

Safety Management System approach (SMS)

2019

SMS overview

- SMS goal
- SMS benefits
- SMS supporting tools
- SMS stakeholder participation
- Questions to ask about your approach

Sms goal

The goal of a Safety Management System (SMS) is to ensure that you have a strategic decision-making process to proactively identify, prioritize, and control emerging safety risks before those risks become critical system failures

SMS benefits

- A proactive method of managing safety and hazards
- A way to ensure data-driven safety decision-making
- Strong safety communication between employees and management (collaboration)

Sms benefits, cont'd

- Targeted safety training
- Clear accountabilities and responsibilities

Sms supporting tools

- Create a formal way to identify hazards and control their potential consequences (be proactive)
- Continuously assess safety risks

Sms supporting tools (cont'd)

- Promote an effective employee safety reporting system
- Perform threat and vulnerability assessments
- Document strategies to address priority safety risks
- Maintain focus on close calls and near misses
- Promote department buy-in and training

Sms supporting tools (cont'd)

- Review and learn from past issues
- Conduct regular reviews, audits, and inspections
- Consult with risk manager

Sms stakeholder participation

- Management
- Operations
- Maintenance
- Safety team
- Human resources

Sms stakeholder participation (cont'd)

- Risk management
- Procurement
- Marketing

Sms: questions to be asked

- What will likely be the cause of the next accident?
- What is your department doing to monitor the risk and to discover and address potential causes?

Sms: questions to be asked (cont'd)

- How does your department know the likely cause of the next accident?
- Does your department have internal auditing, required and voluntary reporting, data collection and analysis, and tracking processes to indicate that personnel are accurately informed about the biggest risks?

Sms: questions to be asked (cont'd)

- What is your department doing to mitigate risk?
- Do you have a viable strategy or action plan, along with appropriate budgetary and staff resources in place to control or mitigate risk?

Sms: questions to be asked (cont'd)

- Is your department strategy or action plan working?
- Do you have measures in place that will tell staff if the strategy or action plan is working to control or mitigate the identified risk?

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