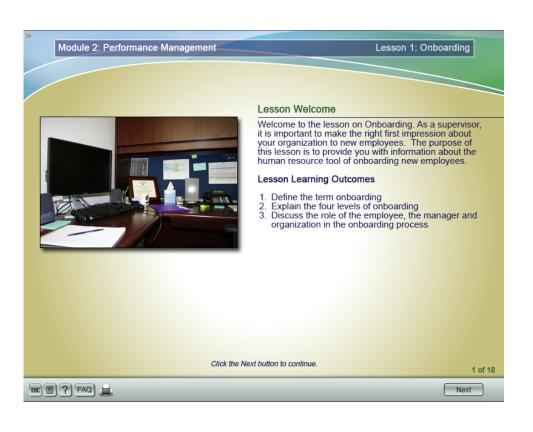
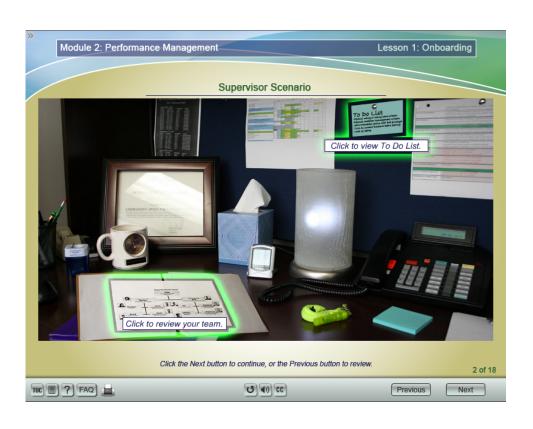
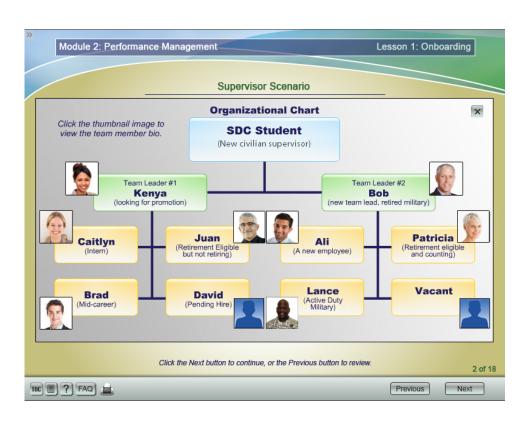
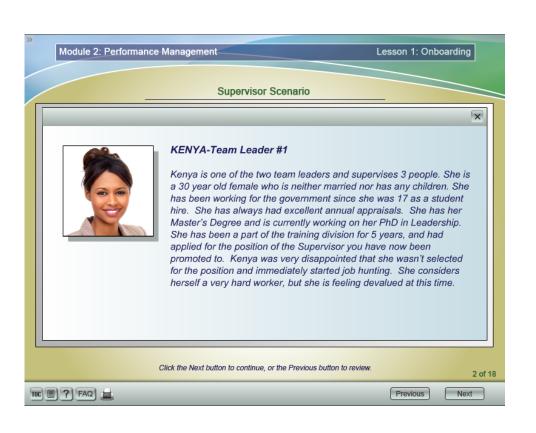
# AMSC Supervisor Development Course Army Management Staff College, Fort Belvoir, VA Module 2: Performance Management Lesson 1: Onboarding

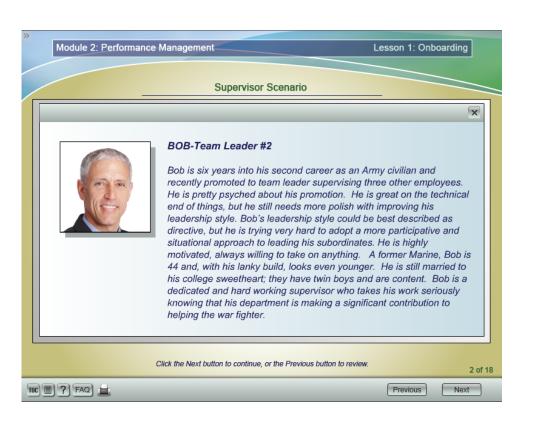
# Summary of Comments on Onboarding\_II\_printable.pdf



