

Teambuilder: "ACID BATH"

Target Audience: All Teams

Purpose

"Teambuilder" PACEsetters are designed to put a select group of people into a simulated scenario in order to help the individuals grow closer together and identify as a team. The scenarios include stressors (i.e. complicated problems, time limits, resource constraints, etc.) that are used to help make the scenario challenging, fun, and educational. Each Teambuilder is designed in such a way that allows for flexibility and creativity in its execution. Feel free to experiment with them and please share the results with us at the contact information located at the bottom of this page.

Description

This Teambuilder is a physical scenario designed to:

1. Help individuals work together in a time constrained environment
2. Force collaboration on how a task should best be accomplished
3. Focus on mission accomplishment versus being distracted by non-mission essential tasks

The scenario involves a simulated scenario where your team is trying to escape capture by crossing an acid filled reservoir that is surrounded by enemy forces.

Employ

Group Size: 4-6 people

Time: 20 - 30 minutes

Materials: 4 x 5 gallon paint cans with lids (partially filled with sand, rocks, or water), 2 x 3.5" x 5' PVC pipes, 6 x leather gloves (optional), masking tape to mark the simulated boundaries of the exercise as well as the simulated pillars within the acid bath that will be used with the paint cans to cross the reservoir.

Instructions to Participants:

Your civil engineering team was captured in an industrial plant. You have a chance to escape across this acid bath. Gloves resist acid corrosion but you can't risk yelling or dragging equipment as loud noises will alert the guards. Your captors are preparing to launch an attack and will execute you if you do not escape. You can't jump or touch any side of the bath, black padding, or concrete sides. The lateral areas around the bath are mined. You only have 20 minutes in order to get your team to safety. HURRY!

Fouls:

Anyone touches the acid (without gloves) or edges of the established boundary. (30 second penalty)

Anyone or anything making a loud noise or dragging any equipment. (30 seconds)

Equipment touches any part of the boundary. (30 seconds)

All team members do not get to finish area. (Incomplete)

Safety Factors:

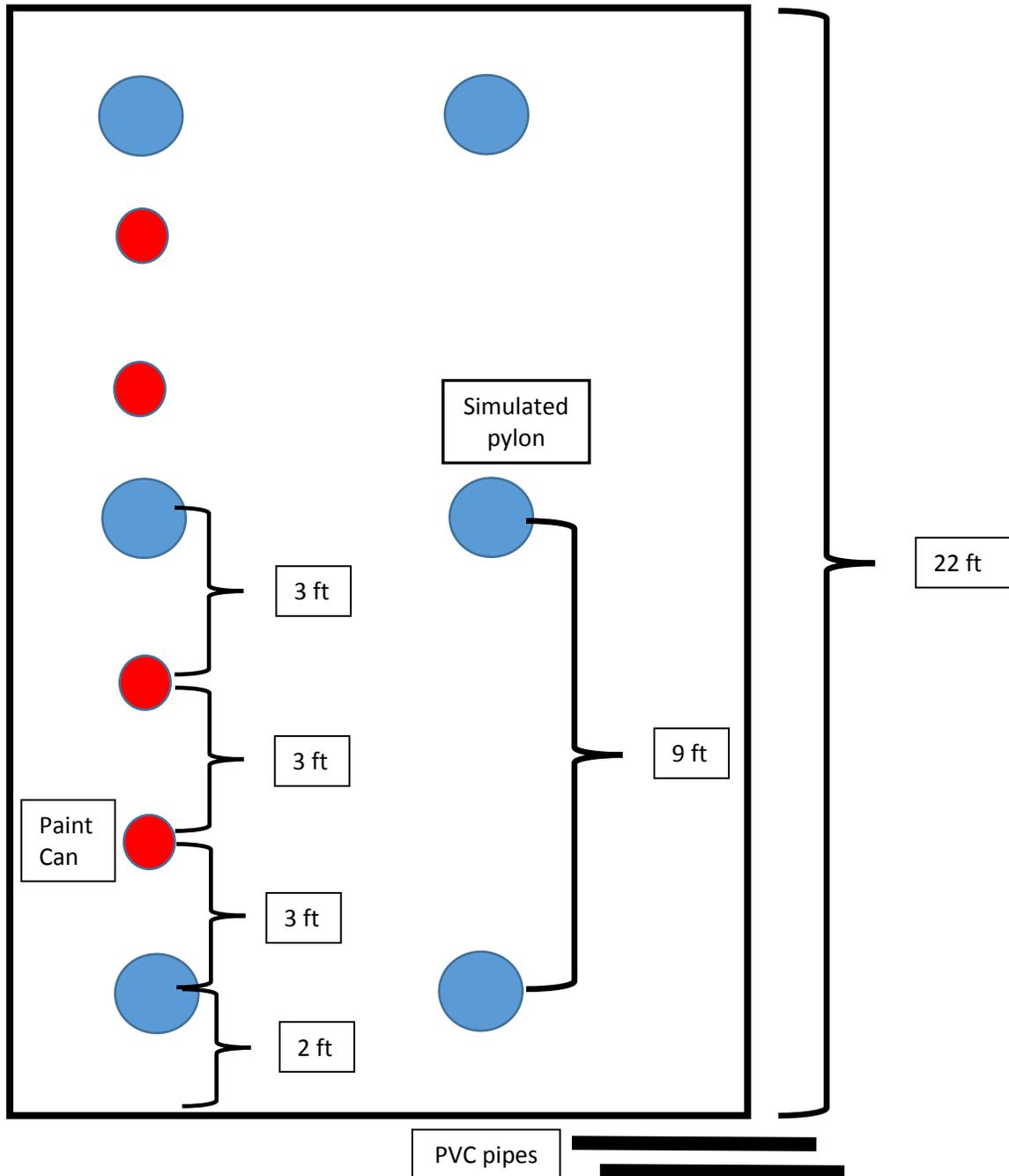
A. Don't let anyone jump from any pylon to the bank.

B. Don't allow students to pole vault from pylon to pylon.

C. Watch to ensure participants are wearing gloves at all times, they can place hand inside can if gloved.

SOLUTION:

Six people can cross at one time by using the four cans in line with the three pylons. Two people can easily stand on a pylon. The pipes are primarily distracters.



Variations: Try only using 2 buckets instead of four. You will have to give them a little more time because they will have to make multiple trips back and forth to get all six participants across. You can also shorten the amount of time to increase the amount of stress to get across.