An Exploration of Safety Culture

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Aviation: The First Ultra-Safe Industrial System

Fragile system (1920's - 1970's)
- Individual risk management & intensive training
- Accident investigation

Safe system (1970’s – mid 1990’s)
- Technology & regulations
- Incident investigation

Ultra-safe system (mid 1990’s onwards)
- Business management approach to safety (SMS)
- Routine collection and analysis of operational data
An Imperfect System

Baseline (ideal) performance

System design

Operational deployment

Baseline performance

“Practical Drift”
Understanding Violations – Are We Ready?

- Accident
- Higher
- Risk
- Min
- Max
- Production objectives
- Regulations
- Technology
- People
- Training
- System Output
- Safety space
- Violations
- Incident
Motherhood Beware

- The futility of slogan, bumper-stickers and motherhood statements
- The cart and the horse
- Safety culture can not be pre-fabricated, it must be developed