



STUDENT WORKBOOK

Situation Awareness

Overview:

The intent of this module is to initiate a discussion on observations and sensemaking in order to improve situational awareness.

Exercise Instructions:

Watch the video, and then divide into groups. Take 15-20 minutes and discuss the questions below. Share your answers with the whole class when complete.

Exercise

Situation awareness is an on-going process of gathering information through observation and communication with others. Through sensemaking these observations form an individual's perception of a given situation. The video discusses attention traps. Attention traps can narrow our focus onto a single element in an environment to the exclusion of other important signals.

- What are some examples of attention traps on the fireline?
- How can these attention traps be mitigated?

Sensemaking is the process of putting meaning to our observations and experiences.

- How does group interaction and communication help you to think critically about the situation you are faced with?
- How can you participate in the group sensemaking process?

Our situation awareness helps us to anticipate how future events might play out and make decisions that have the best chance of leading to safe mission accomplishment.

- How can you be ready to adapt your plan when faced with a changing situation?

Remember the next time you walk onto the fireline, that your situation awareness will never be perfect but it can always be better.

Submit feedback for the 2016 Fire Refresher using the QR code below.

