PEACE Model

PEACE is a memory aid for elements considered essential in the safe and effective execution of any mission. Deficits or inefficiencies in these elements increases mission risk exposure. The objective of the risk management process is to identify, assess, and mitigate deficits in the PEACE elements to maintain mission risk level within safe limits.

The PEACE Model is an effective tool to conduct risk assessments and ensures that all critical mission elements are considered in the analysis. Each PEACE element is described below. For any mission, review tasks and activities to determine if/how each of the PEACE elements increase risk exposure. A risk assessment sheet using the PEACE elements is provided at the end of the discussion.

PEACE Element	Description	Sample Questions
Planning	Mission plans often have a shelf-life and can be out-of-date shortly after getting underway for any number of reasons. Always anticipate possible deviations, especially if you suspect your information is incomplete. Questions about planning prompt you to consider problems that may come up as to the quality of the mission context-related information (mission and conditions). Consider what could go wrong with equipment, personnel, the environment or mission if: 1. The team has incorrect or insufficient information. 2. The team has not clarified methods of performing key tasks, such as charting plot points for navigation through shoal waters. 3. Roles are left unclear or unassigned.	What could go wrong with equipment, personnel, the environment or mission if: 1. You have incorrect or insufficient information? 2. Next steps are unclear or undefined? 3. Roles are unclear or not assigned?

Event Complexity	Event complexity depends on the amount of data, number of participants, and number of steps that must be performed with little margin for error. Each unit defines their own level of comfort with an evolution, typically based on their capabilities and recent experience. A break down in ability to process data or execute a series of activities correctly at the right time can lead to mishaps. Consider what could go wrong with equipment, personnel, or the environment if: 1. Coordination with other agencies, assets, or units breaks down. 2. The crew performs a series of finely-tuned activities incorrectly. 3. The crew is unable to continually monitor multiple dynamic data streams.	What could go wrong with equipment, personnel, or the environment if: 1. Coordination with other agencies, assets, or units breaks down? 2. The crew performs a series of finely-tuned activities incorrectly? 3. The crew is unable to continually monitor multiple dynamic data streams?
Assets	Specific assets may be associated with specific hazards for a given evolution. Assets include equipment, event platform performance tolerance thresholds, and personnel details such as experience and confidence. Considering assets provides individuals the opportunity to apply their own subjective assessment. Are they stressed? Are they alert, confident? Consider what could go wrong with equipment or personnel if: 1. A platform is used in its current condition for the evolution. 2. The operational experience, fitness, and confidence of the crew is inadequate. 3. The fitness level (e.g., rest, hydration, nutrition) of the crew is not satisfactory.	What could go wrong with equipment, personnel, or the environment if: 1. A platform is used in its current condition for the evolution? 2. The operational experience, fitness, and confidence of the crew is inadequate? 3. The fitness level (e.g., rest, hydration, nutrition) the crew is not satisfactory?

Communication and Supervision	Poor communication and supervision can impair the crew's ability to maintain situational awareness and receive feedback about decisions (including making risk decisions at the appropriate level). Consider what could go wrong with equipment, personnel, the environment or mission if: 1. The crew cannot communicate with the command center. 2. There are communications problems amongst the crew.	What could go wrong with equipment, personnel, or the environment if: 1. The crew cannot communicate with the command center? 2. There are communications problems between amongst the crew?
Environment	Environment: How will weather, geographic influences, physical barriers, workplace climate, and available light affect the event? Consider what could go wrong with equipment, personnel, the environment or mission given the: 1. Weather 2. Illumination 3. Debris in water 4. Congested AOR 5. Airspace conflicts	What could go wrong with if there are changes in the: 1. Weather 2. Illumination 3. Debris in water 4. Congested AOR 5. Airspace

STAAR Model

STAAR is also a memory aid for potential strategies used to mitigate/control risk. Review each of the strategies and consider how you may be able to apply them in operational settings to reduce risk. The risk assessment sheet at the end of this section integrates STAAR into the risk assessment process. For any hazard identified, ask whether any of the following can be used to reduce risk exposure.

Element	Description
Spread out	Refers to the movement of forces, equipment, or tasks to other areas in order to avoid risk to the entire mission. For example, placing assets in a single area can lead to catastrophic losses if an explosion or fire breaks out. Spreading your resources can mitigate this potential risk by reducing the exposure of these resources in a single, combined area.
Transfer	Risk may be reduced by transferring all, or some portion, of the mission or task to another individual, unit or platform that is better positioned, more survivable, or more expendable. Transfer does not decrease the probability or severity of the risk to the unit but reduces risk to the total force.

