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Tactical Situational Awareness Test (TSAT) Refinement

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Abstract: The Tactical Situational Awareness Test (TSAT), initially developed in 2015, is a binomial scoring test used to assign a numerical value to an individual's situational awareness. In both controlled and field experiments, this methodology detected a statistically significant difference in situational awareness between Soldiers using an enabling device, the Nett Warrior, and users without the device. The goal of the present study is to further refine TSAT probes and scoring techniques, as well as expand the testing population. Refinement of the probes included incorporating questions to target information deemed most important to military leaders, increasing the realism of the controlled experiment, and developing a new scoring methodology. Administrative changes allowed the experiment to more closely mimic an Army operation an Infantry platoon might conduct in a combat environment. The new scoring methodology assigned a relative "weight" to the value of an individual's performance based on their leadership role within the platoon and the type of information in question. Do these adjustments to the methodology provide a more accurate assessment of an individual's situational awareness?

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