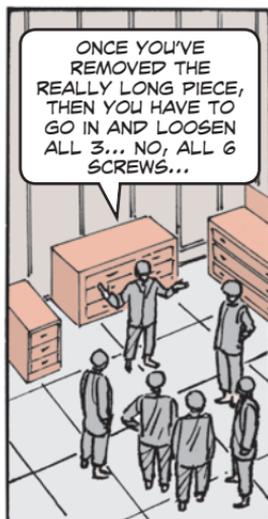


The Direction of Good PM



NCOs, have you ever had to assemble an item by following incoherent directions? Not much fun, is it?

It seems like more and more the things that need assembly come with confusing directions. Often the directions are in several languages and you feel like you're using one of the foreign language directions even when you're reading English!

When you give directions on how to perform preventive maintenance to the soldiers that work for you, you may think your presentation is crystal clear when it's really as clear as mud.

There are reasons for muddled directions:

- It could be the information you're giving is out-of-date. When you were hands-on with a piece of equipment, you did PM on the A-model. The D-model is in your shop now and the instructions you have passed on have, well, passed on!
- It could be you know the equipment so well that your mind performs steps that your mouth skips over.
- It could be you're in too big of a hurry. After all, an abundance of time is not something most NCOs have.
- It could be you assume too much. What you were taught in a maintenance course may not be taught today.

If you want your soldiers to do PM right, time and time again, keep your knowledge up-to-date and walk them step-by-step through the job that needs to be done. Show them first-hand the preventive maintenance action and the steps they need to follow to do that action correctly.

NCOs, we at PS believe there is nothing more important than preventive maintenance. Join us in that belief by making your PM directions simple, precise, step-by-step and easy to follow.