

# SAFETY GRAM



## Marine Corps Mishap Synopsis & Lessons Learned

Issue 13 - March 2012

Safety Division's *Monthly Safety Gram* is provided to senior leaders to maintain awareness of mishap trends that directly affect the operational readiness of the Corps. This information should also be disseminated at every level of your command to assist high-risk Marines and Sailors in understanding the impact of the decisions they make every day both on and off-duty.

### March 2012: Mishap Summary

The mishaps below occurred throughout the Marine Corps from March 1 - March 31, 2012 causing serious injury or death to Marines, and/or damage to equipment.

**04 Mar 2012:** Marine was at a unit demolition range when a 40 lb cratering charge was detonated causing a large piece of earth to strike him on the back, fracturing several his ribs.

**04 Mar 2012:** Marine lost control of his vehicle while passing another vehicle causing the vehicle to hit a tree. He was transported to a hospital with a fractured ankle, bruised lung, and brain bleeding and swelling. The Marine had a BAC of .02, which was a contributing factor in this mishap.

**17 Mar 2012:** Two Marines were involved in a motor vehicle accident in which their vehicle hydro-planed and hit a tree. The passenger in the vehicle, was found unresponsive and was later pronounced deceased from massive brain hemorrhaging. The driver was not injured in the mishap, however he had a BAC over .08 and was subsequently charged with DUI and vehicular manslaughter.

**22 Mar 2012:** Marine exited a vehicle to move a barricade and pinched two fingers on her right hand as she lifted the barricade. She was transported to the hospital and diagnosed with two broken fingers.



**22 Mar 12:** AH-1W struck a wire.

**23 Mar 2012:** Marine was part of the HIMARS Licensing Course and was riding in the turret of the vehicle during the night driving portion of the course. The vehicle hit a dip in the terrain causing the Marine to fall off of the vehicle and was taken to the hospital for severe pain in his arm and leg.

**24 Mar 12:** Pressure washer wand impacted engine compressor section during off-line engine power recovery wash.

**25 Mar 12:** MV-22B hard landing while conducting a LLL reduced visibility insert.

**29 Mar 2012:** Marine shot himself in the left foot during Table 3A qualifications at the range. He was immediately evacuated to the hospital and underwent surgery for the wound.

**31 Mar 2012:** A HMMWV caught fire while traveling on the interstate, the fire suppression system was engaged but was unable to put the fire out. No Marines were injured.

### Did You Know?

- ★ Check out Safety Division's latest "Did You Know?" newsletters here: [www.marines.mil/unit/Safety/Pages/did\\_you\\_know.aspx](http://www.marines.mil/unit/Safety/Pages/did_you_know.aspx)
- ★ Find Safety Division's new blog on [MilSuite](http://www.milsuite.com) by visiting: <https://www.milsuite.com/book/groups/cmc-safety-division>

## Identifying High-Risk

**Force Preservation Councils (FPCs)** are important venues conducted by leadership to do the following:

- A. Review and assess a Marine's or Sailor's personal and professional history in order to identify high risk indicators.
- B. Implement corrective actions and resources.
- C. Improve cohesiveness and operational readiness within a unit.
- D. Monitor the well-being of personnel.

The underlying "personal turbulence" of a Marine or Sailor can jeopardize a unit's mission and may lead to suicide, substance abuse or a mishap - resulting in death. It is critical that FPCs monitor and track the personal turbulence through any means. One example is developing a Marine assessment worksheet based on the construct of an operational risk management (ORM) matrix or utilizing an FPC checklist that CMC (SD) has developed.

The checklist is titled, "Potential High-Risk Indicator Flags" and can be found at [http://www.marines.mil/unit/safety/Pages/Force\\_Preservation\\_Council.aspx](http://www.marines.mil/unit/safety/Pages/Force_Preservation_Council.aspx).

The screenshot displays the CMC Safety Division website. At the top is the logo for the CMC SAFETY DIVISION FORCE PRESERVATION. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for Home, Contact, Organization, Branches, and Resources. The main content area is titled "Force Preservation Council Resources" and includes sections for EFPB Guidance (with links to MARADMIN 240/11 and 308/11), FPC Framework (with links to the framework and a message from DTG 151405 Apr11), and Scenarios (with a link to sample scenarios).

## Marine Ground Climate Assessment Survey (GCASS) Issue Papers

**NEW!** A new feature has been added to the climate assessment process. Now, unit survey administrators can request that a few tailored survey items be added to select surveys (GCA, ASPA, and HHQ surveys) during the survey set-up process. To assist administrators in selecting potential survey items, a list of candidate items has been added to the website menu ("2.f Add a Survey Item [www.semperfisurveys.org/?page=542&suKey=124](http://www.semperfisurveys.org/?page=542&suKey=124)") This feature provides unit commanders and safety personnel with the ability to drill down in areas of specific interest to their unit. The feature has already been used by a few units. Check it out!

