



Safety and Risk Management Policy

Safety and mission accomplishment are our standards and the two integral parts of every employee's life. Mission accomplishment requires that employees be properly trained, equipped with the right tools and informed, so they know what they are expected to do. Safety requires the same thing: adherence to prescribed standards. Supervisors who maintain discipline and enforce standards save lives. If you don't, you have lowered the standard.

I rely on each of you to incorporate risk management into your daily activities, both on and off duty. We must provide our warriors with the best and safest training conducted to standards. Mishap prevention is not just about "safety," it's about the mission. Broken or destroyed equipment lowers our readiness. The injury or death of an Airman or family member has an even more devastating impact, both organizationally and personally, on the command and our entire Air Force family.

Each of us plays a vital role to prevent mishaps and ensure mission success. The link between mishap prevention and mission success extends beyond on-duty operations to include off-duty activities. No matter where you are...at home, on vacation, or on the job...risk management is critical to mission success and must be practiced 24/7. Complacency can kill or maim, so leadership from commanders and supervisors is vitally important. Equally important is creating and maintaining a culture where Airmen take care of Airmen and take responsibility for their own safety.

Finally, risk management is not a business. It's a culture and, in essence, a force-multiplier. It is the result of doing the right thing the right way. If something doesn't look right or feel right, it probably isn't right. Step back and assess the situation. Call "knock it off" to any operation you deem unsafe. We must continue to train as we fight and fight as we have trained. We cannot stop tough, realistic, go-to war training because of a mishap. I urge you to join in waging an effective battle against mishap losses that can seriously degrade our training and combat readiness. The Air Force needs all our Warriors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard A. Patrick".

LEONARD A. PATRICK
Major General, USAF
Commander, Second Air Force