

TRAINING SUPPORT PACKAGE (TSP) FOR TASK TITLE(S):  
Implement Weapons and Range Safety Programs

# **Leaders Safety Course**

## **Weapons and Range Safety**



**TSP NO: LSC-08-0003**

**DATE: 15 April 2008**

**THIS PACKAGE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED FOR: Safety Officers, Additional Duty Safety Officers, and Safety Leaders**

**PROPONENT FOR THIS TSP: United States Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center,  
ATTN: Dr. Brenda Miller, Director, G-7**

**FOREIGN DISCLOSURE RESTRICTIONS:** This product has been reviewed by the product developers in coordination with the CRC foreign disclosure authority. This product is releasable to students from all requesting foreign countries without restrictions.

## TRAINING SUPPORT PACKAGE (TSP)

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<b>TSP Number / Title</b>	LSC-08-003 / Weapons and Range Safety
<b>Effective Date</b>	15 April 2008
<b>Supersedes TSP(s) / Lesson(s)</b>	NA. This is a new TSP.
<b>TSP Users</b>	Safety Officers, Additional Duty Safety Officers, and Safety Leaders
<b>Proponent</b>	The proponent for this document is the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center, Fort Rucker, Alabama
<b>Improvement Comments</b>	<p>Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028, <i>Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms</i>. Completed forms, or equivalent response, will be mailed or attached to electronic e-mail and transmitted to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">U.S. Army combat Readiness Safety Center (USACRSC) ATTN: G-7, Building 4905, 5th Avenue Fort Rucker, AL 36362-5363</p>
<b>Security Clearance / Access</b>	Unclassified
<b>Foreign Disclosure Restrictions</b>	FD5. This product/publication has been reviewed by the product developers in coordination with the Commander, U.S. Combat Readiness Safety Center, Fort Rucker, AL, foreign disclosure authority. This product is releasable to students from all requesting foreign countries without restrictions.

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## PREFACE

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### **Purpose**

This Training Support Package (TSP) is one of ten modules developed for the Leaders Safety Course. The TSP provides the instructor with a standardized lesson plan for presenting instruction on *Implementing Weapons and Range Safety Programs*. PowerPoint slides that correlate to the TSP are provided separately.

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**This TSP  
Contains**

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**Weapons and Range Safety  
TSP LSC-08-0003 / Version 1  
15 April 2008**

**SECTION I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA**

**All Courses Including This Lesson**

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Version</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
LSC-08-0000	1	Leaders Safety Course

**Task(s) Taught(\*) or Supported**

<u>Task Number</u>	<u>Task Title</u>
	Implement Weapons and Range Safety Programs.

**Reinforced Task(s)**

<u>Task Number</u>	<u>Task Title</u>
	Implement Weapons and Range Safety Programs

**Academic Hours**

The academic hours required to teach this lesson are as follows:

<u>Hours/Methods</u>
2 hrs / Conference/Discussion

Total Hours: 2 hours

**Test Lesson Number**

	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Lesson No.</u>
Testing (to include test review)	NA	NA

**Prerequisite Lesson(s)**

<u>Lesson Number</u>	<u>Lesson Title</u>
None	

**Clearance Access**

Security Level: Unclassified  
Requirements: There are no clearance or access requirements for the lesson.

**Foreign Disclosure Restrictions**

FD5. This product/publication has been reviewed by the product developers in coordination with the Commander, U.S. Combat Readiness Safety Center, Fort Rucker, AL, foreign disclosure authority. This product is releasable to students from all requesting foreign countries without restrictions.

**References**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
AR 385-10	The Army Safety Program	23 Aug 2007	
AR 385-63	Range Safety	19 Jun 2003	
DA Pam 385-63	Range Safety	10 Apr 2003	
RM 3-22-9	Rifle Marksmanship M16A1, M16A2/3, M16A4, and M4 Carbine	April 2003	
FM 5-19	Composite Risk Management	August 2006	

**Student Study Assignments**

None

**Instructor Requirements**

One qualified instructor with a thorough knowledge of applying composite risk management (CRM) to weapons and range safety and standards of operation.

