SMS Factsheet

Design, Manufacturing, and Production Organizations



A Safety Management System (SMS) is a requirement outlined in ICAO's Annex 19 for organizations responsible for the type design and/or manufacture of aircraft engines and propellers. Product safety is determined by, and reflected in, the safety practices and behaviors in the workplace, as well as in the output of the product. Safety Managers, while managing their SMS, need to consider worker, process, and product safety to understand how safety practices and behaviors can affect the safety outcomes of the organization.

Organizational Safety

- A series of organization-wide processes that provide for effective risk-based decision making.
- Organizational safety helps to create an environment that influences product safety and safe operations, thereby enhancing safety culture.
- It involves policies and procedures that are promoted within workplaces to encourage safe practices and behaviors. It influences how employees perceive culture and priority of safety within a workplace.
- Organization SMS embodies people and process. It identifies hazards and manages risks at an organizational level.
- It involves performance measurement and safety communication.

Product Safety

- Product safety is about attitudes, norms, beliefs, and behaviors of all employees, affecting the integrity of a product because of existing safety practices.
- The safety of the product depends on successful interaction between design, manufacturing, and production.
- Product safety extends beyond organization safety by including the user of the product.
- SMS focuses on the safety aspects of an organization while Quality Management Systems (QMS) focuses on conformity of the products or service.
- Safety continues by understanding how the product is performing and informing the organization and its commitment to improve.

People • Process • Product

Product safety failures are sometimes the result of failings within an organization. Safety culture should be considered an outcome of the relationship between people, process, and product. Safety Managers need to be aware of how these relationships affect the safety culture of the organization to determine the impact.

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Organizational Safety

Product Safety

Safety Management Systems