes of Operations for Operational Engineering (SW related issues)

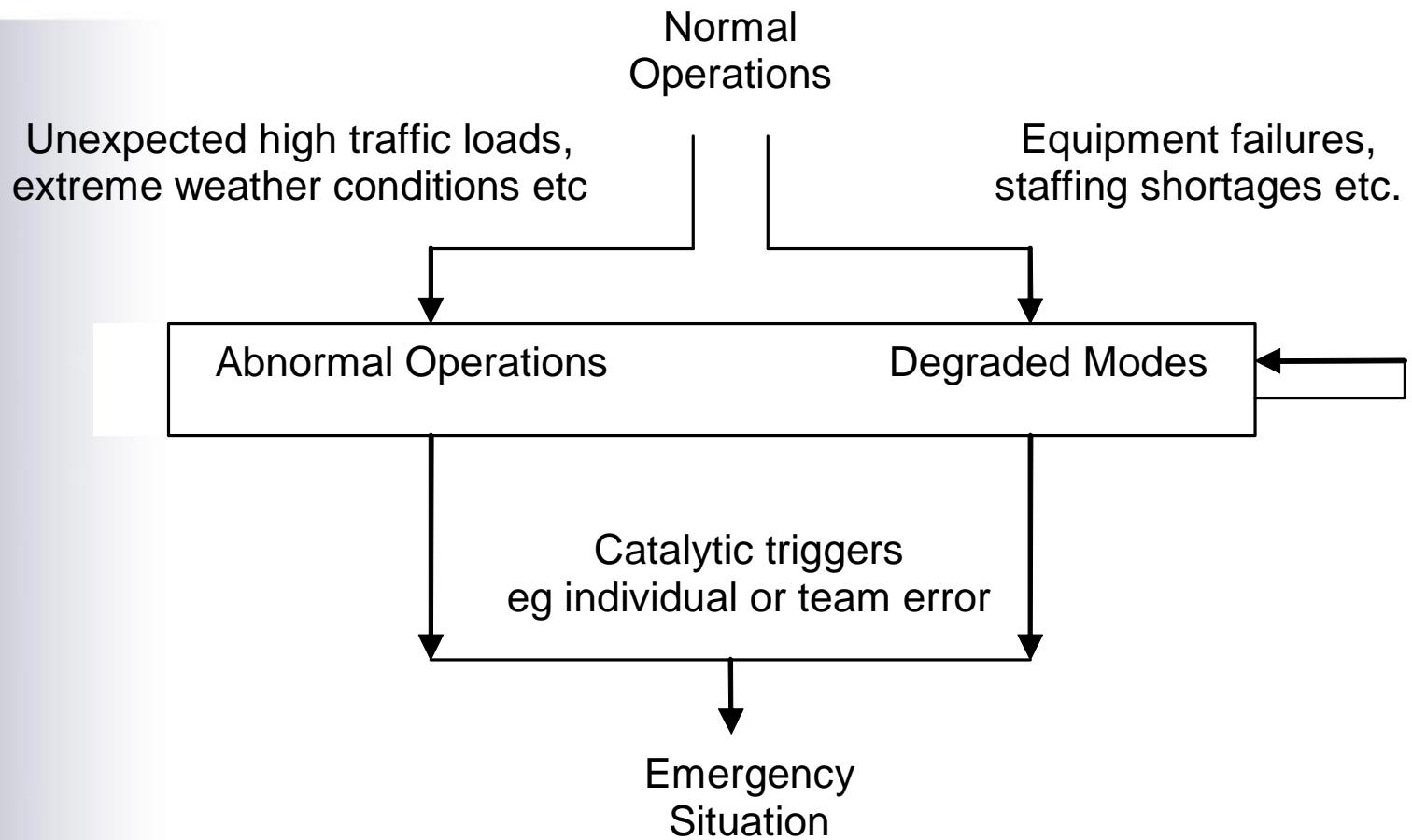
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ES2 WS3-11, Bled, Slovenia, September 2011





# What are Degraded Modes





- Staff struggle to maintain levels of service.
- Software failures force ad hoc solutions:
  - violate safety requirements;
  - Not supported by risk assessments.
- Lead to major failures if not addressed.