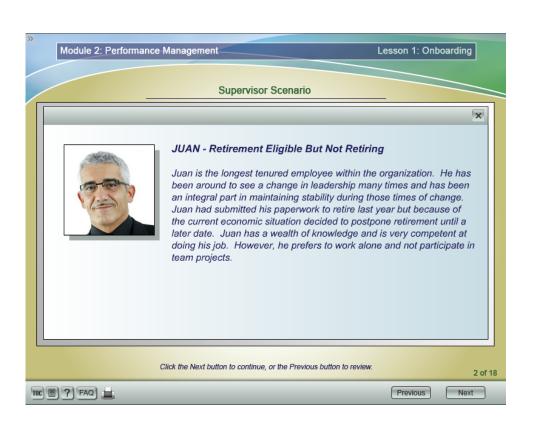






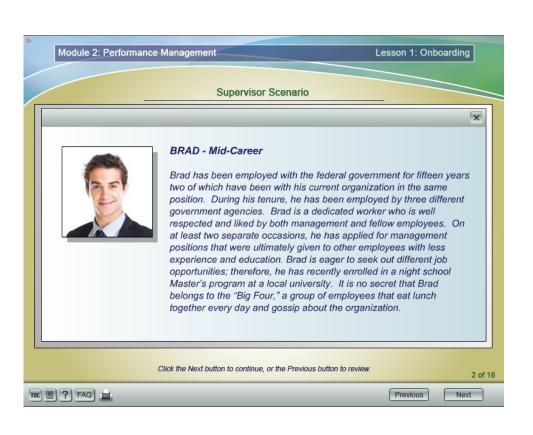


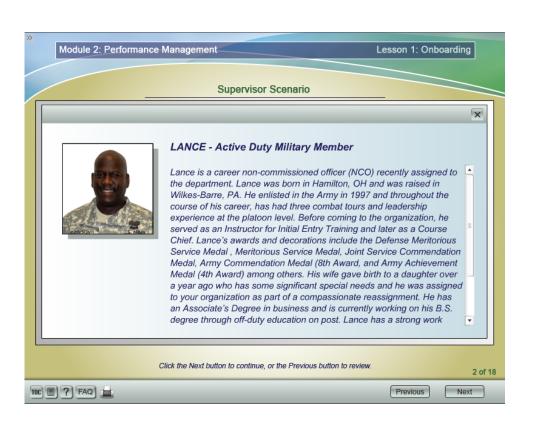


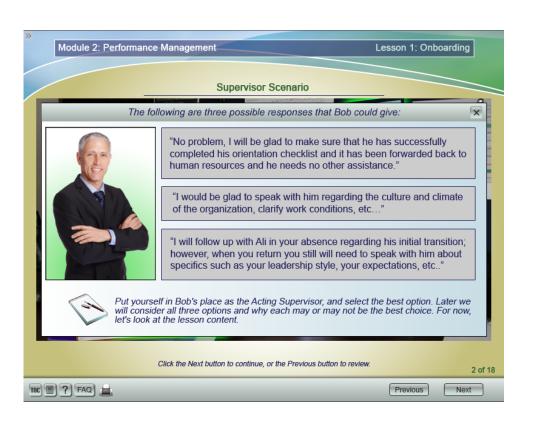


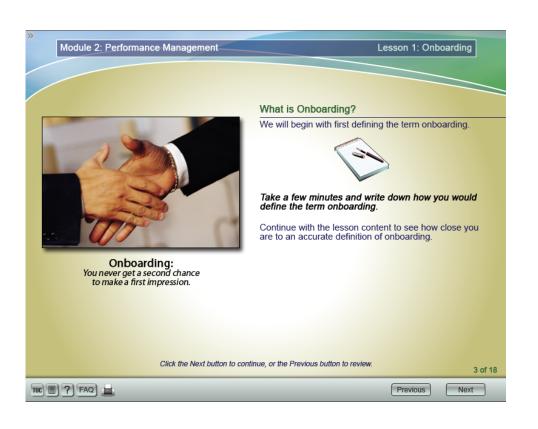


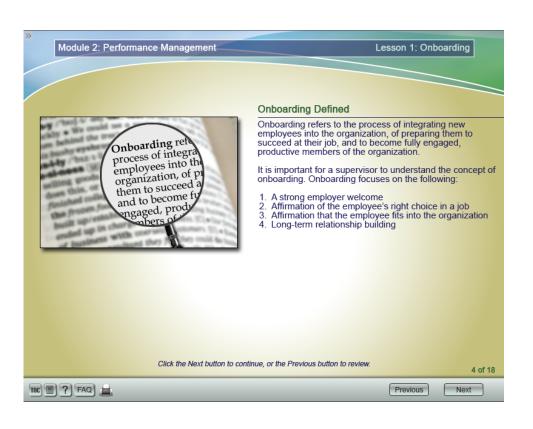




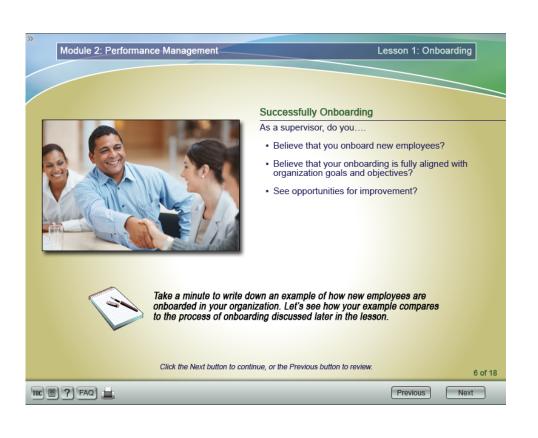


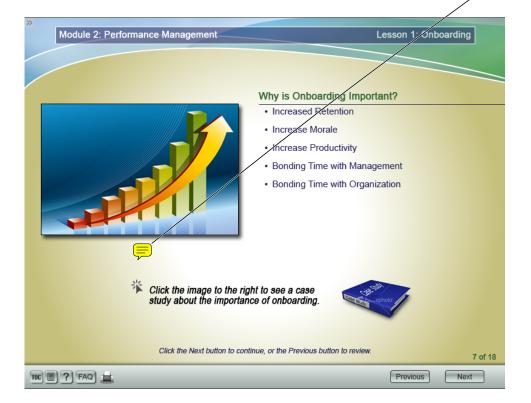








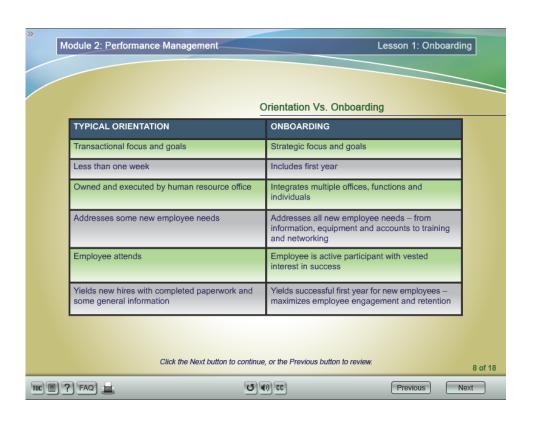


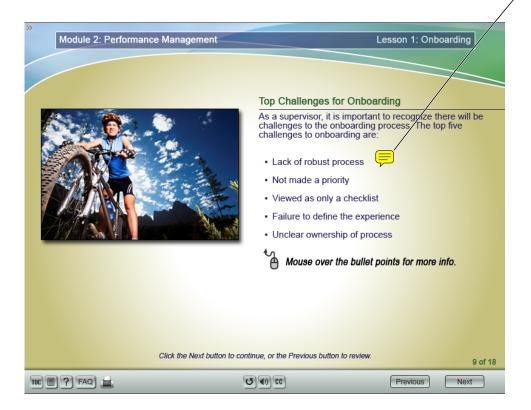


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Key onboarding activities, such as clearly communicating performance expectations, providing feedback, involving co-workers and peers, and providing training are integral to boosting performance.

Booz Allen Hamilton conducted a study of federal agencies and federal leaders in 2008 regarding onboarding new employees. The results of their study was presented in a study entitled "Getting on Board: A Model for the Integrating and Engaging New Employees." The study concluded effective onboarding programs can improve employee retention by 25%. Proper onboarding can reduce the high cost of turnover. When a new employee quits, it may take months to recruit and train a replacement. This creates productivity losses, and other employees may grow demoralized. When employees are properly onboarded into an organization, they feel a part of the team and understand where they fit into the organization.





