

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT MATRIX

Hazard Identification	Low	Pt.	Moderate	Pt.	High *	Pt.	Controls
Man							
Pilot Experience/Training	≥1000 hrs PIC	0	≥250-1000 hrs PIC	2	≤250 hrs PIC	4	
Pilot Mission Time	≥1000 hrs msn	0	≥50-100 hrs msn	2	≤50 hrs msn time	3	
Observer	time ≥100 hrs msn	0	≥20-100 hrs msn	1	≤20 hrs msn time	3	
Scanner	time ≥20 hrs msn	0	≥10-20 hrs msn	1	≤5 hrs msn time	2	
Pilot Currency	≥10 hrs within last 30 days	0	≥5<10 hrs within last 30 days	2	<5 hrs within last 30 days	4	
Health/Crew Rest	Good health and proper crew rest	0	Fair health and/or signs of fatigue	2	Poor health and/or fatigued	N/G	
Machine							
Maintenance Factors Minimum Equipment List if applicable	Fully functional	0	Partially functional, MEL intact	1	Nonfunctional, MEL discrepancies	N/G	
Performance Factors	<5000' MSL search altitude	0	≥5000' <9000' MSL search altitude	1	≥9000' MSL search altitude	3	
Communications	Good comm, high bird available	0	Some blind spots no high bird	1	Poor comm. No high bird	3	
Mission							
Operations Tempo	1 search aircraft	0	2-4 search aircraft	1	>4 search aircraft	3	
Complexity	Simple tasks, no new technology	0	Complex tasks, no new technology	1	Complex tasks, new technology	3	
Environment							
Weather Additionally, check winds aloft	X-winds = calm Visibility = 7+ Ceiling = none Hazards = none	0	X-winds 5≤15 kts Visibility 3<7 Ceiling ≤1500' Icing = none Hazards = light turbulence	2 2 2 0 1	X-winds >15 kts Visibility <3 Ceiling = <500' Icing ≥ light Hazards = mod to severe turbulence	N/G	
Terrain	Low, flat	0	Foothills, featureless	2	High, mountainous	4	
Search Altitude	>2000' AGL		≤2000' ≥1000' AGL	1	<1000' AGL	3	
Night Operations	VFR w/Current Instrument Rating	5	VFR w/out Instrument Rating	10	IMC	15	
Airfield	Familiar	0	Unfamiliar	2			
Additional Entries							
TOTALS:							
Overall Risk Assessment					Initials (if required)		Date/Time
Low Risk = 0 – 30 Flight Release Officer Approval							
Moderate Risk = 31 -34 Squadron DO/CC Approval required							
High Risk = 35 or greater IC/Wing DO Approval required							
NO GO (N/G)							

* Implement suitable controls for any item in the High range

For moderate and high risk missions, notify the approval authority of the risk level, the threats driving the risk, and the control measures being used to mitigate the threat. The key to implementing ORM is identifying the threat and incorporating a control method to limit the impact of the threat. Common methods of threat reduction listed with some typical responses:

Limit Crew Duty Day – “We will be on the ground by 0300 hours...”

Change crew makeup – “I’m not flying today” or “We need a more experienced or better-rested crew member...”

Change mission profile – “We will wait until sunup or until weather conditions improve before we launch.”

Identify controls for specific threats – “Its at night and we have high terrain, so the minimum altitude we will operate at is 5200’...”