Avoid	It may be possible to avoid specific risks by "going around" them or doing the mission or task in a different way. For example, risks associated with a night mission or task may be avoided by planning for daytime. This might present other hazards that would need to be identified and assessed.
Accept	Accept risk when the benefits clearly outweigh the costs, but only as much as necessary to accomplish the mission or task. For example, if operating in harsh conditions (e.g., extreme cold temperatures) accept the hazard, but provide more breaks for people to get into warmer spaces, issue warmer clothes, and/or provide portable heating devices.
Reduce	Reducing the number of individuals, equipment, or resources exposed to a particular risk is a simple way of mitigating overall risk. Although this strategy may reduce risk, it must be weighed carefully against potential consequence on mission success. In other words, reducing the number of people on deck exposed to extreme cold temperatures reduces risk to the member; few people on deck may compromise mission performance (e.g., few lookouts may result in missing targets).

General Assessment of Risk (GAR) 2.0

The GAR 2.0 is a convenient tool to capture the deliberations of the PEACE and STAAR elements, and integration of "Gain" information to make Warranted Risk decisions. Below are examples of the GAR 2.0 for Aviation, Afloat, and Ashore operations. *To emphasize, these are examples and units are authorized to refine the PEACE element descriptions and examples to align with operational reality.*

Units are also authorized to **add** elements to the GAR 2.0 form as needed. However, units are **not** authorized to remove any of the PEACE elements **nor** alter any of the scoring scales. The overall risk level score, recorded at the end of the assessment, must use the Low, Medium, or High scale. Ratings for the PEACE elements should also use the Low, Medium, or High scale provided. However, units may use more detailed scoring systems that may include mission specific default scores. If an alternate scoring system is used for the PEACE elements, the overall risk level score must be converted to the Low, Medium, or High scale. Maintaining the overall risk level scale is critical to standardize the risk assessment process across all communities. A standardized risk assessment score is vital for establishing a shared mental model throughout the chain-of-command, and ensure a common protocol and language when conducting joint operations.

Use the GAR 2.0 examples below to develop your unit's GAR 2.0.

USCG Afloat Risk Assessment

Mission: **Date:**

Step 1: Identify, Assess, & Mitigate Risk Elements

Instructions: To determine the level of risk for each element below, estimate the risk level based on the Low/Medium/High scale. If your perceived rating is Medium or High, explore mitigations. Draw a line through the risk zone that corresponds to the mitigated risk level and document the perceived risk(s) and mitigation(s) in the space provided.

Rate Risk Zone

Planning - Enough time and information to conduct thorough pre-mission planning. Consider: B-0 response, completeness of mission information and of on-scene details.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Complete	Partial	None
L	M	H

Event - Refers to mission complexity. Consider: non-standard mission profile, coordinating multi-agency/nationality, language barriers, not performed often, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Low	Moderate	Extreme
L	M	H

Asset – Crew – Proper number and skill set for the mission. Consider: time at unit, familiarity w/OP area, fatigue, u/w time, crew selection, adequate supervision, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Excellent	Marginal	Poor
L	M	H

Asset – Cutter/Boat Resources – Proper number and operational characteristics for mission. Consider: operational thresholds/limitations, status of equipment, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Ideal	Restrictions	Limitations
L	M	H

Communications/Supervision - Ability to maintain comms throughout mission. Consider: availability/quality of internal w/command and external w/customer.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Excellent	Partial	None
L	M	H

Environment - External conditions surrounding mission. Consider: weather, night/day, sea state, currents, water temp, air temp, visibility, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Ideal	Marginal	Extreme
L	M	H

Other (Unit Specific Element):

L	M	H

Other (Unit Specific Element):

L	M	H

Step 2: Determine Overall Risk Level

Consider: 1) the rating for each element above, 2) the importance of the element for mission execution, and 3) how elements may interact. Rate the perceived **Overall Risk Level** when considering this information. Circle the risk zone (***Low, Medium, or High***) that corresponds to your perceived overall risk level:

Low	Medium	High

*PEACE elements are required per COMDTINST 3500.3A. Additional unit specific elements are permitted.

USCG Afloat Risk Assessment

Step 3: Determine Risk vs. Gain: Do gains warrant the risk?

Step 3a. Enter the *Overall Risk Level* (*Step 2 on prior page*) in the **RISK** box below (*Low, Medium, or High*).

Step 3b. Review the definitions for Gain below and enter the level in the **GAIN** box below. (*Low, Medium, or High*).

Level of Gain

➤ **Low** – Situation with unclear benefits or a low probability for providing concrete results.
  Examples: passenger transport, non-critical logistics missions, and public affairs demonstrations.
➤ **Medium** – Situation that provides immediate and real benefits.
  Examples: saving property, protecting the environment, deterring illegal operations.
➤ **High** – Situation that provides immediate and real benefits that if ignored could result in loss of life.
  Examples: Urgent SAR and MEDEVACs.

