

Safety Management
Peer-Reviewed

Preventing **Serious Injuries & Fatalities**

Time for a Sociotechnical Model for an Operational Risk Management System

By Fred A. Manuele

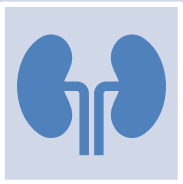
Results of recent attempts to reduce serious injuries and fatalities cannot be considered stellar. Ferguson's statement still applies, particularly the idea that "reliance on traditional approaches to fatality prevention

Fred Manuele on Serious Injury and Fatality Prevention (SIF)

Source: Manuele, F.A. (2013). Time for a Sociotechnical Model for an Operational Risk Management System. Professional Safety, May 2013.

Dr Ben Hutchinson, SafetyInsights.Org,
YouTube: @Safe_As_Pod

Step 1: DISLODGE OLD PREMISES



“The premise that OSHA-related incidence rates are accurate measures of serious injury and fatality potential **must be dislodged.**”



“**Achieving low OSHA incident rates does not indicate that controls are adequate** with respect to serious injury and fatality potentials.”

Dr Ben Hutchinson, SafetyInsights.Org, YouTube: @Safe_As_Pod

Step 2: UPROOT TWO EMBEDDED BELIEFS

“The belief that unsafe acts of workers are the principal causes of occupational incidents must be uprooted and dislodged.”



“The broadly held assumption that reducing the frequency of less-than-serious injuries will result in an equivalent reduction in serious injuries must be dislodged.”

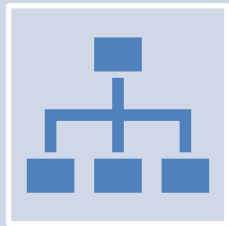
Step 3: MAKE RISK ASSESSMENT THE CORE

“Risk assessments must be recognized and established as the core of an operational risk management system.”

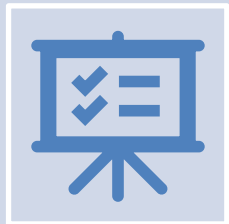
“Risk assessment is the cornerstone of the European approach to prevent occupational accidents and ill health.”

Dr Ben Hutchinson, SafetyInsights.Org, YouTube: @Safe_As_Pod

Step 4: DESIGN THE SYSTEM OF WORK

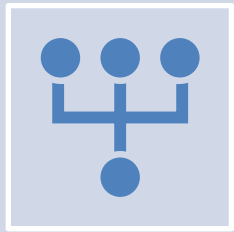


“Prevention through design concepts must be instituted as an element within an operational risk management system.”



“Businesses must understand the ongoing transition concerning the prevention of human error, which directs prevention efforts to the design of the work system and work methods.”

Step 5: SEPARATE CHANGE FROM ROUTINE WORK



“Management of change/prejob planning must be a separate and emphasized element within an operational risk management system.”

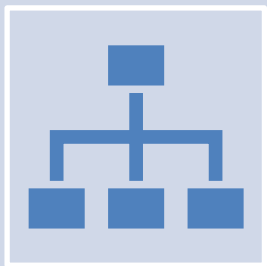


“These reports showed that a significantly large share of the incidents occurs during unusual and nonroutine work ... [& high energy present]”

Step 6: INVESTIGATE BETTER, REVISE THE SYSTEM



“Incident investigations must be improved so that shortcomings in management systems related to serious injury and fatality potential can be identified and addressed.”



“Internally published operational risk management systems must be revised in relation to the foregoing.”