**Additional Support Personnel Requirements**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Stu Ratio</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Man Hours</u>
None			

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**Equipment Required for Instruction**

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<u>Id Name</u>	<u>Stu Ratio</u>	<u>Instr Ratio</u>	<u>Spt</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Exp</u>
Computer with DVD or CD capabilities	1:32	1:1	No	1	No
Screen, Projector	1:32	1:1	No	1	No

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**Materials Required**

**Instructor Materials:**  
TSP Lesson Plan with Media / PowerPoint Slides  
AR 385-10, The Army Safety Program, 23 Aug 2007  
AR 385-63, Range Safety, 19 June 2003  
DA Pam 385-63, Range Safety, 10 April 2003  
RM 3-22-9, Rifle Marksmanship M16A1, M16A2/3, M16A4, and M4 Carbine, April 2003  
FM 5-19, Composite Risk Management, August 2006  
Access to RMIS (USACRC) for current statistics

**Student Materials:**  
Student handouts – None

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**Classroom, Training Area, and Range Requirements**

Classroom, General Purpose

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**Ammunition Requirements**

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<u>Id</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Exp</u>	<u>Stu Ratio</u>	<u>Instr Ratio</u>	<u>Spt Qty</u>
None					

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**Instructional Guidance**

**NOTE:** Before presenting this lesson, instructors must thoroughly prepare by studying this lesson, the PowerPoint slides with notes, and identified reference material.

Instructors must review the Combat Readiness/Safety Center websites for the latest information and updates prior to presenting the class.

Instructors should encourage and facilitate student discussions related to Weapons and Range Safety allowing them to identify control measures using the Composite Risk Management process. Allowing the students to identify and discuss the control measures will help them “buy into” the concepts and accept ownership of safe practices.

**Special Note**

Ensure the PowerPoint presentation and videos, if provided, play on the equipment that will be used during the instruction – do a test run. Different computers will vary the method of delivery. Some systems may not even be able to play videos.

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**Proponent Lesson Plan Approvals**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date</u>
Miller, Brenda	DAC	Director, USACRC/SC G7	
Mizzell, Phillip	DAC	Chief, Training Development	

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**SECTION II. INTRODUCTION**

Method of Instruction: <u>Conference / Discussion</u>
Instructor to Student Ratio is: <u>1:32</u>
Time of Instruction: <u>10 mins</u>
Media: <u>PowerPoint Slides</u>
References: <u>AR 385-10; FM 5-19</u>
Security Classification: <u>Unclassified</u>

**Motivator**

NOTE: Use the following motivator, paraphrase it, or use one of your own. Ensure you impress on the students why weapons and range safety is a concern and responsibility of all.

Good morning / afternoon, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm your instructor / facilitator for this lesson entitled Weapon and Range Safety. Why is this an important lesson? Primarily because the Army has lost combat capabilities due to safety mishaps when it comes to weapons and range operation.

This lesson is important because firearms are inherently dangerous and we must instill the mindset that weapon have destructive capabilities and must always be handled with respect and care, and individuals must strongly be discouraged from playing with or mishandling firearms which is, by the way, a common cause of accidents.

The reason that I say this is because in 2007, there were 55 Class A-C negligent discharges: 17 occurred off duty and 38 occurred on duty.

Therefore, it is crucial to help ensure weapons are handled as if they are always loaded. The importance of attention to detail and the avoidance of complacency when using weapons and ammunition is critical to the lives of our Soldiers.

Let's look at the terminal learning objective . . . . .

**Terminal Learning Objective**

NOTE: Inform the students of the following Terminal Learning Objective requirements.

At the completion of this lesson, you [the student] will:

<b>Action:</b>	Recommend safety control measures for weapon handling in garrison and tactical environments.
<b>Conditions:</b>	Given scenarios involving weapon mishaps.
<b>Standards:</b>	A minimum of two feasible, plausible recommendations based on the Composite Risk Management (CRM) process must be provided.

**Safety Requirements**

None

**Risk Assessment Level**

Low

**Environmental Considerations**

None. However, it is the responsibility of all Soldiers and DA civilians to protect the environment from damage.

**Evaluation**

You will be evaluated on your participation during class and your responses based on given scenarios.

**Instructional Lead-In**

During this lesson, we will discuss two enabling learning objectives (ELOs). The first ELO deals with weapons handling (avoiding negligent discharges) and the second ELO focuses on range safety.

Let's begin with discussing negligent discharges of weapon, the first ELO

### SECTION III. PRESENTATION

**NOTE:** Inform the students of the Enabling Learning Objective requirements.

#### A. ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVE

<b>ACTION:</b>	Recommend safety control measures for preventing the negligent discharge of weapons.
<b>CONDITIONS:</b>	Given scenarios involving negligent discharge mishaps.
<b>STANDARDS:</b>	A minimum of two feasible, plausible recommendations based on the Composite Risk Management process must be provided.  NOTE: Be prepared to discuss recommended control measures in reference to the Composite Risk Management process.