- Power Supply Station near ACC:
  - Transformer and Generator.
- PS Switching boxes in ACC.
- Equipment installed 30 years ago:
  - Procure new kit.
- Installation affects comms ACC/PS

**14:25 UTC: Alarm Remote Control Unit**  
In PS Station from UPS in ACC.

- Technician to ACC, checks UPS:
  1. Warning on UPS display:  
**<Power Supply is out of tolerance >**
  2. UPS operates on battery supply
  3. UPS autonomy - **13 minutes**

**14:30:** Technician returns to PS Station.

- Informs Technical Supervisor about problem
- Calls Head of department is **not** accessible.

**14:32:** In ACC again, Technician detects

- UPS autonomy - 6 minutes
- Makes **erroneous decision** to switch PS to 2<sup>nd</sup> UPS;
- Switches 1st UPS to bypass configuration
- Generator voltage direct to Users, no stabilization;
- Under voltage but no over voltage protection.

**14:35 UTC** - In a few minutes collapse of:

- three quarters of Radar Data Displays,
- one half of Flight Data Displays,
- all radar inputs in DPS,
- Controller Working Positions for Voice Comms
- and AFTN connection with ARO & NOTAM.

**14:40 UTC** - Technical Supervisor tells ATC Supervisor needs 30 minutes.

**14:45 UTC** - ATC SUP decides to close FIR, CFMU told **traffic is zero**.



IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY  
UDARAS EITLIOCHTA NA FÉIREANN

**REPORT OF THE IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY  
INTO THE ATM SYSTEM MALFUNCTION AT DUBLIN AIRPORT**

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- Busiest period of the year.
- Initial hardware failure:
  - Poor quality of service from LAN;
  - Slows flight data processing system.
- ATCOs cannot access data on radar targets:
  - including aircraft identification and type data.
- Capacity restrictions for safety reasons.

- ATM system provided by contractor:
  - maintained under annual service contract;
  - provide both hardware and software support;
  - On-site support for diagnosis and debugging.
- General question for SESAR?
  - ANSPs rely on subcontractors:
  - key areas of technical support ;
  - ‘it will take another 30 minutes...’
  - Is outsourcing a form of de-risking?

- ANSPs engineering staff correct symptoms;
  - Cannot identify root causes of the problem.
- Problem stemmed from double failure:
  - triggered by a faulty network interface card;
  - flooded network with spurious messages.
- Symptoms of the fault were masked;
  - recovery mechanisms in Local Area Network;
  - hard for engineers to identify component failure.

## The Real Impact



Michael O'Leary, CEO Ryanair

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- "The problem here is that you have an autonomous semi-state monopoly which doesn't care about its customers or the disruption to passengers,"
- "Send the buggers to Shannon, if it was a commercial company they would have done so,"
- "They're not on top of the job. We're talking about 25 arrivals and departures per hour. The air traffic controllers should be capable of handling this volume of flights".



- Atlanta FDPS System software bug;
  - Switch data rate configuration error (again).
- Use of fallback system in Salt Lake City:
  - Cascading failure cannot cope with demand.
- ATCOs enter flight data manually;
  - Cannot cope with backlog, knock-on delays.
- 12 hours to diagnose problem;
  - 6 more to catch up with backlog eg New York.

- August 2008:
  - Software failure in Atlanta again.
  - Processes flight plans for Eastern US.
  - 566 flight delays+
- Press, media and political outrage....
- GAO reports into ATM service provision.