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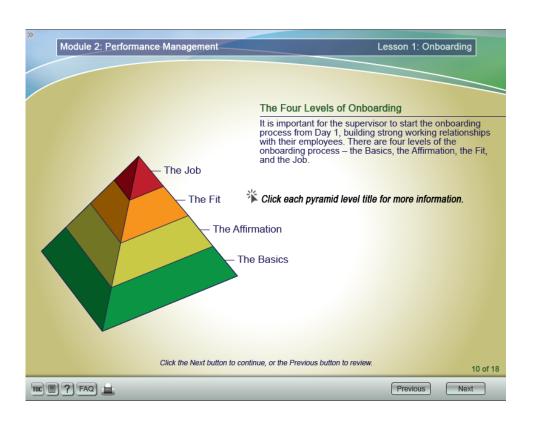
Lack of a robust process – to remedy this challenge a supervisor can create an onboarding roadmap. Onboarding principles ensure the onboarding process is comprehensive, integrated and reflective of the organization's needs.

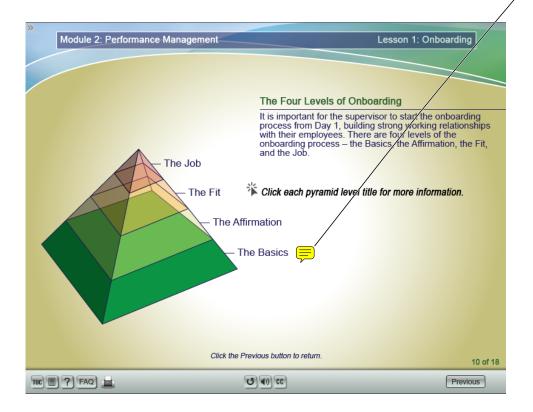
Not made a priority – to remedy this challenge a supervisor should ingrate onboarding with the hiring management process.

Viewed as only a checklist – to remedy this challenge a supervisor should ensure and check to verify that employees have a positive experience after joining the organization. The goal here is to acclimate and engage employees.

Failure to define the experience - to remedy this challenge a supervisor should emphasize strategic long term workforce planning. This process would require more than the typical one day or one week orientation process. The experience should extend to the first six months. Unclear ownership of the process - to remedy this challenge a supervisor should automate the tasks of the onboarding process. Indentifying and

assigning roles and responsibilities for onboarding. Each role in the process depends on the other to ensure a successful onboarding process.





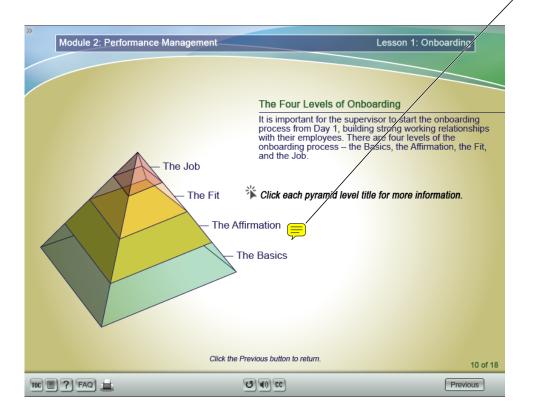
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Welcome new employees upon arrival. Do not leave your new employee in the waiting room on their first day. A supervisor or co-worker should be available to greet the new hire as soon as he or she arrives. First impressions can often determine the tone of relationships, so make sure that you're attentive and friendly.

**Have their workstation ready.** Arriving at the office to a fully functional computer, phone system and work area is definitely meaningful to new employees. Have an IT representative walk them through passwords and other technology setup procedures. Be sure that news employees are comfortable, and address any concerns that they might have about the new space.

**Teach the employee the basics.** Think about what you would want to know on your first day on a job. Don't make your new employee ask all the questions and end up feeling like a nuisance. Start with the work environment: Point out the bathroom, the kitchen, the printer and the supply closet — anything that will be important for the employee to know on the first day. Make sure the new employee has a full email directory and organization phone list . Provide an overview of the organization chart and explain the purpose of the organization. discusses work hours with supervisor, and learns the ropes of the where to park in the parking lot.

**Check in at the end of the day.** Stop by your new employees' workspaces at the end of each of their first few days to find out how things are going. Make sure to answer any questions, and express your pleasure at having the new hires join the organization.



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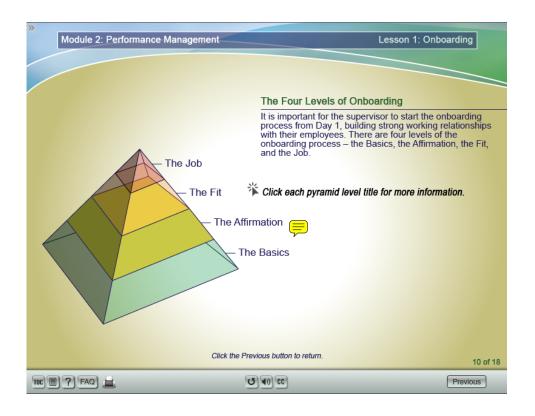
Level 2 , the Affirmation, is where the supervisor sets the groundwork for employee engagement to affirm that the new hire made the right choice in accepting the job.