	Vs.	
RISK		**GAIN**
(Low, Med, High)		**(Low, Med, High)**

Step 3c. Use the **Risk vs. Gain** values from above and follow the column and row until they cross. The intersecting point is the recommended action.

Example, if Risk is 'low' and Gain is 'medium', the recommendation is: "Accept the Mission. Continue to monitor Risk Factors, if conditions or mission changes".

Risk vs. Gain	High Gain	Medium Gain	Low Gain
Low Risk	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.
Medium Risk	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and employ Controls when available. Re-evaluate if conditions or mission change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and employ Controls when available. Re-evaluate if conditions or mission change.	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and continuously evaluate conditions and mission for change.
High Risk	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement.** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and monitor Risk Factors. Continuously evaluate conditions and mission change.	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement.** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and monitor Risk Factors. Continuously evaluate conditions and mission change.	**DO NOT Accept the Mission.** Communicate to Chain of Command. Wait until Risk Factors change or Controls are available to warrant Risk exposure.

NOTES:

USCG Ashore Risk Assessment

Mission: | **Date:**

Step 1: Identify, Assess, & Mitigate Risk Elements

Instructions: To determine the level of risk for each element below, estimate the risk level based on the Low/Medium/High scale. If your perceived rating is Medium or High, explore mitigations. Draw a line through the risk zone that corresponds to the mitigated risk level and document the perceived risk(s) and mitigation(s) in the space provided.

Rate RiskZone

Planning - Enough time and information to conduct thorough pre-mission planning. Consider: B-0 response, completeness of mission information and of on-scene details.
NOTES**/**MITIGATIONS:

Complete	Partial	None
L	M	H

Event - Refers to mission complexity. Consider: non-standard mission profile, coordinating multi-agency/nationality, language barriers, not performed often, etc.
NOTES**/**MITIGATIONS:

Low	Moderate	Extreme
L	M	H

Asset – Crew – Proper number and skill set for the mission. Consider: time at unit, familiarity w/OP area, fatigue, u/w time, crew selection, adequate supervision, etc.
NOTES**/**MITIGATIONS:

Excellent	Marginal	Poor
L	M	H

Asset – Cutter/Boat Resources – Proper number and operational characteristics for mission. Consider: operational thresholds/limitations, status of equipment, etc.
NOTES**/**MITIGATIONS:

Ideal	Restrictions	Limitations
L	M	H

Communications/Supervision - Ability to maintain comms throughout mission. Consider: availability/quality of internal w/command and external w/customer.
NOTES**/**MITIGATIONS:

Excellent	Partial	None
L	M	H

Environment - External conditions surrounding mission. Consider: weather, night/day, sea state, currents, water temp, air temp, visibility, etc.
NOTES**/**MITIGATIONS:

Ideal	Marginal	Extreme
L	M	H

Other (Unit Specific Element):

L	M	H

Other (Unit Specific Element):

L	M	H

Step 2: Determine Overall Risk Level

Consider: 1) the rating for each element above, 2) the importance of the element for mission execution, and 3) how elements may interact. Rate the perceived **Overall Risk Level** when considering this information. Circle the risk zone (*Low, Medium, or High*) that corresponds to your perceived overall risk level:

Low	**Medium**	**High**

*PEACE elements are required per COMDTINST 3500.3A. Additional unit specific elements are permitted.

USCG Ashore Risk Assessment

Step 3: Determine Risk vs. Gain: Do gains warrant the risk?

Step 3a. Enter the *Overall Risk Level* (*Step 2 on prior page*) in the **RISK** box below (*Low, Medium, or High*).

Step 3b. Review the definitions for Gain below and enter the level in the **GAIN** box below. (*Low, Medium, or High*).

Level of Gain

➢ **Low** – Situation with unclear benefits or a low probability for providing concrete results.
Examples: passenger transport, non-critical logistics missions, and public affairs demonstrations.

➢ **Medium** – Situation that provides immediate and real benefits.
Examples: saving property, protecting the environment, deterring illegal operations.

➢ **High** – Situation that provides immediate and real benefits that if ignored could result in loss of life.
Examples: Urgent SAR and MEDEVACs.

	Vs.	
RISK **(Low, Med, High)**		**GAIN** **(Low, Med, High)**

Step 3c. Use the **Risk vs. Gain** values from above and follow the column and row until they cross. The intersecting point is the recommended action.

Example, if Risk is 'low' and Gain is 'medium', the recommendation is: "Accept the Mission. Continue to monitor Risk Factors, if conditions or mission changes".

