

## Exercise 5 Overview

### Unit 5

#### Purpose

The purpose of this exercise is to provide Students with an opportunity to prioritize hazards and risks.

#### Objectives

Students will:

- Use an assigned method to prioritize the list of 10 hazards and risks that the class identified in Exercise 4.
- Compare the results of the different prioritization methods.

#### Exercise Structure

This exercise will last approximately 45 minutes, including small group discussion and presentation of group findings. The Instructor will assign each group one of the four prioritization methods discussed in Unit 5. The Students will gather in small groups to discuss the hazards and risks identified by the class in Exercise 4 and prioritize each hazard or risk using their assigned method. Each group will present their findings to the rest of the class to compare the results of the different prioritization methods.

#### Rules, Roles, and Responsibilities

The following are the specific activities and instructions for your participation in the exercise:

1. Within your small group, select a group spokesperson.
2. Prioritize the hazards and risks that the class agreed to use at the end of Exercise 4.
3. Present your responses to the rest of the class.
4. Compare the results of the different prioritization methods.

## Exercise 5 Schedule

Activity	Duration	Participation Type
Exercise Introduction and Overview	2 minutes	Classroom
Discuss and Document	15 minutes	Small groups
Debrief and Review	30 minutes	Classroom

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## Exercise 6 Overview

### Unit 5

#### Purpose

The purpose of this exercise is to provide Students with an opportunity to identify potential mitigations for the hazards and risks identified in Exercise 4.

#### Objectives

Students will identify potential mitigations for each hazard and risk identified in Exercise 4.

#### Exercise Structure

This exercise will last approximately 45 minutes, including small group discussion and presentation of group findings. The participants will gather in small groups to suggest potential mitigations for the hazards and risks identified in Exercise 4, beginning with the list of 10 hazards and risks selected by the class during that exercise. Each group will present their findings to the rest of the class.

#### Rules, Roles, and Responsibilities

The following are the specific activities and instructions for your participation in the exercise:

1. Within your small group, select a group spokesperson.
2. Discuss potential mitigations for each hazard and risk identified in Exercise 4.
3. Present your responses to the rest of the class.

## Exercise 6 Schedule

Activity	Duration	Participation Type
Exercise Introduction and Overview	2 minutes	Classroom
Discuss and Document	15 minutes	Small groups
Debrief and Review	30 minutes	Classroom

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# How to Properly Refuse Risk

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Every individual has the right and obligation to report safety problems and contribute ideas regarding their safety. Supervisors are expected to give these concerns and ideas serious consideration. When an individual feels an assignment is unsafe, they also have the obligation to identify, to the degree possible, safe alternatives for completing that assignment. Turning down an assignment is one possible outcome of managing risk.

A “turn down” is a situation where an individual has determined they cannot undertake an assignment as given **and** they are unable to negotiate an alternative solution. The turn down of an assignment must be based on an assessment of risks and the ability of the individual or organization to control those risks.

- Individuals may turn down an assignment as unsafe when:
  - There is a violation of safe work practices.
  - Environmental conditions make the work unsafe.
  - They lack the necessary qualifications or experience.
  - Defective equipment is being used.
- Individual will directly inform their Supervisor that they are turning down the assignment as given. The most appropriate means to document the turn down is using the criteria (Standard Firefighting Orders, 18 Watchout Situations, etc.), outlined in the Risk Management Process.
- Supervisor will notify the Safety Officer **immediately** upon being informed of the turn down. If there is no Safety Officer, notification shall go to the appropriate Section Chief or to the Incident Commander. This provides accountability for decisions and initiates communication of safety concerns within the incident organization.
  - If the Supervisor asks another resource to perform the assignment, they are responsible to inform the new resource that the assignment has been turned down and the reasons that it was turned down.
  - If an unresolved safety hazard exists or an unsafe act was committed, the individual should also document the turn down by submitting a SAFENET (ground hazard) or SAFECOM (aviation hazard) form in a timely manner.

These actions do not stop an operation from being carried out. This protocol is integral to the effective management of risk, as it provides timely identification of hazards to the chain of command, raises risk awareness for both leaders and subordinates, and promotes accountability.

From the *Fireline Handbook* (March 2004)

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