Subarctic Survival Situation™

Let your team development initiatives snowball

What is the subarctic survival situation?
The Subarctic Survival Situation is one of our most popular group problem-solving survival simulations. Developed by Dr. J. Clayton Lafferty, the Subarctic Survival Situation places participants in a frigid, isolated area of northern Canada where their plane has just crash landed.

How does the subarctic survival situation work?
Participants are challenged to rank 15 items salvaged from the crash in order of their relative importance to their survival. Solutions to the Subarctic Survival Situation are developed first on an individual basis and then by groups. Scores are generated by comparing individual and team answers to those provided by the Canadian Para Rescue Specialists of the 413 Transport and Rescue Squadron. Comparisons between individual and team scores indicate whether the teams achieved synergy by building on the knowledge and skills of their members.

The Subarctic Survival Situation takes approximately 1½ to 2½ hours to complete, including scoring and debriefing.

Applications
The Subarctic Survival Situation can be used as an icebreaker, central activity, pre-test/post-test, or follow-up activity for programs focusing on:
• Building new teams
• Team development
• Problem solving and decision making

The simulation can also be used as:
• An icebreaker for an extended offsite gathering
• A kick-off to a group problem-solving meeting
• A tool for basic survival training

Who should use the subarctic survival situation?
The Subarctic Survival Situation is appropriate for all audiences.

Unlock the secret of synergy with one of our most popular exercises.