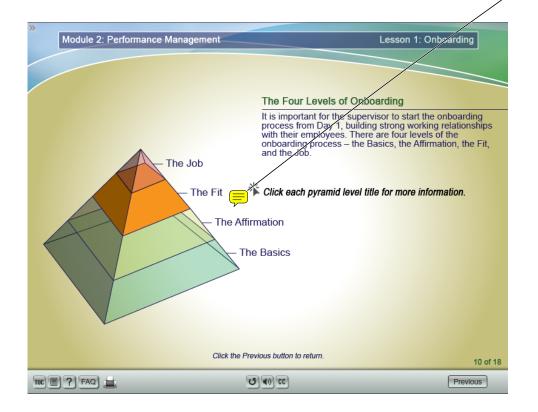
**Introduce new employees to others at the company.** Try to introduce new employees to members of their team and other important people in the organization. Also, send an email that announces new workers' arrivals and describes some of their past experience so that veteran employees are aware of their skills and background.

**Assign work buddies.** Work buddies can help new employees comfortably transition to their new professional environment. The buddy should work in the same field and be able to answer questions, explain policies and offer encouragement for the first month of a new hire's employment.

**Give them a tour of the building.** New employees should be comfortable navigating the workplace. Make sure that they are familiar with important locations in the building, including bathrooms, the kitchen, and additional entrances and exits. It's preferable to share the unspoken aspects of organization's culture to ensure that all new employees understand their work environments. Don't make the mistake of assuming that cultural nuances are obvious or that new employees will raise questions if they're unsure about what to wear or when to arrive at work.

Comments from page 23 continued on next page



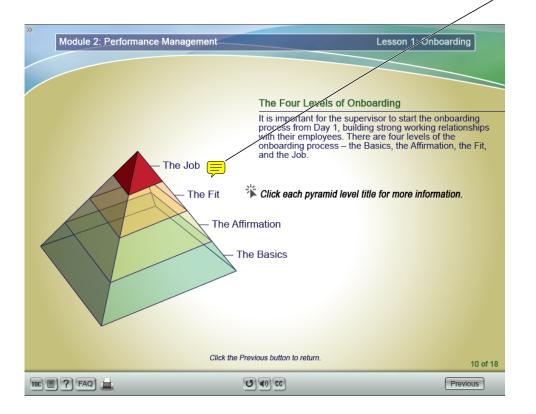


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Level 3, the Fit, is affirmation for the long haul. It is during this level that new hires learn the mission and values of the organization. Creating alignment between organization mission and the role of every employee is a basic leadership challenge. Every employee should understand how his or her role supports the organization's mission. This is longerterm affirmation, where the organization, led by the supervisor, models the culture to which the organization aspires. Additionally, new hires learn work conditions and job specifics are described.

Give new employees something to do. It's hard to jump right in when you're new, but it's even worse feeling as though you aren't needed. Make sure that new employees have a training manual to read and small, simple tasks to complete during their first few days. They will feel valued and useful but not overwhelmed.

And then focus on the work. Go over the employee's role in the company, but stick to the basics; you don't want your employee to feel overwhelmed. The worker is a smart person — that's why you hired him or her. The employee will learn the details later on. Today's goal is just making him or her feel like they are part of the organization.



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Level 4, the Job, is where organizations have the opportunity to differentiate themselves from other organizations.

Supervisors and employee are actively engaged in this level. Supervisors should provide meaningful work for new employees, ensure the assignment is understood, and provide timely and constructive feedback on completed assignments.

Supervisors start building a foundation for a trusting relationship with the employee. Build trust, by being consistent, reliable, present and empathetic. Be truthful and open with information, and generous in giving credit where it is due. Be collaborative, using win-win techniques to resolve conflict. Earn trust by trusting others.

Supervisors work to help their employees shorten their learning curve. The learning curve can be divided into four areas:

Culturally- by describing the unwritten rules and expectations

Organizationally- by walking through key processes and introduce the employee to key leadership.

Personally- by helping the new employee learn from mistakes and provide ongoing feedback.

Relationally- by discussing how decisions are made, information is shared and disagreements are handled.





