

### What is a crisis?

- 1. In general?
- Give some examples of crisis that may happen in an organisation (Disney), in a private company (travel agency), in a tour or in a clubhouse programme.



## **Topics**

- 1. The nature of crisis
- 2. Key and common features of a crisis
- Seven types of crisis
- 4. Adverse effects of a crisis
- 5. Crisis management
- 6. Risk Communications

## Key features of a Crisis

- 1. Low probability
- 2. High impact
- Uncertain/ambiguous causes and effects
- 4. Differential perceptions

## Common features of a crisis:

- 1. Time is short
- 2. Decisions are required urgently
- 3. Specific threats are identified
- 4. Urgent demands for information are received
- 5. There is sense of loss of control
- 6. Pressures build over time
- Demands are made to identify someone to blame
- 8. Reputation suffers
- Communications are increasingly difficult to manage

# Seven types of sudden emergencies

- Natural disasters (e.g. fire, explosions, bad weather)
- 2. Technical disasters (e.g. faulty equipment)
- 3. Crises of confrontation (e.g. industrial disputes)
- 4. Acts of malevolence (e.g. terrorism, kidnapping)
- Misplaced management values (e.g. strategic investment errors)
- 6. Acts of deception (e.g. fraud, false invoicing)
- Management misconduct (e.g. harassment, corruption

## Specific threats to organisation:

- 1. Operational viability
- 2. Reputation
- 3. Credibility
- 4. Financial stability
- 5. Legal action

## Crisis management includes:

- 1. Prevention Level: risk assessment
- 2. Remedial Level: crisis communication and crisis decision making



### 危機及突發事件處理的思維方式

最高理想(奇蹟創造)-大膽假設,小心求証

建立動機 次 理想

再次理想(逆來順受)

1. 自身案全

2. 客人安全

要兼顧基本原則 執行程序

3. 証據搜集(人/物/相片)

4. 客人感受/利益

5. 公司聲譽/利益

6. 法律問題

最高理想 預期結果

次 理想

再次理想

7. 合約精神

8. 賠償問題

## Risk assessment is:

- 1. Identification
  - define and describe
- 2. Estimation
  - likelihood and consequences
- 3. Evaluation
  - acceptability of risk

## Crisis Communications



# Communication plan:

#### Core elements are:

- 1. Identifying audiences (Who?)
- How communication is to take place (How?)
- What messages are to be communicated (What?)

#### The core process is:

Active, two-way communication

## Message Options

- 1) Full apology
- 2) Corrective action
- 3) Ingratiation
- 4) Justification
- 5) Excuse
- 6) Denial
- 7) Attack the attacker

#### What does the world want to see?

- 1. Acceptance of responsibility
- 2. Willingness to take positive steps

## Critical activities:

- 1. Initial response
- 2. Lines to take

## Initial response:

### Tell the truth as it is known

- 1. Facts beyond question
- 2. Actions being taken
- Acknowledgement of emotions/psychological needs

#### Lines to take:

- 1. Essential responses planned
- Each new authorised response is logged
  - Database
  - Book
  - Wallchart
  - Message board

### Media demands

- 1. Accuracy and simplicity
- 2. Statistics which are explained
- 3. Context of information
- 4. Comments from highest authority
- 5. Some controversial elements
- 6. Both sides of the issue
- 7. Speed, speed and speed

# The ideal spokesperson:

- 1. Polite and patient
- 2. Well-informed and authoritative
- 3. Accurate and reliable
- 4. Articulate
- 5. Available
- 6. Trustworthy
- 7. Evidently committed to the process

# Decision making options

- 1. Cash reparation
- 2. Refund of goods and services
- Alternative substitutes (from most ideal to least acceptable)
- 4. Immediate medical and logistic support, hotline
- 5. Letter of apology
- 6. Policy review and modification
- 7. Follow up PR, image promotion

# Role Play

Handling the crisis









Consideration and actions to be undertaken by the operation team

- 1. Safety
- 2. Manpower deployment
- 3. Compensation
- 4. Alternative arrangement
- 5. External assistance...
- 6. Pros and cons of whatever actions

Consideration and actions to be undertaken by the operation team

- 1. Response: Apology? Explanation?
- 2. Information to announce, what, how and when
- 3. Follow up improvement...

## Small group discussion

### Scenario 1



- 1. Security / and police assistance
- 2. Ticket refund arrangement
- 3. Substitute tour arrangement, e.g. Ocean Park + partial refund.
- 4. Distribute fans, caps and water for the awaiting customers.
- 5. Arrange ad hoc programmes at the entrance space
- 6. Arrange picture taking with cartoons figures
- 7. Announce follow up improvement measures

#### Scenario 2



- State clearly with concrete examples the independent operation and financial matters between two agencies.
- Assure the public the agency has paid up the 0.3% stamp duty which gives a maximum protection of customers
- 3. Highlight the strength of the agency and the favourite business record.
- 4. Use social validation method to lift up your company's image.
- 5. If possible, take the opportunity to promote some of your first-digit tours.

## Scenario 3



- 1. Reputable licensed supplier
- Observe and implement all safety and hygienic procedures serving "Poon Choi".
- Display some attractive posters selling the significant and happiness of enjoying "Poon Choi"
- 4. Arrange some entertainment (e.g. magic show)
- 5. Get some celebrities to enjoy the meal with customers together
- Some discounts for group tickets (e.g. buy 6 get 1 free)
- 7. Negotiate with restaurant for a cut down of partial order for an amicable long term cooperation.

## Scenario 4



- SOS, TICHK, HK Government, Chinese Consulate
- 2. Ensure the best medical treatment to the injury
- Arrange flights and relevant transports for victims' relatives
- 4. Factual report of the accident to the public
- 5. Periodic announcement of victims' condition and progress of rescue.
- 6. Follow up tasks:
  - Response: apology, explanation, argue...
  - Legal liability, financial liability
  - Policy review and improvement
  - ..