#### 1. Learning Step / Activity 1. Discuss defining characteristics of negligent discharges of weapons (Weapons Handling)

Method of Instruction: Conference/Discussion  
 Instructor to Student Ratio: 1:32  
 Time of Instruction: 25 Minutes  
 Media: PowerPoint Slides  
 Security Classification: Unclassified

a. US Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center defines negligent Discharge as the discharging of a weapon without intending to discharge the weapon. Another way of defining it is: a negligent discharge is the unintentional discharge of a firearm/weapon.

b. Results of negligent discharges (listed from least serious to most serious) include:

- (1) Wasted ammunition
- (2) Damage to property
- (3) Injuries to personnel
- (4) Death of personnel

NOTE: Show picture of the after effects of the accidental shooting at Kandahar, Afghanistan 17 Jan 2004 and describe the incident -- a Soldier was shot and killed in his tent because another Soldier didn't clear his weapon when his team returned from a mission. The slide shows where the Soldier was killed – he was facing the open area (left as you are looking at the picture) and fell to his right after bullet impact.

NOTE: Use other examples as appropriate and lead into what factors contribute to negligent discharges. Ask students what some possible reasons for the mishaps are and guide a discussion.

c. Army accidents have revealed a disturbing trend: our Soldiers are being killed and injured by Soldiers and improper weapons handling!!

d. Contributing factors to negligent discharges

- (1) Individual errors
  - (a) Failure to follow procedures (lack of self- discipline or adherence to standard)
  - (b) Complacency / over-confidence
  - (c) Inattentiveness / lack of muzzle awareness
  - (d) Insufficient training
  - (e) Taking shortcuts and trading safety and standards for speed and execution
  - (f) Negligence / carelessness / irresponsibility



- (g) Improper or inadequate clearing
- (2) Ineffective supervision
  - (a) Failure to enforce standards
  - (b) Inadequate weapon training
  - (c) Failure to be involved with and overseeing Soldiers' activities
  - (d) Recommending shortcuts and trading safety and standards for speed and execution
- (3) Situational circumstances
  - (a) Many occur in fixed structures such as tents/buildings
  - (b) Service members cleaning or doing functions checks
  - (c) Potential for accidental discharge while conducting operations is much higher, especially during movement.

NOTE: Discuss the following scenarios (or any of your choosing) and ask what factors may have contributed to each mishap. Check the Risk Management Information System (RMIS) for additional information and/or situations.

Scenario 1 from OEF/OIF, RMIS Case Number 20030711001: While cleaning personal weapons Service Member (SM) 1 failed to maintain muzzle awareness and conducted a 9MM function check using magazine with live rounds. Consequently, the slide of the 9MM went forward discharging a round, which went through the SM 1's left hand, and then struck SM 2 sitting on the floor in the lower left back. SM 1 received a minor wound and SM 2 received a critical injury and later died of his wound.

Scenario 2 from OEF/OIF, RMIS Case Number 20070712015: While riding in the vehicle, Soldier placed the weapon across his lap with the muzzle pointing towards the door instead of between his legs with the muzzle pointed toward the floor. He prepared to exit the vehicle and weapon discharged resulting in injury to his arm and leg.

2. Learning Step / Activity 2. Recommend weapons safety measures for preventing the negligent discharges.

Method of Instruction: Conference/Discussion  
 Instructor to Student Ratio: 1:32  
 Time of Instruction: 25 Minutes  
 Media: PowerPoint Slides  
 Security Classification: Unclassified

- a. Preventing the negligent discharges is the responsibility of all
  - (1) Individuals
  - (2) Supervisors (all levels)
  - (3) Leaders (formal and informal)
    - (a) Formal, appointed leaders
    - (b) Informal leaders are individuals that others look up to

b. All hazards and associated risks must be identified and assessed using the Composite Risk Management (CRM) process

NOTE: Briefly review the CRM process

- (1) Identify hazards
- (2) Assess hazards

- (3) Develop controls and make decisions
- (4) Implement controls
- (5) Supervise and evaluate the implementation

c. Leaders and supervisors applied control measures

- (1) Must be trained in the CRM process and apply it
- (2) Be trained on all weapons within the unit
- (3) Must be involved and engaged in the oversight of safety (very important)
  - (a) Identify and control risks and/or risky behaviors
  - (b) Set the example for safe handling of weapons
- (4) Ensure weapons discipline is maintained
- (5) Refrain from trading safety for shortcuts
- (6) Ensure Soldiers understand and apply current weapon status as directed
  - (a) Train Soldiers to comply with weapon status
    - 1 Red – round in chamber & on safe
    - 2 Amber – magazine in chamber or rounds in feed tray but no rounds chambered, weapons on safe
    - 3 Green – weapons cleared and on safe
  - (b) Do spot checks for Soldier compliance to standards
  - (c) Ask questions and have Soldiers “back brief” requirements

d. Education and training for control measures

NOTE: Stress the importance of making time for training before a mishap occurs.

