

DID YOU KNOW?

USMC SAFETY & FORCE PRESERVATION



MARCH 2011

MARINE CORPS CLIMATE ASSESSMENT SURVEY SYSTEM (MCASS) ISSUE PAPERS

The Ground Climate Assessment Survey System (GCASS), Command Safety Assessment (CSA), and the Maintenance Climate Assessment System (MCAS) are barometers for a command to assess its organizational safety atmosphere through an online survey that targets the perceptions and experiences of all hands. Aviation units are required to complete a CSA/MCAS both annually, as well as just after a change-of-command. Aviation units may also complete the GCASS, to help build a better picture of their overall safety posture. Ground units are also to complete the GCASS under the same timeline as aviation units – annually and post change-of-command. Once units complete the surveys, the CO then receives a debrief on the results via a representative of Advanced Survey Design LLC, the company that administers the survey.



MCASS ISSUE PAPERS

USING MCASS ISSUE PAPERS

Most Marines have seen or have taken a GCASS, CSA, or MCAS, but many do not know what becomes of their survey inputs and/or the compiled data. In an effort to provide benefit and insight to multiple units, Advanced Survey Design compiles information from all surveys and produces Issue Papers. These papers identify trends without revealing individual inputs or unit-specific data. They are effective tools for commanders, safety representatives, and higher headquarters staff, helping them to understand the perceptions and attitudes expressed by other units, as well as to help guide and mold unit safety dialogue. The papers compile data gathered beyond individual unit boundaries, pose questions to consider and provide potential recommendations on the topics they cover. Units can, in turn, use this information to proactively address a wide range of concerns and issues, which is essential in the creation of a functional safety culture. The papers provide insight not otherwise readily available to a commander and make potential recommendations on specific safety themes that units can use to formulate risk mitigation plans. Units can also use the substance from these papers to develop intervention strategies, craft COs liberty brief speaking points, assist in the production of safety stand down presentations, or can be safety board topics/safety newsletter “bullets.”

Electronic copies of these Issue Papers are located on both the CSA website, www.safetyclimatesurveys.org, and the GCASS website, www.semperisurveys.org, under the “Issue Paper” link on both sites’ homepages. The Issue Papers are listed both individually in a summary format, as well as indexed by subject matter. As of 15 March, there were 105 CSA Issue Papers and 32 GCASS Issue Papers. Commanders, unit safety offices, and other key unit leadership can identify the documents most pertinent to their safety goals from the websites and obtain these papers by calling Advanced Survey Design at 1-888-603-3170 or by sending an email to surveys@advancedsurveydesign.com and asking for access to the contents of the papers. Units should periodically revisit both websites as the list of issue papers will continue to expand.

