The Desert Situation

It is approximately 10 o’clock in the morning on a mid-August day and you have just crash-landed in the Sonoran Desert in the southwestern United States. The light twin-engine plane, containing the bodies of the pilot and copilot, has completely burned. Only the airframe remains. The rest of you are uninjured.

The pilot was unable to notify anyone of your position before the crash. However, he had indicated before impact that you were 70 miles (113 km) south-southwest from a mining camp, which is the nearest known habitation, and approximately 65 miles (105 km) off the course that was filed in your VFR Flight Plan.

The immediate area is quite flat and, except for occasional barrel and saguaro cacti, appears to be rather barren. The last weather report indicated that the temperature would reach 110°F (43°C) today, which means that the
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salvaged Items</th>
<th>STEP 1</th>
<th>STEP 2</th>
<th>STEP 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individual Rank</td>
<td>Team Rank</td>
<td>Expert's Rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flashlight (4-battery size)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackknife</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sectional Air Map of the Area</td>
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</table>
Synergistic Problem-Solving Model

Synergy occurs when the interactive efforts of two or more people have a greater impact than the sum of their independent efforts. Synergistic problem solving is achieved when groups maximize their use of available resources, knowledge, and task skills by exhibiting constructive (as opposed to defensive) interaction styles. It is further promoted when members approach problems in a rational, interpersonally supportive manner. The outcome is an effective solution—one that is both accepted by members and of higher quality than their individual solutions.

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**Effective Solutions**

- Quality
- Acceptance

**Rational Skills and Processes**

- Analizing the Situation
- Setting Objectives
- Simplifying the Problem
- Considering Alternatives
- Discussing the Consequences

**Task Skills Knowledge Resources**

- Interpersonal Skills and Processes
  - Listening
  - Supporting
  - Differing
  - Participating
  - Striving for Consensus

**Desert Survival Situation™**

Participant’s Booklet

Problem-Solving Model Page Sample

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