- (1) Annual range qualification doesn't necessarily indicate weapons proficiency
- (2) Units must conduct weapon classes for familiarization and proper clearing procedures
- (3) Conduct periodic re-enforcement training
- (4) When cross-training Soldiers, make sure they become proficient with all unit's weapons – circumstances might require a rifleman to become a machine gunner in a hurry
- (5) Soldiers not only must effectively engage targets, they must also perform other associated tasks including:
  - (a) Clearing procedures
  - (b) Loading and unloading procedure
  - (c) Immediate action
  - (d) Remedial action
  - (e) Disassembly and reassembly
  - (f) Preventative maintenance checks and services
  - (g) Functions check
  - (h) Weapons maintenance

e. Publications and Notifications

- (1) Issue Theater level guidance that reduces the requirement to be continually going from red to green

(2) Establish and enforce weapons clearing Standing Operating Procedure (SOP)

f. Other control measures

(1) Ensure weapon preventive maintenance, checks and services (PMCS) are conducted at least monthly

(2) Provide weapons clearing barrels / portable containers

(3) Have trained leadership/supervision at clearing points and during weapons maintenance

(4) Conduct weapons and ammunition checks

(5) Discuss and apply, whenever possible, lessons learned

g. Individuals must apply the concept represented by the acronym **T.H.I.N.K.**

(1) Treat every weapon as if it's loaded

(2) Handle every weapon with care

(3) Identify the target before you fire

(4) Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot

(5) Keep the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire

**CHECK ON LEARNING:** Conduct a check on learning and summarize the ELO.

**NOTE:** Ask these questions or others you deem appropriate.

Q: Name two control measures that supervisors and leaders should implement to help ensure safe weapon handling.

A: Answers from students should involve aspects of: CRM process; Supervisor/leader engagement; Education/training; Other control measures that are plausible and feasible

Q: After returning from a mission, you notice a Soldier's weapon has not be cleared – what should you do?

A: Answers from students should involve aspects of: CRM process; Supervisor/leader engagement; Education/training; Other control measures that are plausible and feasible

**NOTE:** Inform the students of the Enabling Learning Objective requirements.

**B. ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVE**

<b>ACTION:</b>	Identify control measures for safe range operations.
<b>CONDITIONS:</b>	Given scenarios involving range mishaps..
<b>STANDARDS:</b>	A minimum of two feasible and plausible recommendations based on the Composite Risk Management process must be identified.  NOTE: Be prepared to discuss recommended control measures in reference to the Composite Risk Management process.

1. Learning Step / Activity 1. Discuss range safety certification programs.

Method of Instruction: Conference/Discussion  
Instructor to Student Ratio: 1:32  
Time of Instruction: 25 Minutes

Media: PowerPoint Slides  
References: AR 385-63, *Range Safety*, and DA Pam 385-63, *Range Safety*  
Security Classification: Unclassified

NOTE: Impress on the students the criticality of following the requirements and guidance stated in AR 385-63, *Range Safety*, and DA Pam 385-63, *Range Safety*

- a. The first step in range requirements is to establish a range safety certification program in accordance with (IAW) DA Pam 385-63, *Range Safety*
- b. The program must be established for firing exercises and maneuver operations
- c. Certification programs are normally implemented at battalion or equivalent level
- d. Certification programs are used to train and qualify personnel in the duties of:
  - (1) Officer in Charge (OIC)
  - (2) Range Safety officer (RSO)
- e. Certification programs will be integrated into organizational training
- f. Battalion commanders' responsibilities
  - (1) Will certify, in writing, the individuals assigned as the OIC and RSO positions to range control.
  - (2) Ensure individuals meet the appointment (grade) requirements IAW DA Pam 385-63, *Range Safety*
  - (3) Ensure OIC and RSO are competent and properly instructed in the performance of their respective duties
  - (4) Ensure knowledge of the weapon systems and safe ammunition handling and use

2. Learning Step / Activity 2. Discuss the personnel required and responsible to provide a safe and efficient range operation

Method of Instruction: Conference/Discussion  
Instructor to Student Ratio: 1:32  
Time of Instruction: 25 Minutes  
Media: PowerPoint Slides  
References: AR 385-63, *Range Safety*, and DA Pam 385-63, *Range Safety*  
Security Classification: Unclassified

NOTE: Impress on students that before beginning a live-fire exercise, all personnel must receive an orientation on range operations.

