3x3 Avalanche Assessment Process & Reduction Method

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3x3 Assessment Process

3 x 3 Assessment Table and Reduction Method are to be used together to obtain acceptable avalanche risk. Do not use this system without a thorough knowledge of avalanches. This system is designed and intended for use inside Europe.

3 Criteria/ 3 Filters	Snow/Weather	Terrain	People	
Regional: Tour Planning Including Alternatives (at home)	Avalanche report, weather forecast, information from locals, etc.	Use 1:25,000 map, guidebooks, photos, own knowledge Assessment	Who's coming? Skill level? Knowledge of group Who's responsible?	Researchable information & Expectations
Local: Visible Area & Route Selection (in the area, as far as your eye can see)	General snow conditions, wind direction and loading New snow amounts, oddities, visibility, temperature How many and when made?	Check info previously received (relief, slope angle, steepness, ski tracks, etc.) Are there existing ski tracks?	Who's in my group? Equipment and transceivers with? Time plan for tour? Itinerary left with someone? How many groups are around group?	Personal Observations on-site before setting out. Continuous reassessment en route.
Zonal: Exact Location of Questionable Slope (every single slope as you set your track)	Check new snow amounts, visibility, solar radiation Assess possible slab potential What's keeping the snow together? Snowpack structure is characterized by its irregularity.	What's above and below me? Steepest part of slope? Near the ridge? Any wind pockets? Relief? Aspect? Go/No Go?	How often has slope been skied? Communication? Tircdness? Discipline between each other How wide a track? Spacing? Corridor? Single file? Safe zones? Alternate routes?	Go or ? No Go?
Danger Potential Intermediate Sliding Scale (Hazard Levels of the Avalanche Report (AR))				
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