- Fault stems from Salt Lake City:
  - hardware fault on router circuit board;
  - Network interface affects comms with Atlanta;
  - Also affects comms with 21 regional radar centers.
- Network owned/operated by Harris Corp...
  - “We are working with the FAA to diagnose problem and explain the failure of backup systems...”
  - 5 hours to diagnose, 12+ to restore support;
  - ATCOs enter flight plans manually (workload);
  - Effects exacerbated by bad weather eg Chicago

- “Sisters Sharon Walker and Sheila James were taking their elderly mother to see their sister in St. Louis. Their 09.30 flight was delayed until 16:00...”
- “Sen. Charles Schumer said the country’s aviation system is ‘in shambles’...’the FAA needs to upgrade the system, these technical glitches that cause cascading chaos across the country are going to become a very regular occurrence...”

- \$2.1 Billion upgrade by Dec 2010:
  - En Route Automation Modernization.
- Faults lead to ‘missing’ flight plans;
  - Other aircraft change identity in flight;
  - Again cannot transfer flight data to Atlanta etc.
  - Undermines ATCO confidence in system;
  - ‘fallback’ original 20 year old IBM system
  - IBM contract expired, uses Jovial – rarely used.
- Test deployment to Salt Lake City:
  - FAA spend \$14 million, still not working.
  - Salt Lake City simple compared to Chicago...



# “The Risk Assessment Blind Spot”

NOT MEASUREMENT  
SENSITIVE

MIL-STD-882D  
10 February 2000

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SUPERSEDING  
MIL-STD-882C  
19 January 1993

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
STANDARD PRACTICE FOR  
SYSTEM SAFETY**