NOTE: Ensure students know that what is covered in the PowerPoint slides does not include all responsibilities, qualifications, or duties as specified in the references.

- a. Officer in Charge (OIC) has the overall responsibility for the safe operation of the range before, during, and after live firing. The OIC, as a minimum, must:
  - (1) Receive a range safety briefing from the installation range control organization on the use of the training complex as part of certification
  - (2) Hold the appropriate grade for specified range operations
  - (3) Be certified in writing by the battalion commander
  - (4) Coordinate with Range Control and be knowledgeable of their procedures
- b. Range Safety Officer (RSO), as a minimum:
  - (1) Must hold the appropriate grade for specified range operations

- (2) Must be weapon system qualified
- (3) Must be certified in writing by the battalion commander
- (4) Shall not be assigned any other duties
- (5) Conducts a safety orientation before each scheduled live-fire exercise
- (6) Ensures that all personnel comply with the safety regulations and procedures and wears proper personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - (a) Kevlar / helmet
  - (b) Body armor with plates
  - (c) Hearing protection
  - (d) Eye protection
- (7) Ensures that a brass and ammunition check is made before the unit leaves the range
- (8) Ensures that a dry-fire exercise is conducted
- (9) Ensures that all weapons are clear and safe before firers leave the firing line
- (10) Ensure assistant RSO is knowledgeable of responsibilities and procedures
- c. RSO Assistant / Lane Safety Coach
  - (1) Is assigned to EACH LANE to observe and evaluate the Soldier's performance
  - (2) Ensures Soldiers are acquiring the proper target
  - (3) Ensures muzzle awareness is maintained
  - (4) Ensures weapons remain on safe until time to engage the target
- d. Noncommissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) – assists the OIC and RSO as required. For example, supervises personnel who are supporting the live-fire exercise
- e. Unit Armor – the unit armorer repairs the weapons to include replacing parts, as required
- f. Ammunition personnel are responsible for the break down, issue, receive, and account for, all ammunition
- g. Target detail and target operators
- h. Tower operator
- i. Medical Personnel – provide medical support as required
- j. Radio Transmitter Operator (RTO)
  - (1) Monitors all radio communications with Range Control
  - (2) Notify the OIC of radio transmissions pertaining to his operation

**CHECK ON LEARNING:** Conduct a check on learning and summarize the ELO.

**Check on Learning**

**CHECK ON LEARNING:** Conduct a check on learning and summarize the Learning Activity.

**NOTE:** Ask these questions or others you deem appropriate.

**QUESTION:** Who has the overall responsibility for the safe operation of the range

before, during, and after live firing?

ANSWER: OIC

QUESTION: What other duties should a RSO be assigned to do?

ANSWER: RSO shall not be assigned any other duties.

#### SECTION IV. SUMMARY

Method of Instruction: <u>Conference/Discussion</u>
Instructor to Student Ratio is: <u>1:32</u>
Time of Instruction: <u>10 Minutes</u>
Media: <u>PowerPoint Slides</u>
Security Classification: <u>Unclassified</u>

#### Check on Learning

Determine if the students have learned the material presented by soliciting student questions and explanations. Ask the students questions and correct misunderstandings.

**NOTE:** Ask these questions or others you deem appropriate.

**QUESTION:** Name two control measures that should be in place to help prevent death or injury to our Soldiers that results from negligent discharge.

**ANSWER:** (Note: List and discuss plausible and feasible control measures that should/are implemented at your organization.)

**QUESTION:** With those two in mind, name at least two more.

**ANSWER:** (Note: List and discuss plausible and feasible control measures that should/are implemented at your organization.)

**QUESTION:** What control measures should be emplaced to ensure safe Range Operations?

**ANSWER:** Comply with and ensure compliance with applicable regulations: AR 385-10, The Army Safety Program, 23 Aug 2007; AR 385-63, Range Safety, 19 June 2003; DA Pam 385-63, Range Safety, 10 April 2003; RM 3-22-9, Rifle Marksmanship M16A1, M16A2/3, M16A4, and M4 Carbine, April 2003; FM 5-19, Composite Risk Management, August 2006.

Ensure Range OIC and RSO are qualified in all aspect of their required duties.

#### Review / Summarize Lesson

During this lesson, we discussed weapons and range safety and the application of Composite Risk Management (CRM) with an emphasis in the following areas:

- Weapons handling (avoiding negligent discharges)
- Range safety

#### Conclusion

Remember when handling weapons to apply the principles of the acronym T.H.I.N.K.

- **T**reat every weapon as if it's loaded
- **H**andle every weapon with care
- **I**dentify the target before you fire
- **N**ever point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot
- **K**eeP the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire