



Naval Safety Command

Glossary of Terms

Assessment

The evaluation or estimation of the nature, **quality** or ability of someone or something. A continuous **process-based** observation that measures the overall **qualitative** effectiveness. **Improves operational readiness** through identification of unsafe conditions, practices, procedures and to increase the hazard awareness of personnel through proper application of risk management.

Levels of Assessments

Level 1. Self-Assessment

Level 2. Senior-Assessment

Level 3. External/Third Level Assessment - Commander, Naval Safety Command

Defense-in-Depth

An approach to designing a system that prevents accidents and mitigates the severity of smaller events. The key is **creating multiple independent and redundant layers of defense** to compensate for potential human and mechanical failures so that no single layer, no matter how robust, is exclusively relied upon to prevent an accident. This approach defends against latent, unrealized weaknesses in a system that can be triggered by active errors (unsafe behaviors carried out by individual parties).

Inspection

An inspection is a process that evaluates, reviews and/or analyzes **programs, activities or organizations** for the purposes of evaluating compliance with governing documents, identifying risks to mission, evaluating effectiveness and providing information for decision-making.

Operate Safely

Executing the mission within the designed safety envelope. The safety envelope is normally maintained by operating within established procedures. When unplanned or unforeseen safety risks manifest outside of the approved Safety Case and the military benefit (operationally defined objective) of taking the risk outweighs the cost of the risk exposure, then commands should apply the principles of operational risk management to control risk. The Command, unit leadership team and operators all have a duty to Operate Safely by preserving the Safe to Operate conditions.

Resiliency

Ability of a system to adjust and sustain normal function in the face of disturbances; **ability to absorb disturbances**. Characteristics of a resilient system include: Defense-in-Depth; processes designed for both prevention of an issue and when an issue occurs; processes to verify the effectiveness of the system.

Risk

Chance of adverse outcome such as failed or degraded mission, injury, illness or loss. Risk level is expressed in terms of hazard probability and severity.

Risk Areas

MAJOR

A major risk area indicates an absence of a system or process, substantial breakdown of a required system or process, a total failure to comply with a standard, repetitive deficiencies and and/or gap in resiliency.

MINOR

A minor risk area does not meet the definition of a major risk area. Minor risk areas typically involve a problem with the execution or implementation of a policy, process or system.

Risk to Force - Risk to Mission is Risk to Readiness

Applies to all naval activities, in all operating environments, at all times. The principles of OPNAV M-5100.23 CH-2 apply across the **entire spectrum of operations** regardless of operational or administrative chain of command. Focusing on Resilience and Safe to Operate -- Operating Safely preserves the 4 Ps (Personnel, Places, Property/Materiel and Processes/Procedures).

Risk Registry

A repository for capturing and recording risks and associated information. Accountable Persons should document risks and issues in a risk registry, using a consistent template to enable oversight, identification of risk accumulation, decision-making, and risk communication up and down the chain of command.

Safe to Operate

The **as-designed safety** for places, property/materiel, people and processes/procedures. It is the **defining design**, policy, engineering, resourcing and expectation management that sets the **safety risk envelope** for hazardous activity or activities for a given operating environment. Original Equipment Manufacturers, Systems Commands, Program Offices and upper echelon commands are primarily responsible for the Safe to Operate criteria.

Safety Management System

A formal, organizational-wide approach to managing safety risk and assuring the effectiveness of safety risk controls. An SMS often involves a system of systems approach that inculcates procedures and policies throughout the command to achieve desired goals: **Safe Place, Safe People, Safe Property/Materiel, Safe Processes/Procedures (4Ps)**. An SMS must provide a resilient, defense-in-depth based system that inculcates continuous learning.