AMSC N/A

AREA SAFT

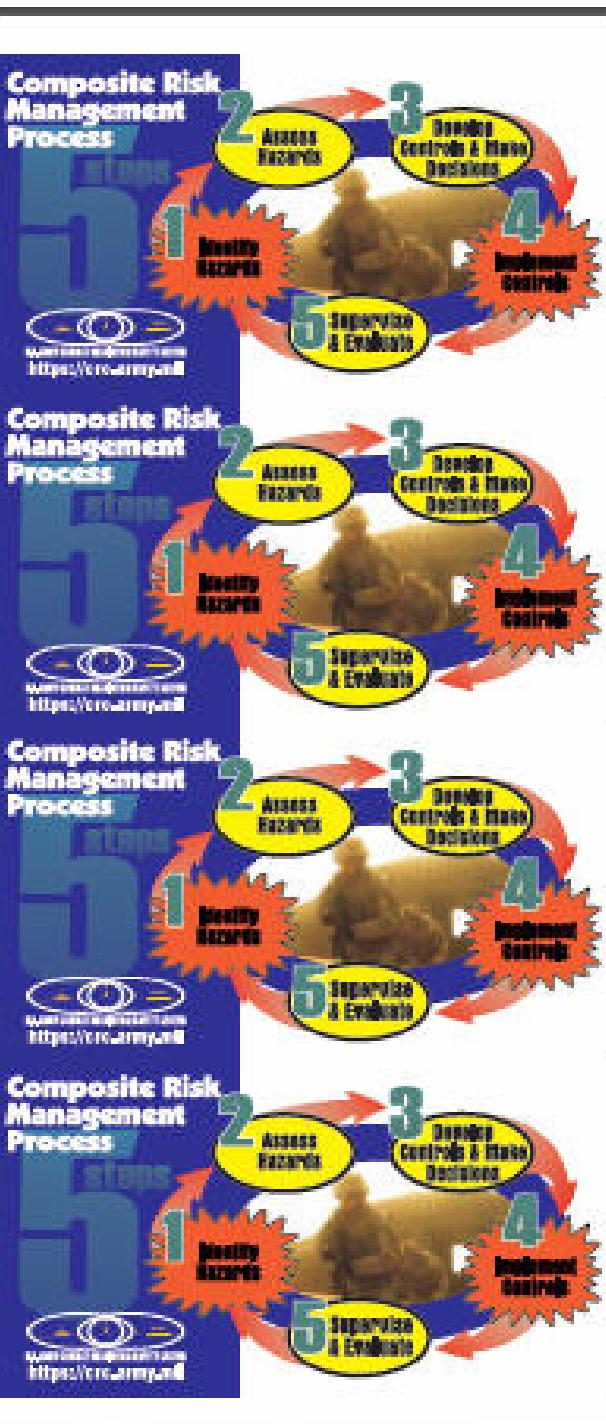
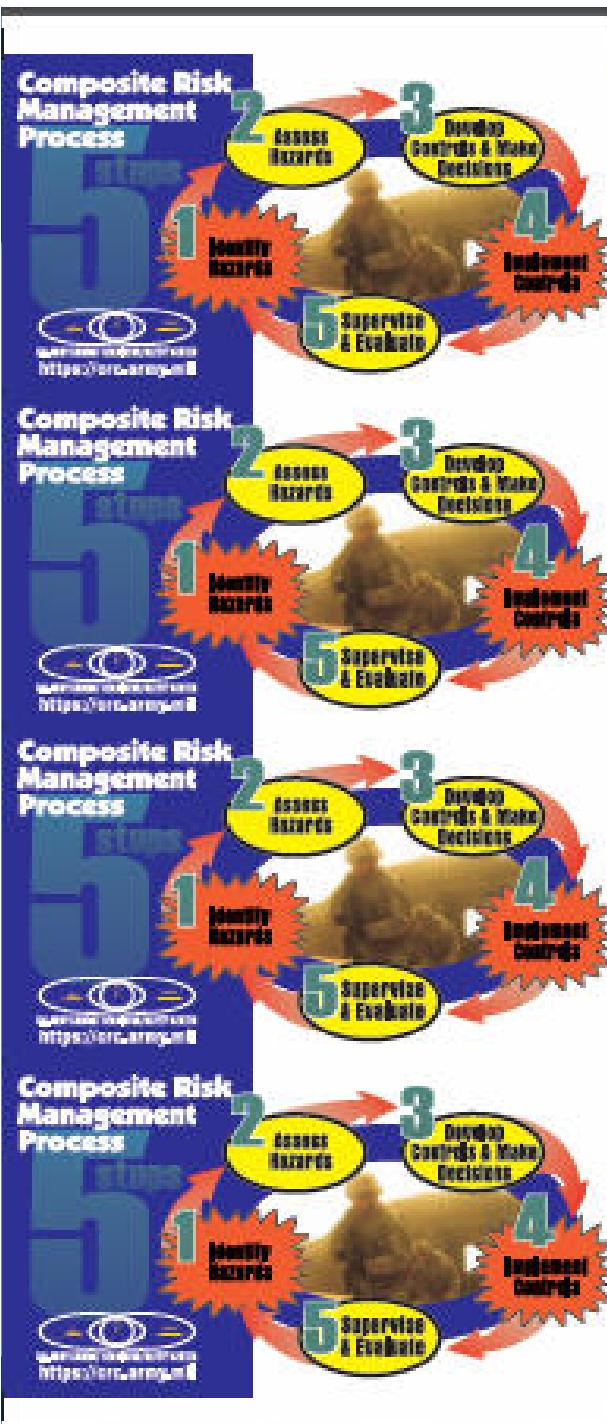
1. Document the approach:
2. Identify potential system hazards:
3. Assess severity and probability:
4. Identify mitigation measures:
5. Implementation of mitigation
6. Verify intended risk reduction:
7. Communicate residual risks:
8. Risk management after deployment;

- Haddon-Cave report:  
“If risk assessment has been conducted with proper skill, care and attention, the catastrophic fire risk ... would have been spotted”.
- Risk assessment:
  - no substitute for ‘sound judgement’.
  - “incompetence, complacency, cynicism”.
  - Documentation overwhelming;
  - Many trivial or irrelevant failure modes;
  - Few combined failures across functions;
  - Most help for large-scale procurements.

