Acceptable Verbs for Writing Objectives

The following is a list of suggested verbs which may be used in the development of our objectives. The 2001 revision of Bloom's Taxonomy classifies measurable verbs into hierarchical levels, as shown below. This list is not meant to be all inclusive and limiting. Used properly, these behavioral verbs will be found acceptable.

Remembering Verbs	Understanding Verbs	Applying Verbs	Analyzing Verbs	Evaluating Verbs	Creating Verbs
Define	Classify	Apply	Compare	Argue	Construct
Identify	Indicate	Examine	Contrast	Critique	Design
List	Match	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Formulate
State	Select	Illustrate	Discriminate	Evaluate	Hypothesize
Reproduce	Summarize	Record	Examine	Judge	Plan

Only ONE behavioral verb must be used per objective.

Understand, learn and know are NOT acceptable verbs as they cannot be measured.

Determining How Many Objectives Are Required for a Session

One objective is required per speaker per 30 minutes of content. So, a half-hour presentation with one speaker would require one objective. Any time there is another speaker added, or the presentation goes over a thirty minute increment, another objective is needed. So, a 45-minute presentation with one speaker would require two objectives, as would a half-hour presentation with two speakers.

A few examples:
1 speaker, 30 minutes = 1 objective
1 speaker, 45 minutes = 2 objectives
1 speaker, 1.25 hours = 3 objectives
2 speakers, 2 hours = 4 objectives
3 speakers, 1 hour = 3 objectives

The exception to this is panel discussions, where objectives are determined by the length of the session only. For example, a 1-hour panel discussion with 6 panelists would only require 2 objectives (1 per 30 minutes)