### Marine Ground Climate Assessment Surveys

#### Recent Issue Papers:

- [Issue Paper # 49](#) - Cutting Corners to Accomplish the Job/Mission
- [Issue Paper # 48](#) - Qualifications
- [Issue Paper # 47](#) - Individuals Comfortable Reporting Safety-Related Issues?
- [Issue Paper # 46](#) - Authority to Halt Unsafe Activities
- [Issue Paper # 45](#) - ORM, Surveys, & Stand-downs: A Powerful Combination

### Naval Aviation Climate Assessment Surveys

#### Recent Issue Papers:

- [Issue Paper # 123](#) - Conflicts Between Individuals
- [Issue Paper # 122](#) - Tool Quantity/Quality
- [Issue Paper # 121](#) - Tactics Training vs. Basic Flying Skills Training
- [Issue Paper # 120](#) - Flight Safety and Aircrew Proficiency
- [Issue Paper # 119](#) - Contractor Maintenance (CTR) Survey

The screenshot shows the U.S. Marine Corps Ground Climate Assessment Survey System (GCASS) website. The header includes the Marine Corps logo and the text "U.S. Marine Corps Ground Climate Assessment Survey System (GCASS)". A navigation menu on the left lists options from "1 - TAKE A SURVEY" to "13 - HOME". The main content area features several icons representing different survey categories: DRINKING & DRIVING, DUTY & RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES, HIGHER HQ, SUPPORT PERSONNEL, and GROUND CLIMATE ASSESSMENT. There is also a section for "AVIATION COMMANDS ONLY" with a link to the CSAMCAS site.

Set up a survey and find more Issue Papers at: [www.SemperFiSurveys.org](http://www.SemperFiSurveys.org)

## The Latest from the Naval Safety Center

New Mishap Videos - The NSC is kicking off a "Prevent the Preventable" campaign with a lively character called "Mishap." The campaign conveys the fact that a mishap may be waiting for you at any time. You can see the promotional video and the first video in the series ("Don't 'Fall' Victim to Mishap") at <http://www.public.navy.mil/navsafecen/Pages/video/mishaps-ntp.aspx>.

Summer Safety Campaign Planning Underway - The NSC is beginning to plan and assemble the resources that will be part of their annual summer safety campaign. What sort of topics would you like to have them include? What kinds of things can they provide that will be most effective for your Marines and their families? We welcome your suggestions: [safe-mediafdbk@navy.mil](mailto:safe-mediafdbk@navy.mil).

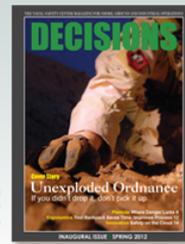
The first issue of "Decisions" magazine will be arriving this Spring, distributed to Navy, Marine and civilian readers at shore bases, aircraft squadrons, and shipyards. Decisions deals with managing risk, removing the potential for error, and improving performance. You will find articles about best practices, lessons learned, technological advances, research and development, new ideas, personal experiences, and risk-and-resource management strategies. The "Decisions" magazine home page is at <http://www.public.navy.mil/navsafecen/Pages/media/decisions/Index.aspx>.



THE NAVAL SAFETY CENTER MAGAZINE FOR SHORE, GROUND AND INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS

# DECISIONS

INAUGURAL ISSUE  
SPRING 2012



Contact the "Decisions" editor for submission guidelines and printing deadlines at: [evelyn.odango@navy.mil](mailto:evelyn.odango@navy.mil) or 757-444-3520, ext. 7220 (DSN 564-3520).

## Aviation Safety Grams

The Aviation Safety Grams referenced below are published on a monthly basis by the model managers with input from the squadron and released as messages. Use the Date-Time Group (DTG) referenced below in [AMHS](#) to view these messages in full.

### HMMT-164 DTG: 301844Z Mar 12

Discusses combating complacency in the HMM community as the CH-46E is retired.

### HMHT-302 DTG: 151812Z Mar 12

Discusses ORM and assessing risk when Dets return to CONUS.

### HMLAT-303 DTG: 261745Z Mar 12

Discusses the use of restraint systems for crew chiefs in the event of a crash.

### VMAT-203 DTG: 301841Z Mar 12

Discusses the importance of flight leadership based on good ORM and CRM in reducing mishaps.

### VMU-1 DTG: 261218Z Mar 12

Discusses a recommended NATOPS change and a method for ensuring accurate fuel flow delivered by the fuel pump.

### KC-130J ATU DTG: 021154Z Apr 12

Discusses the importance of the use of wing walkers while taxiing in congested areas.

### VMMT-204 DTG: 291846Z Mar 12

Discusses the ever present risk associated with fatigue.



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