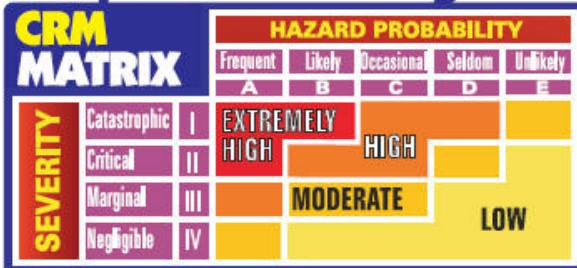
- Techniques to address operational risk:
  - Low cost, approximations, rules of thumb;
  - Where necessary should trigger HAZOPS etc.

“When engineering analysis and risk assessments are condensed to fit on a standard form or overhead slide, information is inevitably lost”.

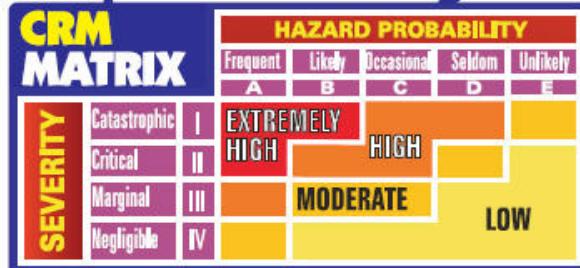
- On the other hand:
  - You cannot capture everything...
  - Limited time, limited training, present threats.



