# Does your SMS have what it takes to succeed?



Getty Images/MITRE

Believing that your Safety Management System (SMS) is performing well is different from *knowing* that it is performing well. Having every SMS component in place does not assure they are performing effectively. To know your organization is well protected from latent hazards and active threats, you must continuously inspect your SMS tools to ensure that they are performing as intended. Even the most advanced safety cultures focus on improving their safety performance by incorporating industry leading practices.

## **MITRE's SMS Leadership**

MITRE has been leading in safety management since before it was called SMS. Our team of experts were part of the development of the current SMS standards and are constantly researching leading practices to compensate for the ever increasing complexity of today's global operations. MITRE has now consolidated its decades of increasing knowledge and experience into an SMS Effectiveness Evaluation tool that gives organizations confidence that their defenses against ever changing hazards and threats are fitting their organization well and improving their safety performance.



Getty Images/MITRE

"Continuous Improvement means that we never perceive current success as our final achievement"

John Hunter



### Does your SMS have what it takes to succeed?

#### **Suiting Up for SMS**

To effectively protect your organization from hazards and threats, an effective SMS implementation must be custom-fitted to your organization, like an astronaut's spacesuit. Your foundation and stance must be solid and protected as with an astronaut's magnetic boots: In SMS terms, this is an effective Safety Policy. As an astronaut has specialized tools for his spacewalk, so is a Safety Risk Management program finely honed for the hazards you may encounter. As the astronaut's suit protects him from deadly radiation, your Safety Assurance program protects your organization against ineffective risk controls. An effective Safety Promotion structure, like astronauts using 2-way radios, will coordinate all your safety efforts. Your Safety Culture is like the astronaut's environmental pack, which supplies life-sustaining air to keep them alive and well. Lastly, your organization needs a sturdy helmet of confidence in your SMS that is carried out through an SMS Effectiveness Evaluation.

#### **MITRE's SMS Effectiveness Evaluation**

MITRE performs SMS Effectineness Evaluations to give your organization the confidence that all parts of the SMS are functioning properly—and where it's not, we'll help you take steps to improve. By category, the evaluation allows your organization to thoroughly examine itself from frontline employees and supervisors through middle management to the accountable executive. The evaluation assesses people, systems, and process by probing topics and looking for solid practices that have led organizations to improve their safety record.

#### **SMS Effectiveness Evaluation to Fit Your Needs**

No matter where your organization is in its SMS maturity, MITRE will tailor-fit an evaluation and other services to meet your needs. There are several ways to customize a SMS Effectiveness Evaluation. If you are new to SMS, we can evaluate a baseline and offer services to help you start off with the best practices. If you're further down the path, we can provide focus areas for your improvement. We can also train and equip your own internal evaluation team with the tool to monitor yourself going forward. Thus, any organization can benefit from our services. MITRE has decades of experience successfully meeting the needs of the Federal Aviation Administration and is engaging with industries such as automotive, healthcare, mass transit, and air transportation. We ensure that all pieces of your SMS outfit are fitting and performing as intended.

For information about MITRE's SMS Effectiveness Evaluation expertise and capabilities, contact MITRE at <a href="mailto:safetymanagement@mitre.org">safetymanagement@mitre.org</a>.



NAS

#### **Evaluation Categories:**

- Policy
- Regulatory Compliance
- Safety Objectives & Goals
- Management Commitment
- SMS Responsibilities
- Safety Culture
- System Analysis& Hazard Identification
- Risk Assessment & Control
- Change Management
- Safety Interfaces
- Safety Performance Monitoring
- Performance Assessment
- Continuous Improvement
- SMS Training
- Safety Communication
- SMS Documentation
- SMS Records
- Fatigue Risk Management
- Emergency Response
- Other Leading Practice Programs

MITRE's mission-driven teams are dedicated to solving problems for a safer world. Through our public-private partnerships and federally funded R&D centers, we work across government and in partnership with industry to tackle challenges to the safety, stability, and well-being of our nation.

