

# Safety Design for Operational Effectiveness

Experiences from Use Cases

Presenter: Johann Holm

Organization: North-West University

Contact: [johann.holm@nwu.ac.za](mailto:johann.holm@nwu.ac.za) / 083 453-4314

# Safety and Productivity

---

- n Could also be stated: Safety vs Productivity;
- n Production focus: Safety a secondary requirement
- n Safety focus: Production a secondary requirement
- n Systems approach: **Integrated** requirements and solution
  - n Requirements analysis (operational, legal, etc)
  - n Conceptual design (balance requirements and optimize)
  - n Preliminary design (identify lower-level optimizations - critical)
  - n Detail design and testing (iterative evaluation, optimization)
  - n Integration (in-use optimization, ownership)

# Preliminary Design

(most often neglected)

---

- n Operational architecture
  - n Functional units – critical to identify “safe” components
  - n Functional interfaces – critical for usability
- n Work flow analysis
  - n Operational flow
    - n Identify critical and “safe” functions – understand users
    - n Attempt to preserve people’s habits – integrate solution
  - n Technical flow to identify maintenance functions
  - n Detail flow to identify critical functions / loops
- n Requirements allocation
  - n Trace requirements

# “Design For” Criteria

(design constraints)

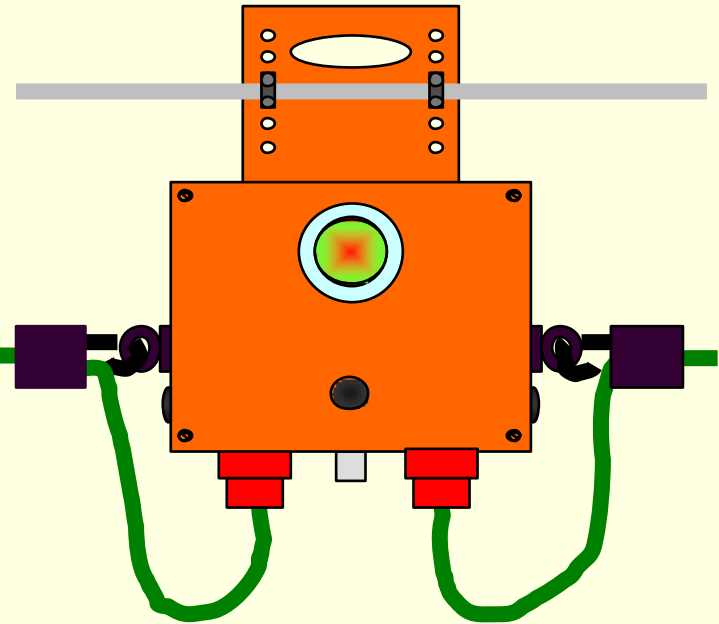
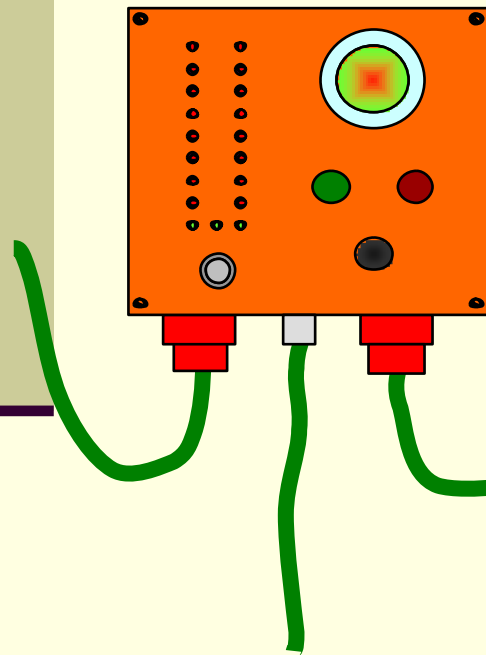
---

- n Functional capability
  - n Resource allocation – humans vs equipment
    - n Always a trade-off between human and technology
    - n Human interface design ensures understanding and safety
    - n Human training ensures acceptance and safety
- n Performance
- n Effectiveness factors
  - n Operational availability / reliability
  - n **Usability**
  - n **Safety**
  - n Maintenance, support, environment, etc

# Winch Signaling / Safety System (Anglo Platinum)

Signal box

Control unit



To winch power supply

2007-07-26

# Winch Signaling / Safety System (Anglo Platinum)

---

- n Safety and signaling system (concept from mine)
- n Followed systems approach
- n Developed specification over time (collaborative)
  - n Productivity, reliability, safety challenges
- n Production functions evolved in specification
  - n Did not change operational momentum
  - n Tested thoroughly (operational)
  - n Implemented and added critical features
  - n Well integrated solution that improves safety
  - n Solution that effectively increases work flow

# Winch Signaling / Safety System (Anglo Platinum)

---

- n FMECA
- n Closed-loop state design
- n Critical analysis of components
- n Simplistic (minimum component) design
- n Example:
  - n Cable faults
  - n Component faults
  - n Fail to safe with indication, etc

# Winch Signaling System - Video (Anglo Platinum)

---

- n Signal box – installed
- n Cable suspension – installed
- n Main control unit – installed
- n Main control unit - modes of operation
- n Slaves and main control unit - signaling

# Conclusion

---

- n Safety / operational capability can / must be optimized together
- n Do an “as is” analysis first
- n Follow a systems engineering approach
- n Attempt to maintain existing work flow
- n Identify functions and interfaces
- n Simplify all user functions and interfaces
- n Ensure ownership from personnel

# IS Centralized Blasting (Beatrix)

---

- n Initially a safety system (focus)
- n Followed a system approach
- n Developed specification (collaborative)
- n Eventually a production system
  - n Involved personnel from onset
  - n Listened and performed “as is” analysis
  - n Implemented BUT changed procedures
  - n Transferred ownership to personnel
  - n Always improvements

# Ventilation Products

---

- n IS, intelligent power supplies
- n IS, easy-to-use methane sensors
- n IS, effective ventilation-and-air monitoring
  - n Systems approach (installers, users, maintenance)
  - n Basic functionality
  - n Legal adherence (IS)
  - n Calibration / installation support built into equipment
  - n Reliability design – fail to safe