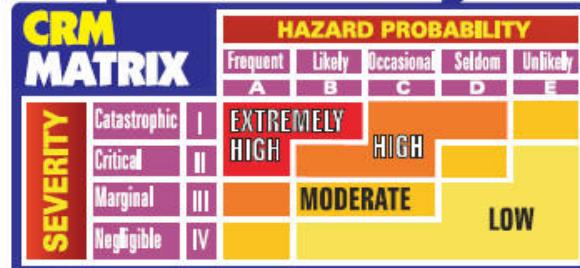
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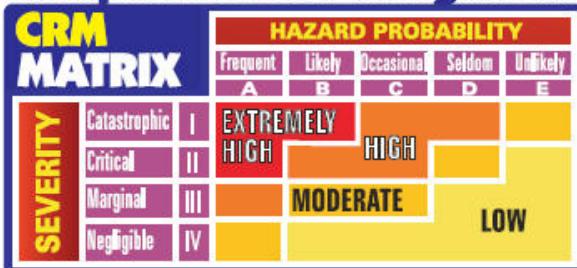
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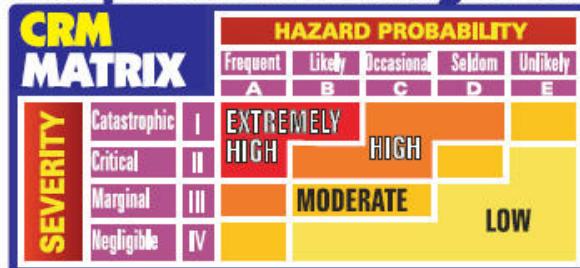
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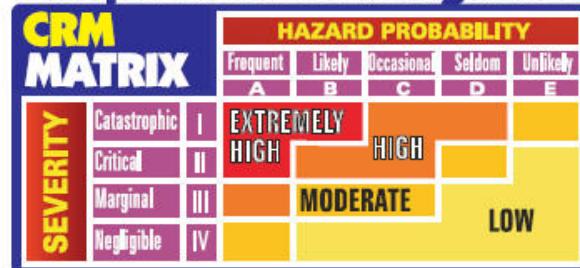
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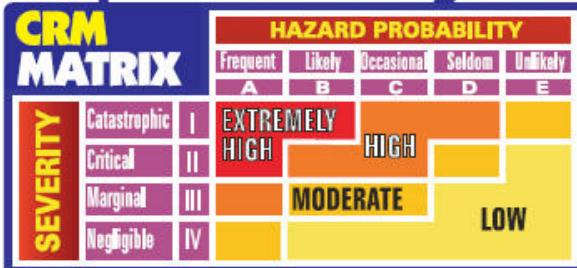
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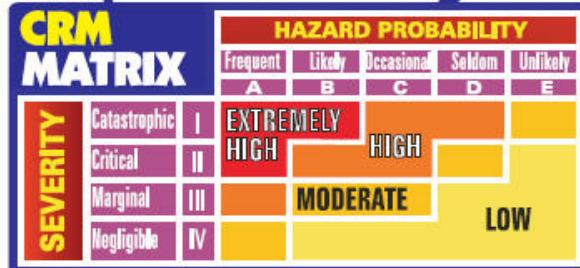
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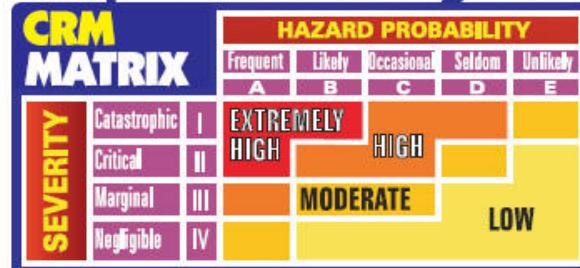
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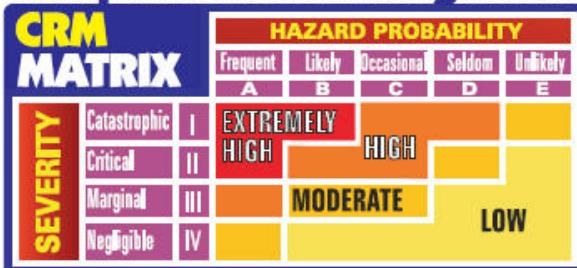
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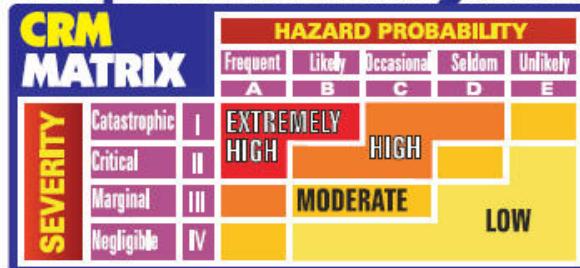
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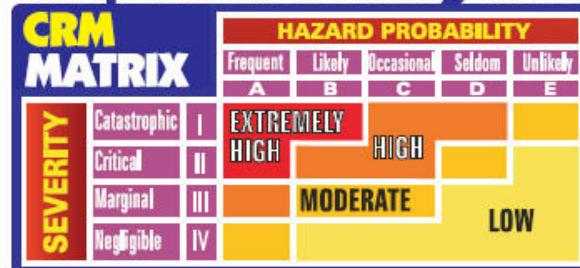
## Composite Risk Management



