



AST News

Important Announcements

Introducing the Avaluator decision tool – Avalanche safety just got simpler!

Introduction:

After three years in development, the Avaluator™ is ready for preliminary implementation as the Canadian Avalanche Centre's recommended decision-making tool. The Avaluator™ has already garnered very positive reviews and feedback from a wide variety of sources including practitioners, test group users, risk management specialists and risk research academics.

The Canadian Avalanche Centre now requires the Avaluator™ be provided to all AST Level 1 students as part of the course materials package. If you have not already done so, you can get the Avaluator™ from the CAC.

In addition, as of November 15, 2006, the Avaluator™ is the primary decision-making process taught on the AST Level 1 course.

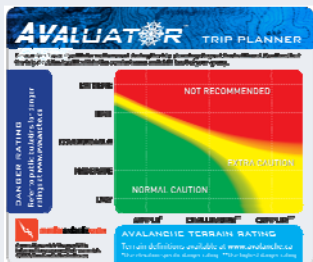
What This Means to You:

You need to be familiar with the Avaluator™. All AST instructors should carefully review the Avaluator™ Booklet, and Card to ensure they know the system. It is strongly recommended that all AST instructors attend CPD sessions this fall to learn about the Avaluator™. These sessions will be conducted by Dr. Pascal Haegeli and will be held as follows:

- Nelson: November 19, 2006
- Whistler: November 26, 2006
- Canmore: December 2, 2006
- Register online at <http://www.avalanche.ca/Registration/course/CourseList.aspx?type=AST>. Cost is \$50.

Some of the lesson plans as outlined in the RAC Instructor Manual have been revised while others have been replaced with new lesson plans. However, the general curriculum of the AST total course time, minimum times for various subjects, etc. remain unchanged.

We have produced an **insert to the Instructor Manual** that includes Lesson Plan revisions and New Lesson Plans based on the addition of the Avaluator™ to AST curriculum. The insert will cost \$10 and you can order it by contacting programservices@avalanche.ca or 250-837-2141.



I can't find my name and contact information in the AST Instructor list. On avalanche.ca. What's going on?

AST Instructor List on avalanche.ca – where is my name?

We are in the process of updating the AST Instructor lists on our website at www.avalanche.ca>CAC>Training>Avalanche Skills Training>AST Instructors. Please note that only providers who have submitted signed AST Agreements and who are either ACTIVE or PROFESSIONAL CAA Members in good standing will be included in the AST Instructor lists. If you do not see your contact information then you need to:

1. Ensure that you are a Professional or Active CAA Member in good standing. If you are an Affiliate Member, you will need to upgrade to Active (see below). Your name and contact information will not be added to the list until you have upgraded your membership to Active.
2. Ensure that your 2 AST Agreements have been signed and sent to the CAC. There are blank versions of the 2 agreements attached. Please fax them to the CAC at 250-837-4624. Again, only Professional and Active CAA Members with signed AST Agreements on file at the CAC will be included in the AST Lists online.
3. If you want to change any of the contact information on our AST Instructor lists, please contact programservices@avalanche.ca with those changes.

Affiliate members who wish to teach AST programs must apply to become **Active** members. The new application form can be found by signing on to the members only section of www.avalanche.ca, click on "Information" and click on "CAA Active Membership Information," where you will find a document titled "CAA Membership Application Form."

Important Notice re: AST Student Release Forms

New student Release of Liability (Release) forms, reflecting the name change from RAC to AST, are mandatory for the upcoming season. Old RAC Release forms will be null and void. If you have any RAC Release forms in stock from last season the CAC will exchange them at no cost. Please mail old waivers back to the CAC at:

Canadian Avalanche Centre
Attn: Program Services
PO Box 2759
Revelstoke, BC
VOE 2S0

New AST Release forms can be purchased as per normal and are included on the 2006/7 Price List/Order Format www.avalanche.ca>Members Only>CAC Information>AST Price List/Order Form 2006/7.

AST Course Materials Update

There are a number of additions to the AST Provider course materials as outlined on the 2006/7 Price List/Order Form, available at www.avalanche.ca>Members Only>CAC Information>AST Price List/Order Form 2006/7.

Required:

- The Avaluator™
- Instructor Manual Insert

Optional:

- CD – containing Avaluator™ supplemental slides in PowerPoint.
- CD – containing AST Slides + Avaluator™ slides in PowerPoint (AST Slides same as RAC Slides).
- CD - BCA "Take Charge"