

Military Skills Translator: Common Military terms cross-referenced to Project Management terms

Not all Military terms have an equivalent Project Management (PM) term; but here is a rough translator. Both the Military and Project Management are professions and therefore use defined terms to avoid any confusion and serve as a common language. With this translator, Servicemembers can use the table to reference their skills and experience while learning new PM terms. PM Instructors can use the table to better understand and relate to Veterans. Some “fun” terms or sayings are in quotes.

Do you have any suggestions to add?

<u>Military Term</u>	<u>Project Management Term</u>
Stoplight Chart (Green / Amber / Red charts)	Acceptance Criteria
Fail Fast	Adaptive Approach
“Semper Gumby”	Agile
Assumption	Assumption
To Do List	Backlog
Standard	Baseline
“Toad in the Road”	Blocker / Impediment
Wargame	Brainstorm
Battle Rhythm	Cadence
FRAGO (Fragmentary Order)	Change
Branch Plan / Sequel	Contingency
“All Hands on Deck”	Crashing
Muster / Huddle / Shift Change	Daily Standup
Quad Chart / Stoplight Chart	Dashboard
Commander’s Estimate	Data Gathering and Analysis
Troop to Task	Effort / Activity List
Operational Environment	Enterprise Environmental Factors
Strategy / Planning Order	Epic
Staff Estimate / Annex	Estimate
Operational Environment / Adjacent / Supporting Units	External Dependency
Simultaneity	Fast Tracking
Requirements Documents	Feature
Tempo / Execution Matrix	Flow / Flowchart
Staff Estimate / MDMP – (Military Decision-Making Process)	Forecast
Policy / Doctrine / Instruction / Regulation	Governance
FRAGO the OPORD (Operations Order)	Hybrid
“Crawl / Walk / Run”	Incremental Approach
Quad Chart / Stoplight Chart	Information Radiator
Rep / Repetition / Lane Training	Iteration
Walkthrough / Dress Rehearsal / Tabletop	Kickoff Meeting

LTIOV (Latest Time Information of Value) with the DSM (Decision Support Matrix)	Last Responsible Moment
Lessons Learned / AAR (After Action Review)	Lessons Learned
Log / Handover	Log
Go – No Go Criteria	Measures of Performance
Method	Method
Decision Point / Milestone	Milestone
PCC (Pre-Combat Checks) / PCI (Pre-Combat Inspections)	Monitor
Climate Survey	Mood Chart
Synchronization	Network Path
Objective	Objective
Endstate	Outcome
Phases / Time Phased Model	Predictive Approach
CCIR (Commanders Critical Information Requirements)	Prioritization
Orders Brief	Project Brief
OPORD (Operations Order); Yearly Strategy / Training Guidance	Project Charter
Hotwash / AAR (After Action Review)	Retrospective
POAM (Program of Actions and Milestones)	Roadmap
Task / Purpose	Role
Commander / Leader	Sponsor
IPR (In Progress Review)	Status Meeting
SITREP (Situation Report)	Status Report
“Greybeards”	Steering Committee
Sketch Map / “White Board It”	Story Map
“All Hands on Deck”	Swarm
“Improvise / Adapt / Overcome”	Tailoring
Values / Culture / Unit Mottos / History	Team Charter
TACSOP (Tactical SOP) Reports	Template
“Fog of War”	Uncertainty
Wargaming / Red Teaming	What-If-Scenario Analysis