## Composite Risk Management



## Composite Risk Management



ROTARY-WING RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX										
1. SUPERVISION CMD/CONTROL		(Risk Value/Mission) VALUE		2. PLANNING GUIDANCE		(Risk Value/Time) IN-DEPTH				
		TACTICAL DAY/NIGHT		Vague		3	4	5		
Parent Unit		1	1	Implied		2	3	4		
Attached		2	3	Specific		1	2	3		
3. CREW SEL/PC		(Risk Value/Fit Hrs)		4. CREW SEL/PI		(Risk Value/Fit Hrs)				
TIME IN		TOTAL TIME		TIME IN		TOTAL TIME				
AO*		>2000	<2000	<1000	<500	AO*	>2000	<2000	<1000	<500
<25		3	4	5	6	<25	3	4	5	6
>50		2	3	4	5	>50	2	3	4	5
>50		1	2	3	4	>50	1	2	3	4
5. CREW SEL/ADD		(Risk Value/Fit Hrs)		6. ALL CREW MEMBERS ARE CREW COORDINATION TRAINED						
TIME IN		TOTAL TIME								
AO*		>2000	<2000	<1000	<500	No	+2			
<25		3	4	5	6	Yes	0			
50		2	3	4	5					
>50		1	2	3	4					
7. ALL TASKS REQUIRED ON THIS MISSION ARE SUPPORTED BY THE UNIT MISSION ESSENTIAL TASK LIST (METL)					8. CREW ENDURANCE (Risk Value/Fit Hrs)					
Yes					QUALITY	>8 HRS	6-8 HRS	<6 HRS		
No					OF REST	Field	2	6	10	
#Requires bn cdr approval.					Garrison	1	4	10		
					Add 2 for missions flown during the last half of the duty day.					
9. COMPLEXITY TYPE OF MISSION		(Value/Condition)								
		VMC	VMC	NVG	IMC	(Risk Value/Ceiling/Visibility)				
		D	N	HOOD		<1000/3 <700/2 <500/1 >1000/				
Multiship		2	6	4	NA	D	3	4	6	
Sling load		2	3	5	NA	N	4	6	10	
Stabo/Rappel		1	2	4	NA	NVG	3	4	8	
Terrain Flt		1	3	2	NA					
Paradrop		2	2	NA	NA					
Routine		1	2	2	3					
NOE		2	8	4	NA					
MTP		3	5	NA	NA					
Maint Recovery		3	5	NA	NA					
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS										
* Area of operations.										
** Visibility values are given in miles.										

ROTARY-WING RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX									
12. NVG CREW SEL/PC (Total NVG Time)					13. NVG CREW SEL/PI (Total NVG Time)				
>150 <150 <100 <50 <25					>150 <150 <100 <50 <25				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
14. NVG CREW SEL/ADD (Total NVG Time)					15. PERCENT OF ILLUMINATION (NVG)				
>150 <150 <100 <50 <25					100-80 79-60 59-40 30-23 <23				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
16. MOON ANGLE (NVG)					17. ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS (NVG)				
90-70 69-50 49-30 <30									
0	1	2	3						
RISK VALUES: DAY/NIGHT MISSIONS					RISK VALUES: DAY/NIGHT MISSIONS				
1. Supervision	12. NVG Crew Selection/PC								
2. Planning	13. NVG Crew Selection/PI								
3. Crew Selection/PC	14. NVG Crew Selection/Add								
4. Crew Selection/PI	15. Illumination								
5. Crew Selection/Add	16. Moon Angle (NVG)								
6. Crew Coordination Trained	17. Additional Risk Factors								
7. METL Task	TOTAL NVG MISSIONS								
8. Crew Endurance	TOTAL DAY/NIGHT MISSIONS								
9. Complexity									
10. Weather									
11. Additional Risk Factors	TOTAL RISK VALUE NVG								
TOTAL									
COMPUTATIONS DAY/NIGHT MISSIONS									
Low Risk <16					COMPUTATIONS NVG MISSIONS				
Medium Risk 16-28*					Low Risk <25				
High Risk >29**					Medium Risk 25-40*				
					High Risk 41-50**				
					Extremely High >50***				
* Medium-risk missions require approval of the company commander.									
** High-risk missions require approval of the battalion commander.									
*** Extremely high-risk missions require approval of the brigade commander.									
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS									
•US Army TC 1-210									

## Regulatory Change Management Coordination Form

Note: The Regulator's representative should complete this form and send it back to the Quality and Safety Management section before the process of change is initiated. This form indicates clearly the level of information or involvement expected by the regulator in the change being proposed by the ANSP. This process is applicable only to Major Changes proposed by the ANSP.

Type of Change:

People	Equipment	Procedures
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational	Technical	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Brief Description of the Change

The Change process is expected to be initiated on:

The Regulator after analysing the presented change proposal requests:

- To be involved and invited for the safety assessment
- To be given a copy of the final document of the change
- Not to be involved and the ANSP may proceed
- More information

Name..... Date..... Sign..... (for Regulator)

Name..... Date..... Sign..... (for ANSP)



# Any Questions?

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