Risk vs. Gain	High Gain	Medium Gain	Low Gain
Low Risk	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.
Medium Risk	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and employ Controls when available. Re-evaluate if conditions or mission change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and employ Controls when available. Re-evaluate if conditions or mission change.	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and continuously evaluate conditions and mission for change.
High Risk	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement.** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and monitor Risk Factors. Continuously evaluate conditions and mission change.	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement.** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and monitor Risk Factors. Continuously evaluate conditions and mission change.	**DO NOT Accept the Mission.** Communicate to Chain of Command. Wait until Risk Factors change or Controls are available to warrant Risk exposure.

NOTES:

USCG Aviation Risk Assessment

Mission: | **Date:**

Step 1: Identify, Assess, & Mitigate Risk Elements

Instructions: To determine the level of risk for each element below, estimate the risk level based on the Low/Medium/High scale. If your perceived rating is Medium or High, explore mitigations. Draw a line through the risk zone that corresponds to the mitigated risk level and document the perceived risk(s) and mitigation(s) in the space provided.

Rate RiskZone

Planning - Enough time and information to conduct thorough pre-mission planning. Consider: B-0 response, completeness of mission information and of on-scene details.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Complete	Partial	None
L	M	H

Event - Refers to mission complexity. Consider: non-standard mission profile, coordinating multi-agency/nationality, language barriers, not performed often, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Low	Moderate	Extreme
L	M	H

Asset – Pilots – Proper number and skill set for the mission. Consider: time at unit, familiarity w/OP area, fatigue, u/w time, crew selection, adequate supervision, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Excellent	Marginal	Poor
L	M	H

Asset – Aircrew – Proper number and skill set for the mission. Consider: time at unit, familiarity w/OP area, fatigue, u/w time, crew selection, adequate supervision, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Ideal	Restrictions	Limitations
L	M	H

Asset – Airframe/Resources – Proper number and operational characteristics for mission. Consider: operational thresholds/limitations, status of equipment, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Excellent	Partial	None
L	M	H

Communications/Supervision - Ability to maintain comms throughout mission. Consider: availability/quality of internal w/command and external w/customer.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

Ideal	Marginal	Extreme
L	M	H

Environment - External conditions surrounding mission. Consider: weather, night, illum, mountain terrain, alternate airfields, on-scene cover, etc.
NOTES/MITIGATIONS:

L	M	H

Other (Unit Specific Element):

L	M	H

Step 2: Determine Overall Risk Level

Consider: 1) the rating for each element above, 2) the importance of the element for mission execution, and 3) how elements may interact. Rate the perceived **Overall Risk Level** when considering this information. Circle the risk zone (*Low, Medium, or High*) that corresponds to your perceived overall risk level:

Low	Medium	High

*PEACE elements are required per COMDTINST 3500.3A. Additional unit specific elements are permitted.

USCG Aviation Risk Assessment

Step 3: Determine Risk vs. Gain: Do gains warrant the risk?

Step 3a. Enter the *Overall Risk Level* (*Step 2 on prior page*) in the **RISK** box below (*Low, Medium, or High*).

Step 3b. Review the definitions for Gain below and enter the level in the **GAIN** box below. (*Low, Medium, or High*).

Level of Gain

➤ **Low** – Situation with unclear benefits or a low probability for providing concrete results.
  Examples: passenger transport, non-critical logistics missions, and public affairs demonstrations.
➤ **Medium** – Situation that provides immediate and real benefits.
  Examples: saving property, protecting the environment, deterring illegal operations.
➤ **High** – Situation that provides immediate and real benefits that if ignored could result in loss of life.
  Examples: Urgent SAR and MEDEVACs.

RISK	**Vs.** **GAIN**
(Low, Med, High)	(Low, Med, High)

Step 3c. Use the **Risk vs. Gain** values from above and follow the column and row until they cross. The intersecting point is the recommended action.
Example, if Risk is 'low' and Gain is 'medium', the recommendation is: "Accept the Mission. Continue to monitor Risk Factors, if conditions or mission changes".

Risk vs. Gain	High Gain	Medium Gain	Low Gain
Low Risk	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and re-evaluate if conditions or mission/activities change.
Medium Risk	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and employ Controls when available. Re-evaluate if conditions or mission change.	**Accept the Mission.** Monitor Risk Factors and employ Controls when available. Re-evaluate if conditions or mission change.	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and continuously evaluate conditions and mission for change.
High Risk	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement.** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and monitor Risk Factors. Continuously evaluate conditions and mission change.	**Accept the Mission Only with Command Endorsement.** Communicate Risk vs. Gain to Chain of Command. Implement Controls and monitor Risk Factors. Continuously evaluate conditions and mission change.	**DO NOT Accept the Mission.** Communicate to Chain of Command. Wait until Risk Factors change or Controls are available to warrant Risk exposure.

NOTES: