

Safety Case Development For Unmanned Aircraft Operations

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Navigatus

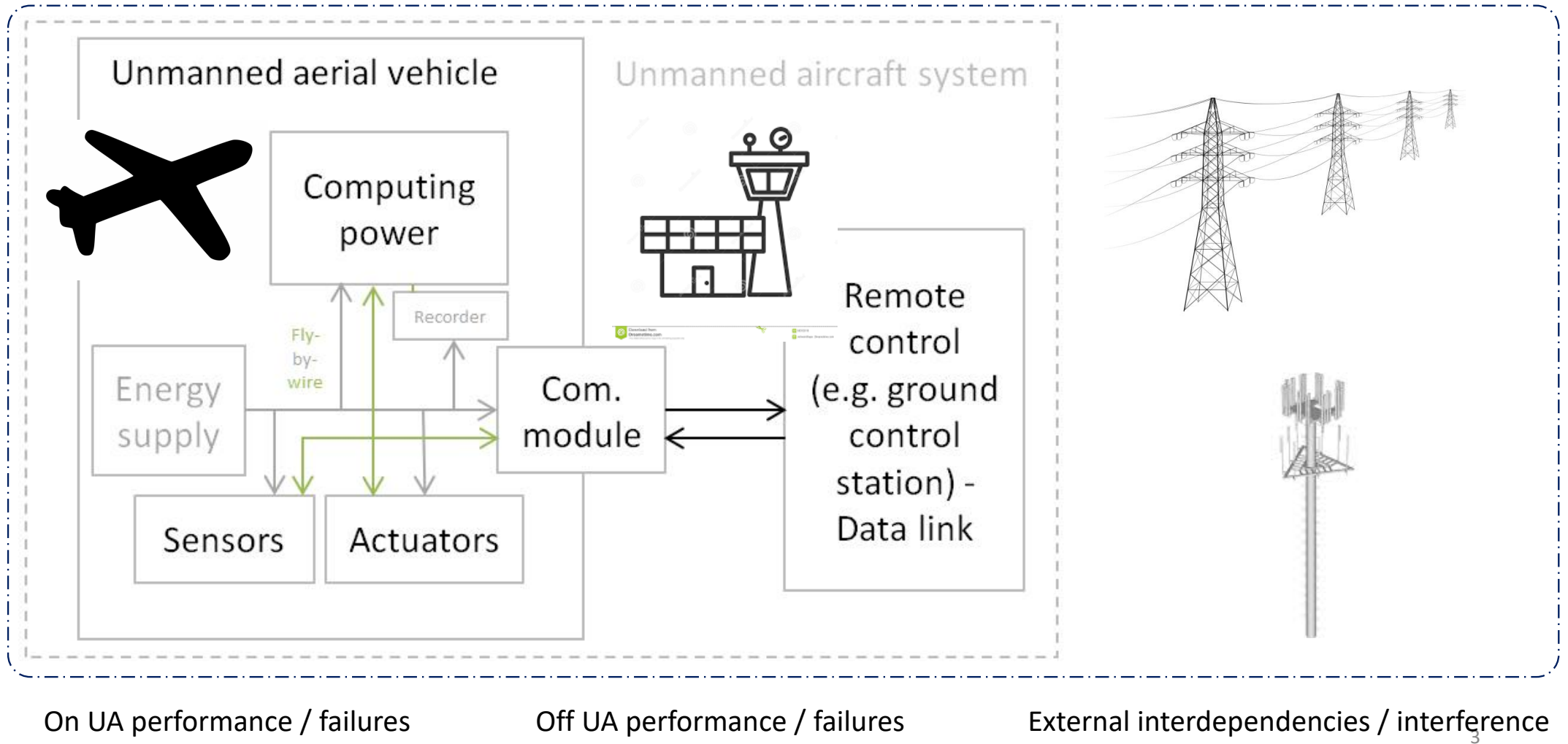
Risk NZ Conference Briefing

18 June 2019





Scope = system wide



Problem Context

- The development and employment of small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) has and continues to progress rapidly – but for the moment - operations are conducted within visual line of sight (VLOS)
- A common approach beyond that (BVLOS) has yet to be developed.
- The introduction of UA systems (UAS) - with their associated innovations and evolving technology - into established national aviation system is forcing the need to find new ways of ensuring successful and safe integration.
- The inability of the regulatory system to adapt will stifle innovation and the benefits that could be realised from a safe UA regime.
- The first country to find a viable regulatory solution stands to gain significant indirect value as well as the obvious direct benefits.
- A robust solution is required to ensure that the risks are acceptable.
- Without this assurance, large UAV operations cannot be considered viable or sustainable.

Safety Case Methodology

- A Safety Case approach offers a proven methodology for managing the risks of a given operation in non-routine situations or when the existing rules regime is not suitable.
- A Safety Case allows the regulator to make evidenced risk-based decisions and ensure public safety on a case-by-case basis.
- With regard to UA BVLOS operations, many developers and operators will be on a development pathway that will mean the UA system will be continuously evolving. A Safety Case regime offers a flexible approach and allows on-going approvals as long as the operator can demonstrate to the regulator that defined criteria continue to be met.



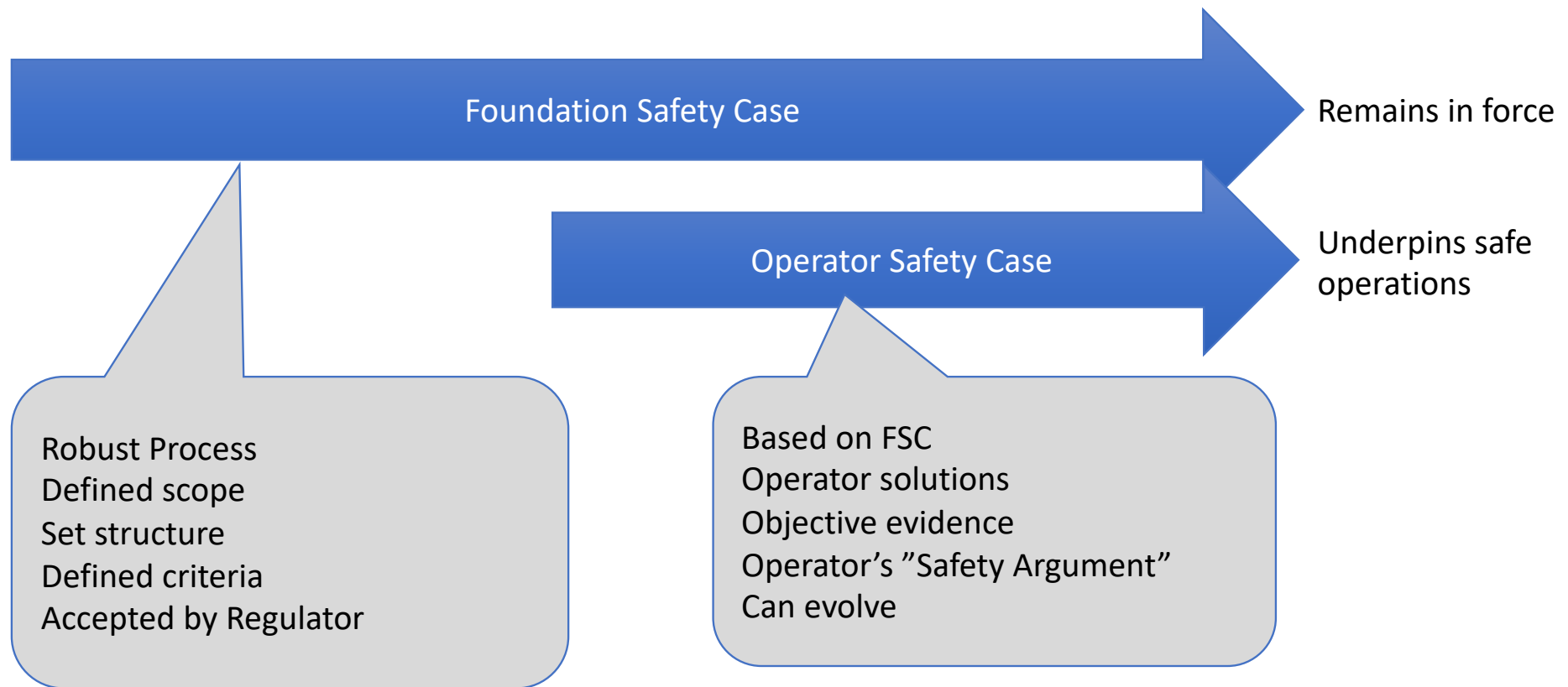
Problem / Solution

- Each applicant will probably be bring their own unique and usually innovative solution to the operational situation they are addressing.
- The existing regulatory framework does not have defined risk criteria – or the criteria are inadequately described.
- Significant burden on regulator as each operator seeks SC approval.
- A two-tier Safety Case structure has therefore been prepared:
 - Foundation Safety Case (FSC) – Setting the framework and criteria that must be met)
 - Operator Safety Case (OSC) - Showing how an operator will meet the requirements and criteria set out in the FSC

Solution

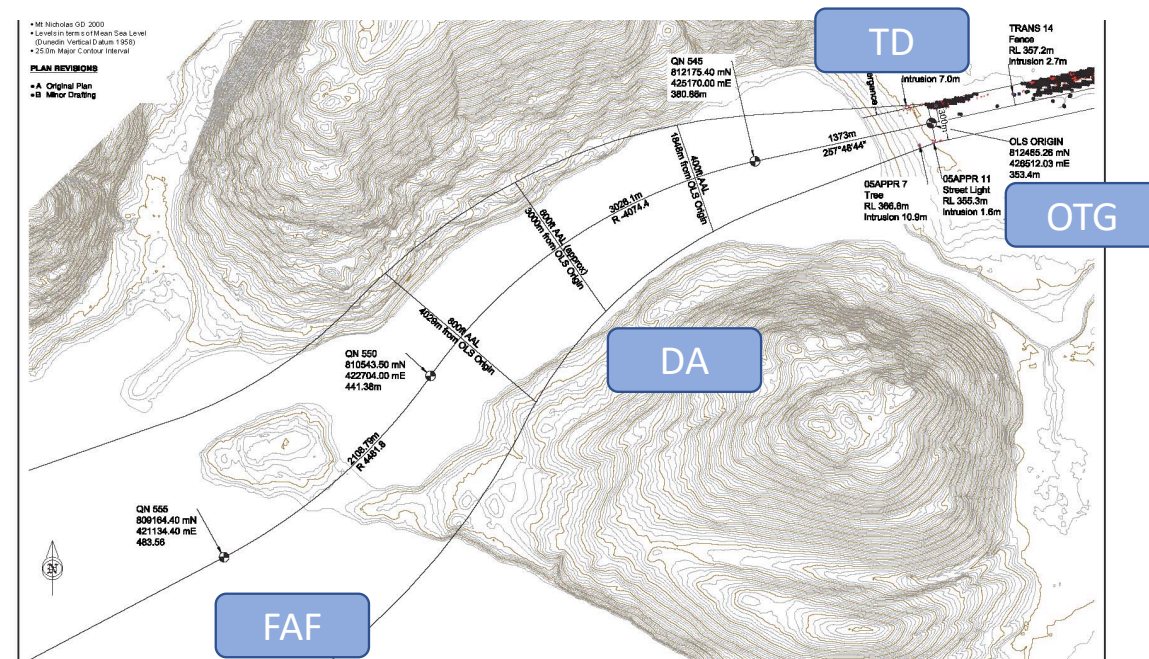
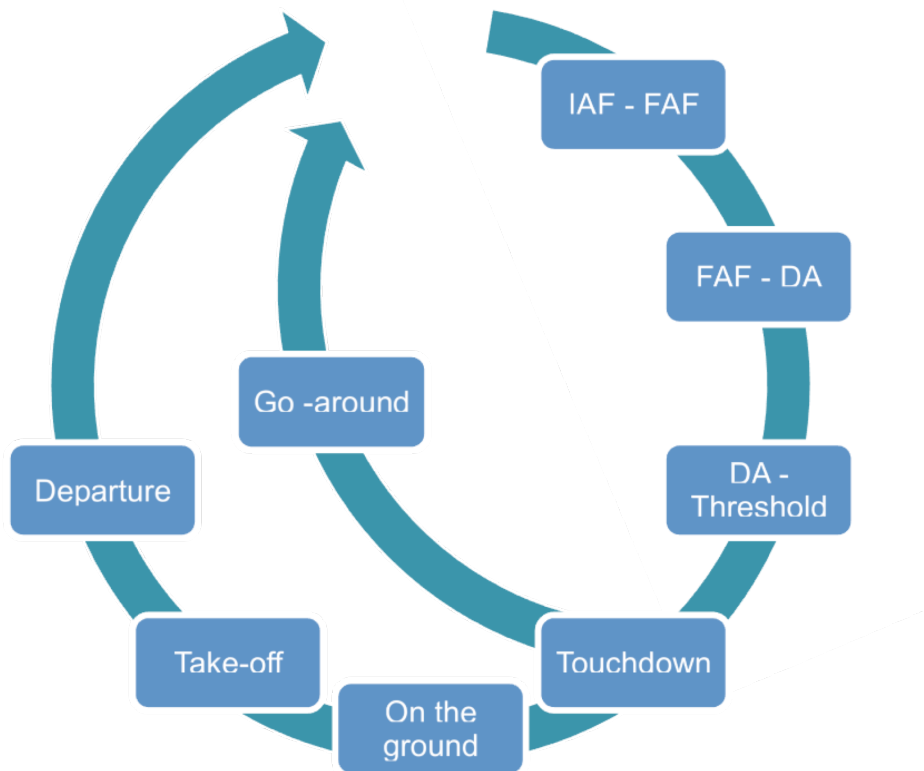
- The FSC consists of a structured framework with the required scope and an associated set of criterion to allow consideration of the functions and processes that an UAS must include and meet to enable safe and effective UAV operation.
- The aim is for the OSC to achieve a level of safety that will match or exceed the level of safety of established commercial GA operations. This will allow the societal, environmental and economic benefits of UAs to be achieved while also enabling ongoing innovation.
- If the an OSC shows that an operator can achieve the defined criteria of the FSC it should be acceptable by the CAA. *Subject to the usual F&PP, financial status tests etc.*

Two-tier Safety Case Concept



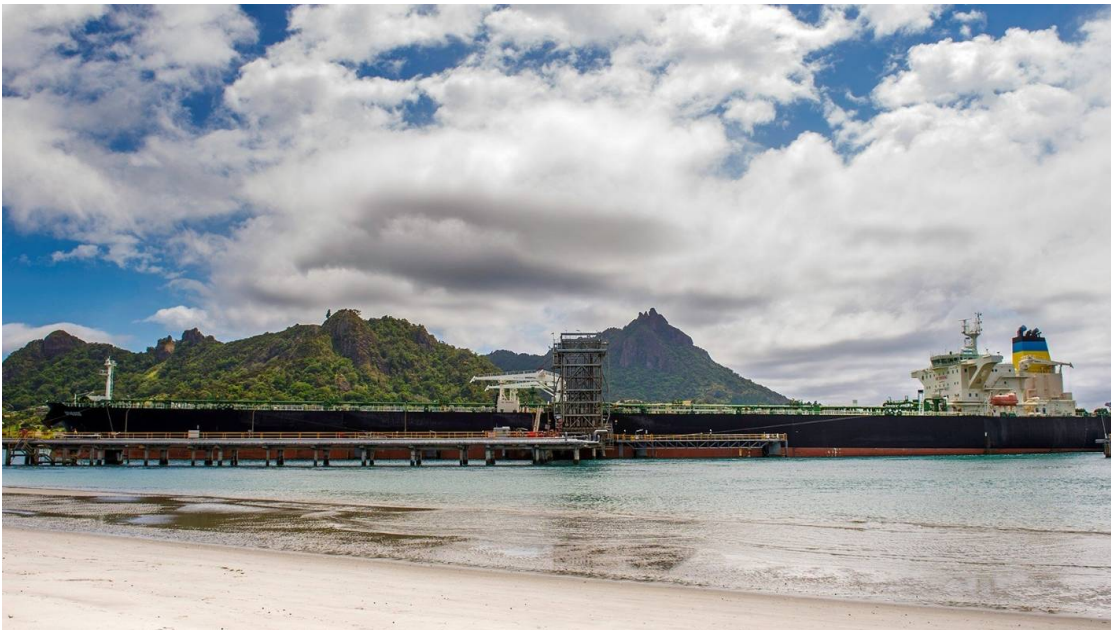
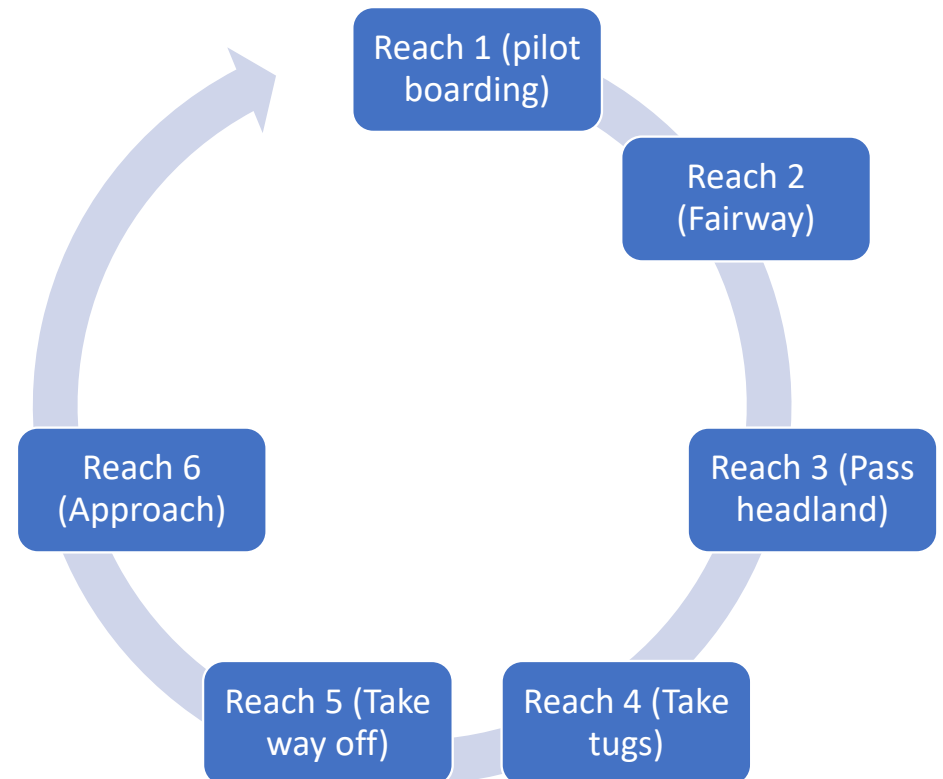
Process background: Break problem down

Aircraft phases of flight

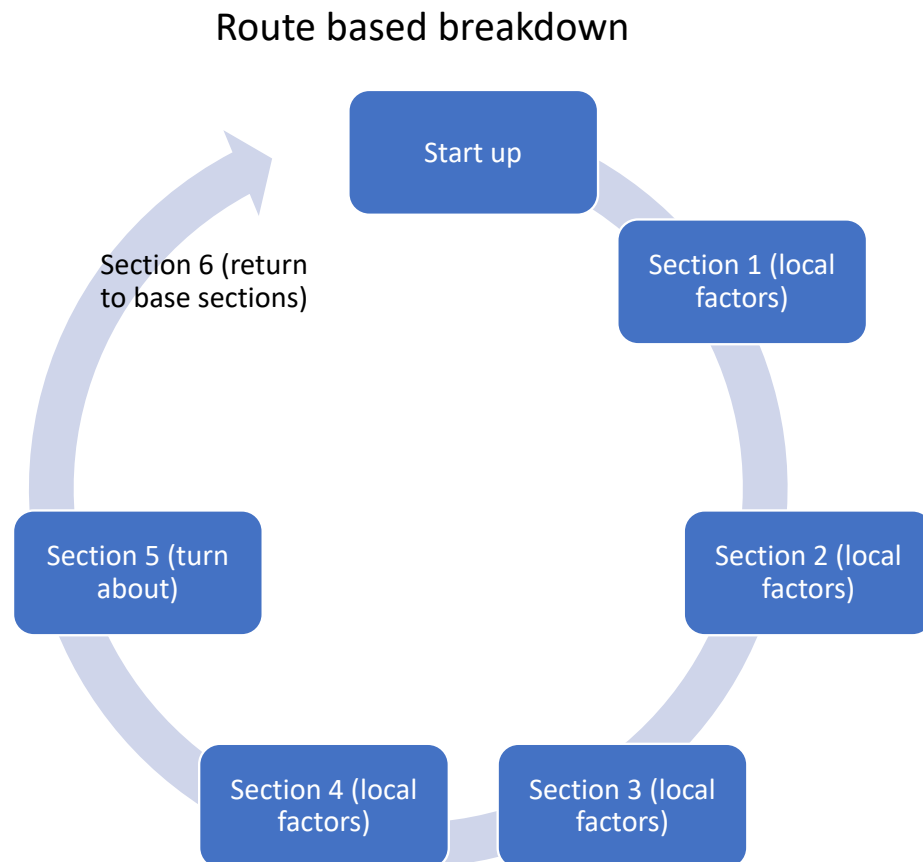


Break problem into manageable parts

Vessel approach reaches



Break problem into manageable parts

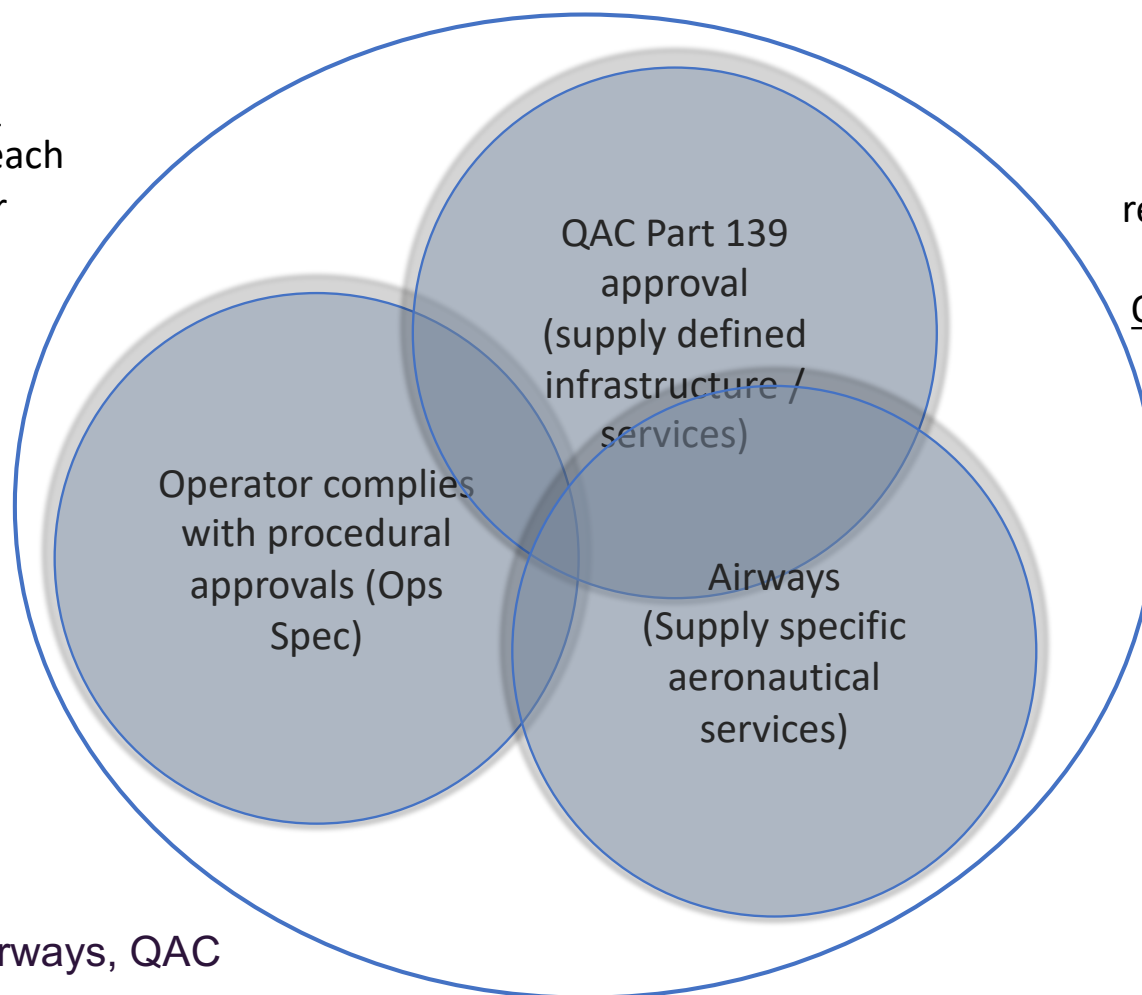


Example of use of two-tier Safety Case

- Queenstown Airport – Civil Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) Night Operations
- *Foundation Safety Case*
- *Operator Safety Cases*
 - *Air NZ: Airbus - A320 – with addition of Head Up Display and ROPS – Main line*
 - *Jetstar, Airbus - A320 – Existing equipment fit – Domestic and International*
 - *Virgin Australia) – Boeing 737-800 - Existing equipment fit – Limited application*

Multi-stakeholder context

Foundation Safety Case
defines elements that each
operational stakeholder
supplies



Each stakeholder
meets own
responsibilities under
own approved
Operator Safety Case

CAA regulator for Air NZ, Airways, QAC
CASA regulator for Qantas, Jetstar, Virgin

Example - Operator Safety Case

Air NZ:

- *A320*
- *New technology equipage*
- *Main line*

Jetstar

- *A320*
- *Existing equipage*
- *Domestic and International*

Virgin Australia

- *Boeing 737-800*
- *Existing equipment fit*
- *Limited schedule*

67 controls in total

- **Aerodrome operator:**
 - E.g:
 - Infrastructure
 - Ground equipment
- **Airlines**
 - E.g:
 - Training
 - Procedures
- **Airway NZ**
 - Procedures

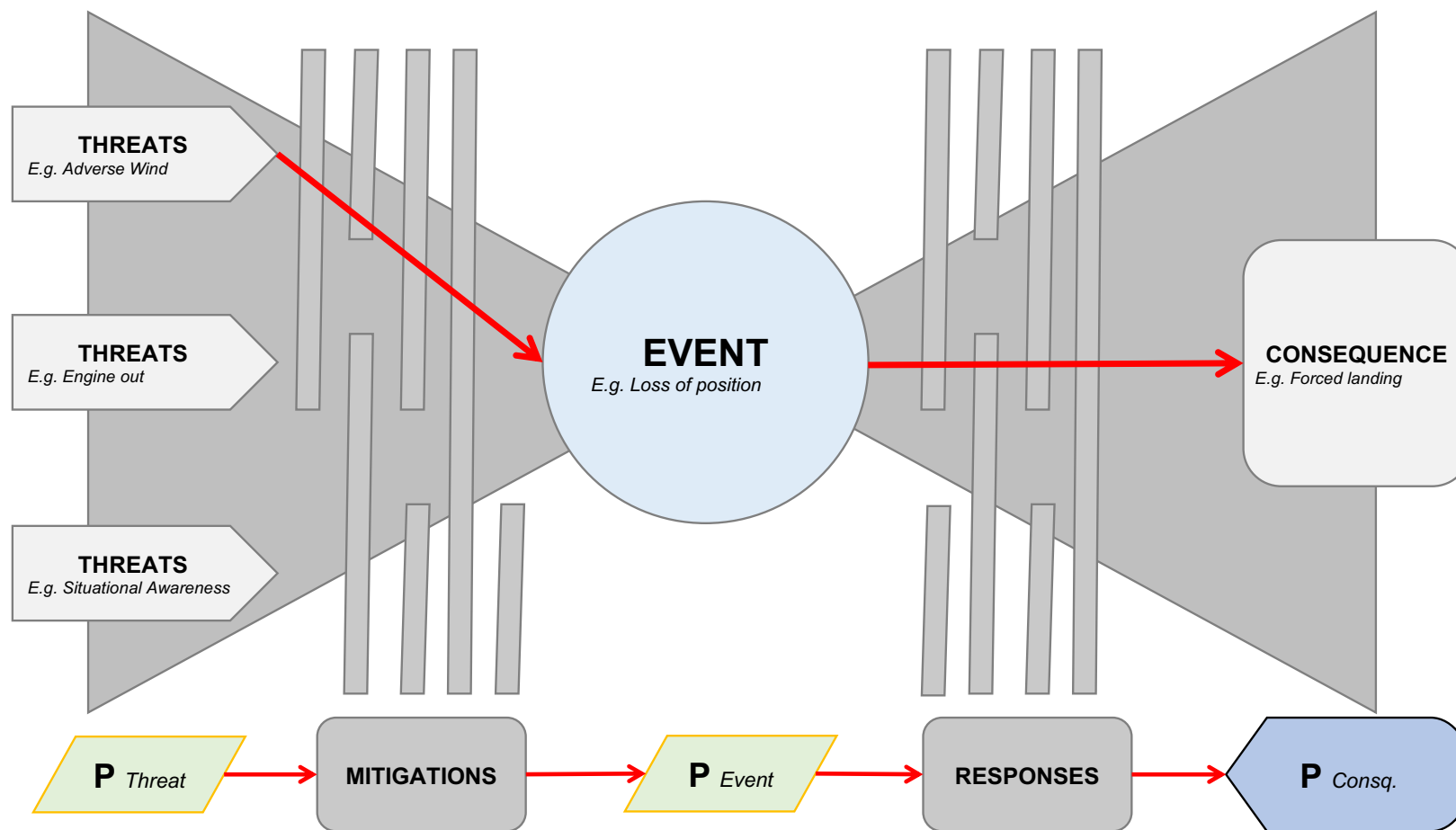
UAV Safety Case

- Development of Universal UAV Foundation Safety Case



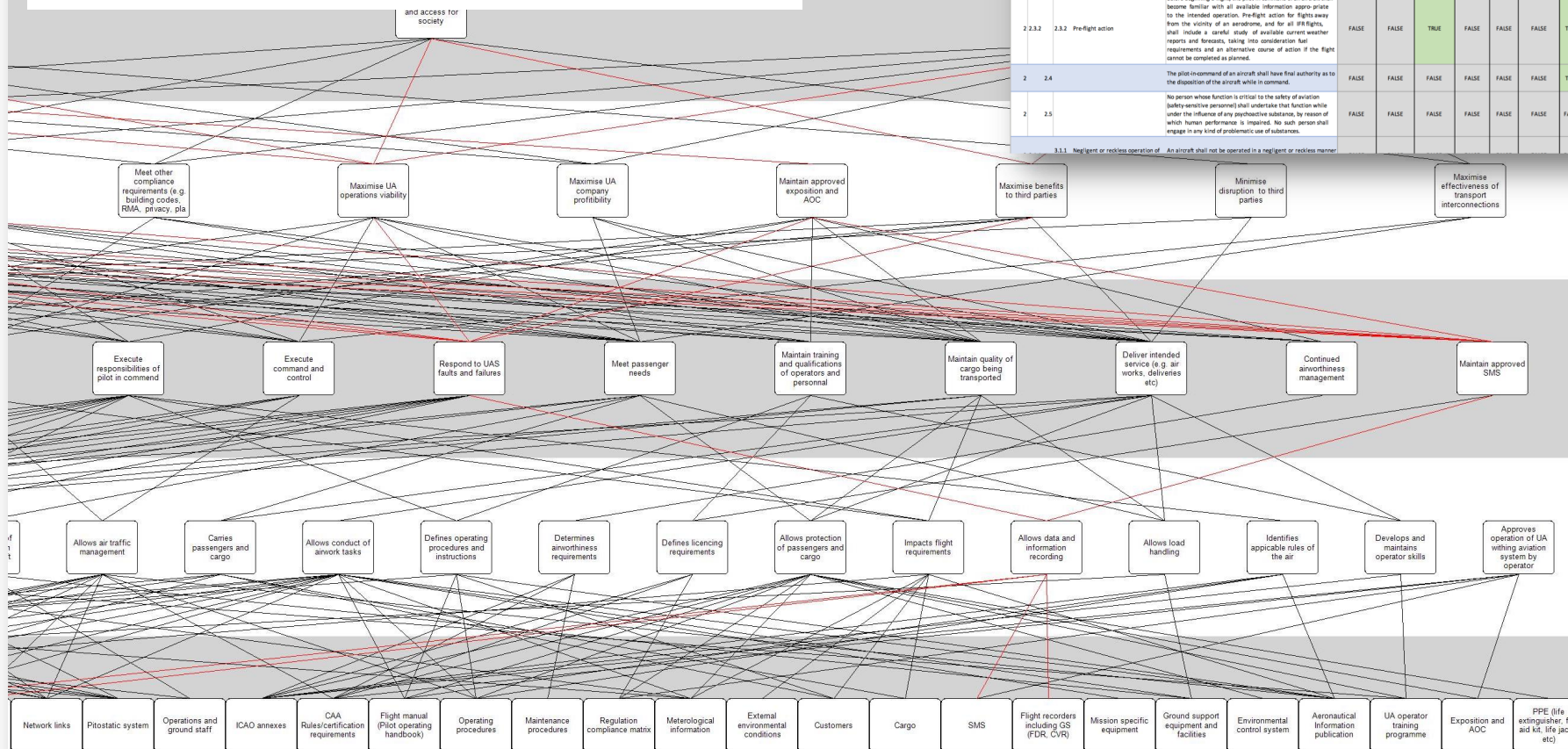
Analytical Concept

Contemporary best practice. Conforms to:
ISO 31010 & AC139-15



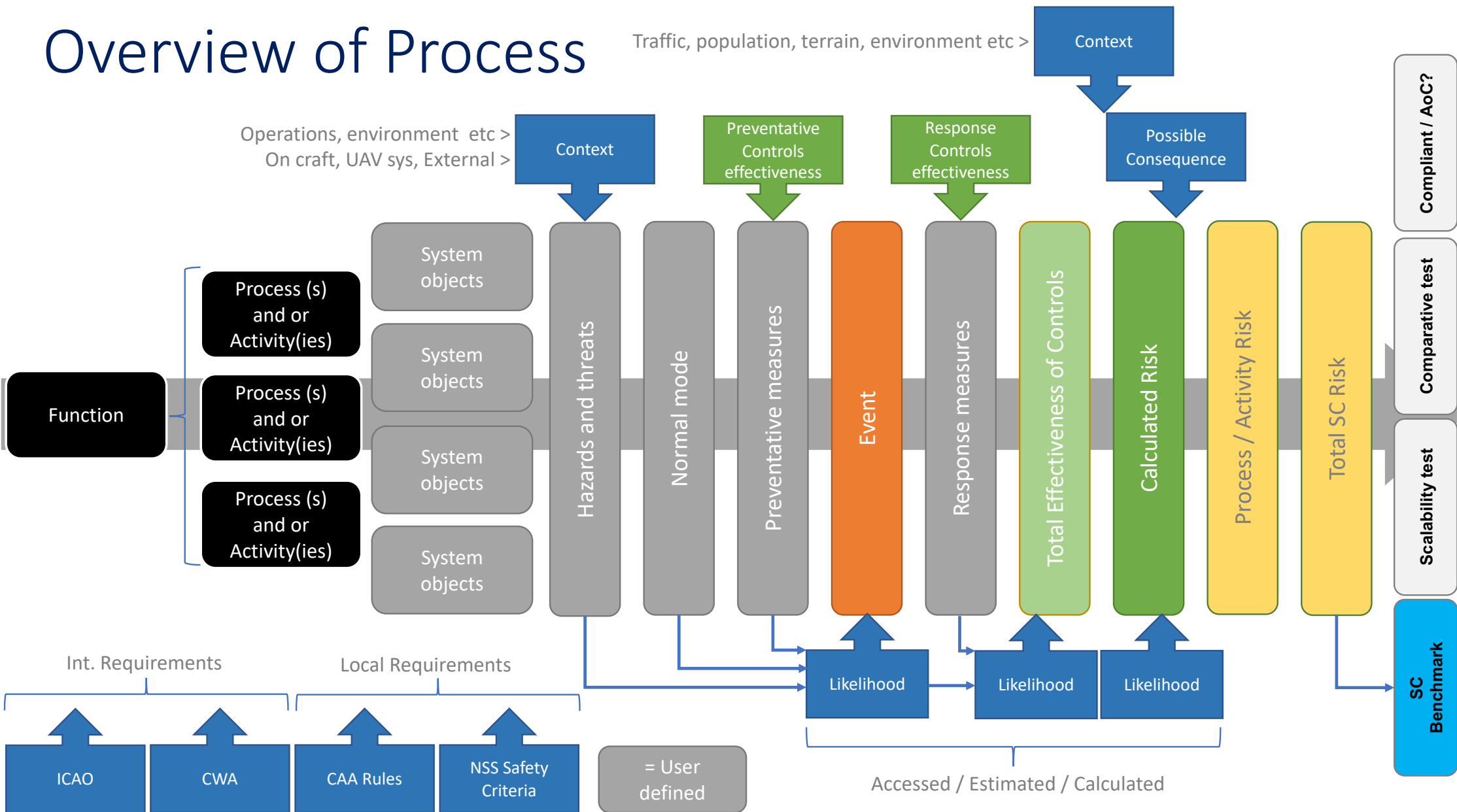
Foundation for SC

Cognitive Work Analysis – Work Domain Analysis

[illegible]

ICAO rules mapping

Overview of Process



UAV Safety Criteria

- *When is 'safe' safe enough?*



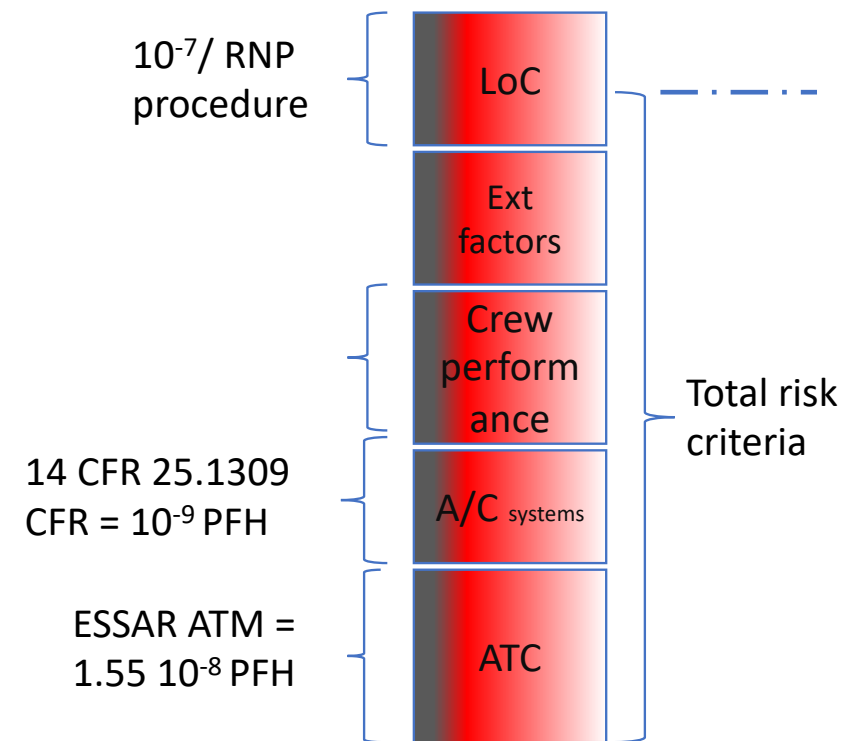
The Risk Criteria / Target Safety Level Problem

Quantitative

- ▶ Easy to “pick a number”
- ▶ Difficult to perceive actual meaning
- ▶ Very difficult (impossible?) to measure
- ▶ Differing units
- ▶ Unquantifiable factors

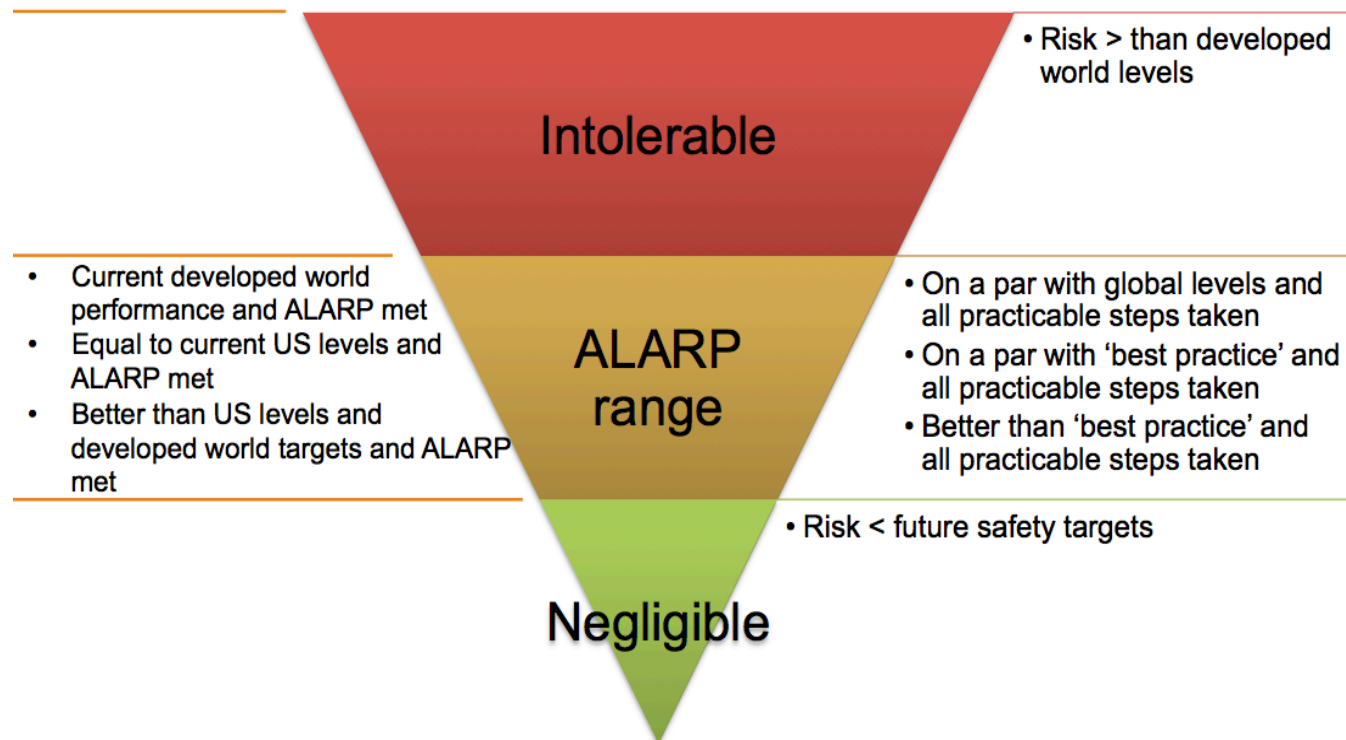
Qualitative

- ▶ Difficult to prove / justify
- ▶ Societal perceptions (new vs established activities)
- ▶ Imprecise

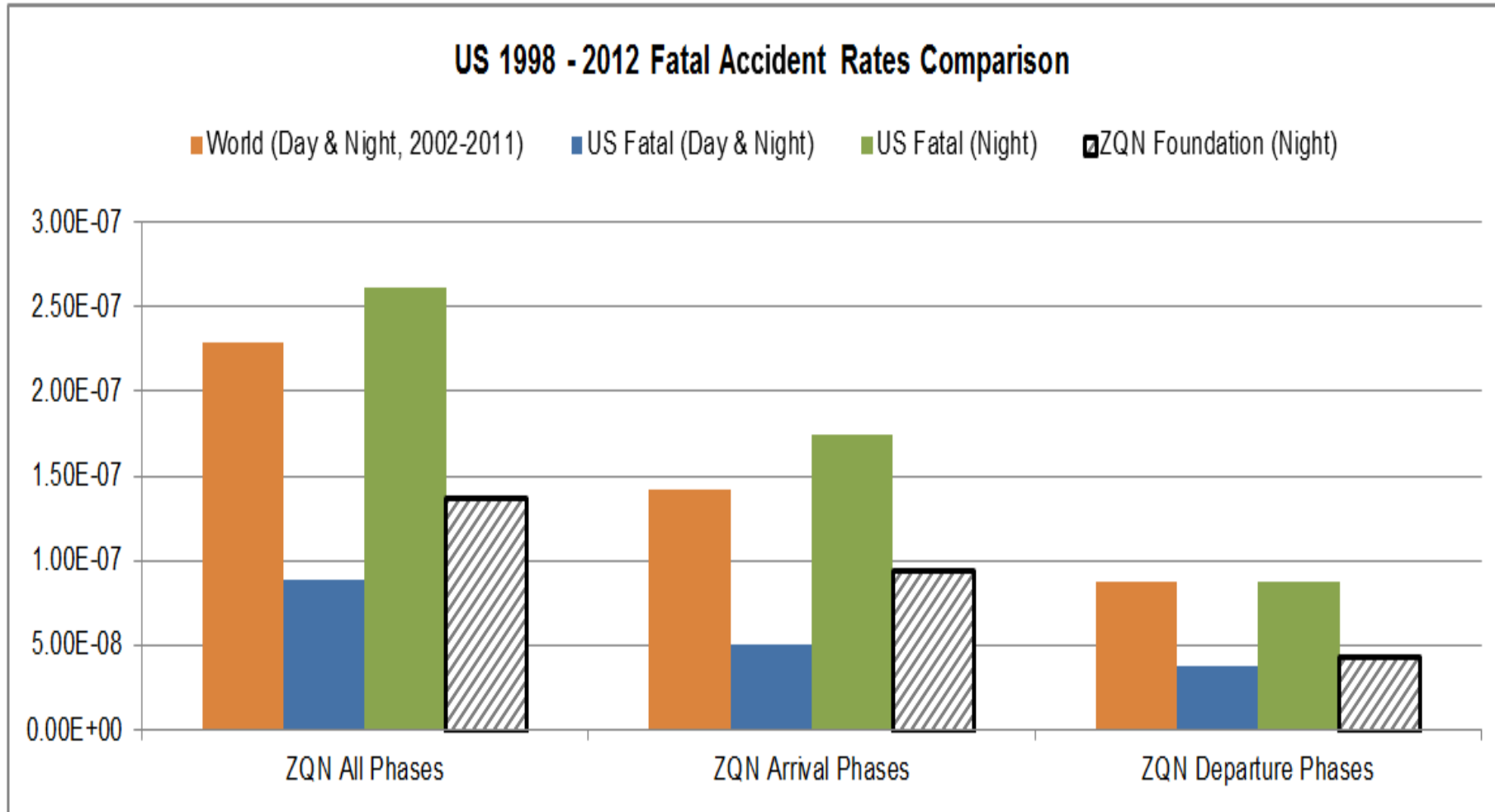


Units: PFH, per procedure, en-route FH/ATM, component failure PH, per phase of flight, etc

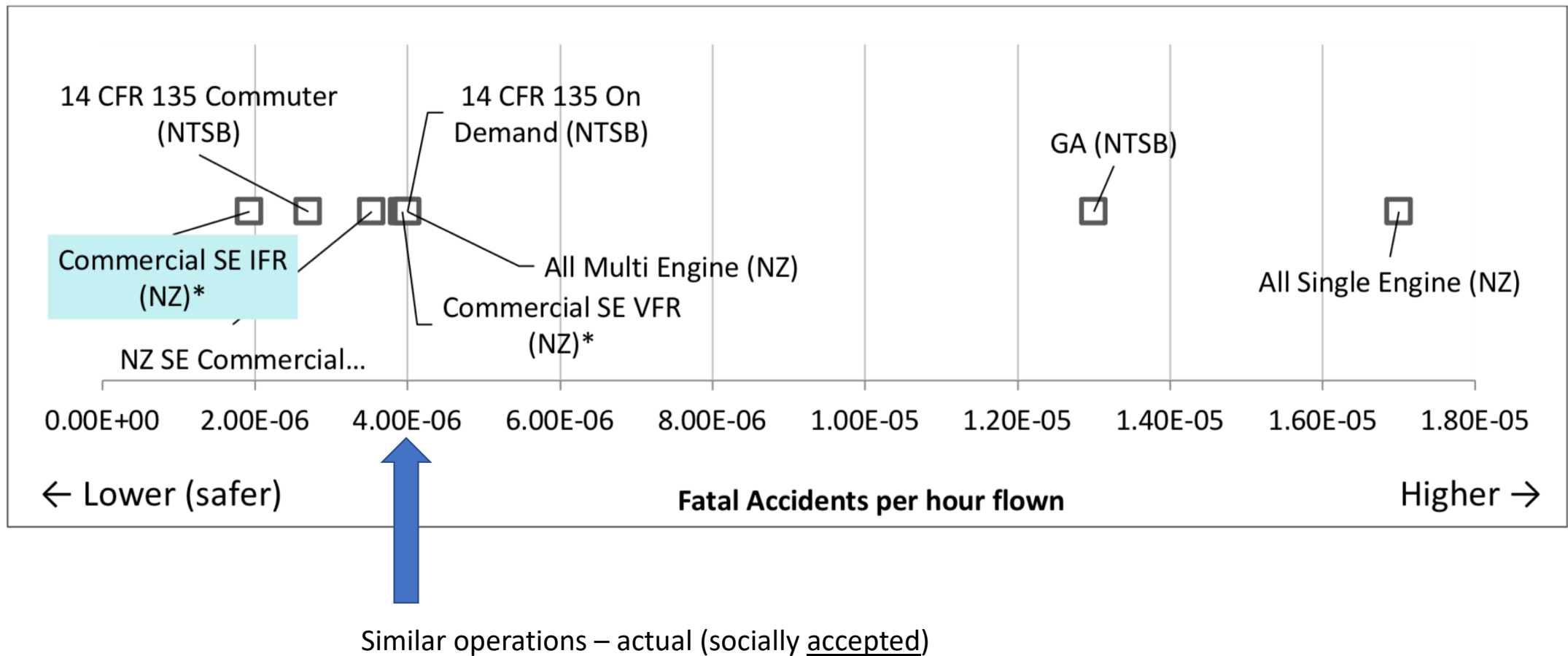
ALARP (concept)



Alternative - Bench marking (example)



Alternative - Bench marking (UAV example)

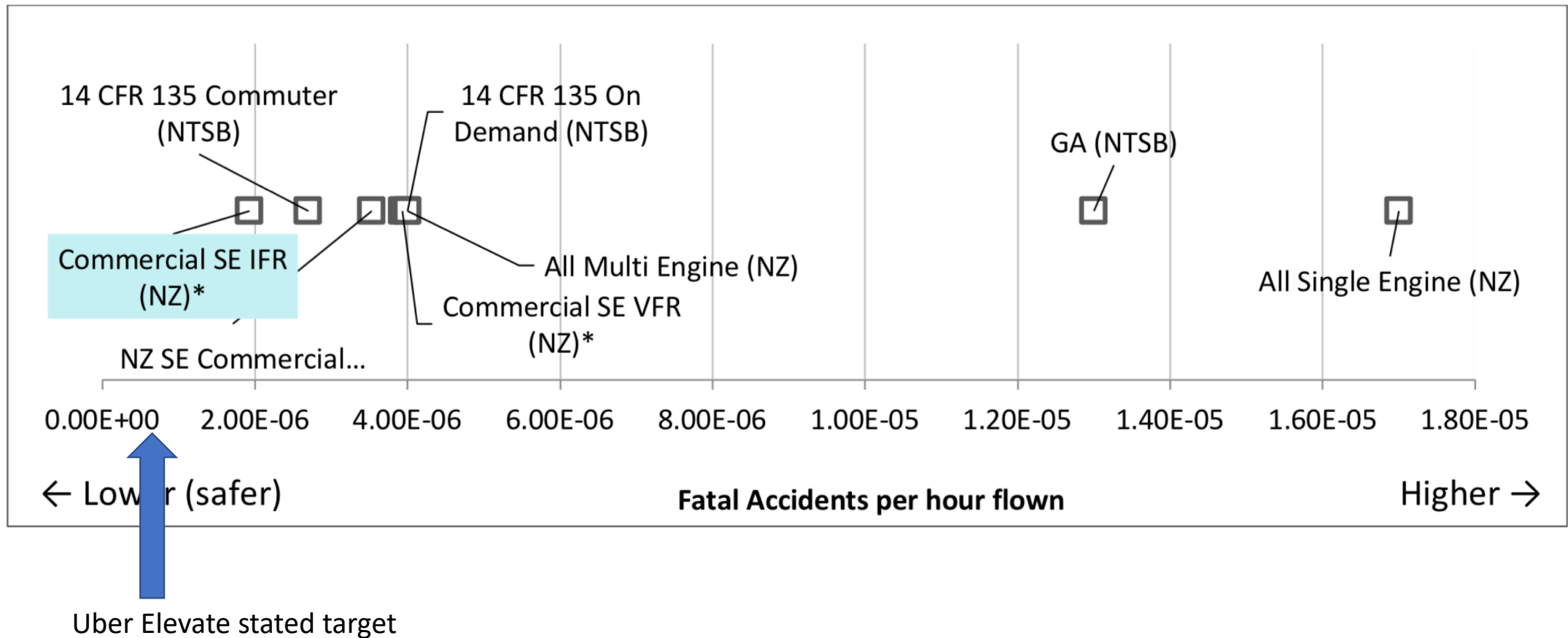


Uber Elevate White Paper 2019

“Safety. *We believe VTOL aircraft need to be safer than driving a car on a fatalities-per-passenger-mile basis. “*

“Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 135 operations (for commuter and on-demand flights) on average, have twice the fatality rate of privately operated cars, but we believe this rate can be lowered for VTOL aircraft at least to one-fourth of the average Part 135 rate, making VTOLs twice as safe as driving.”

Alternative - Bench marking (UAV example)



Proposed Criteria (Draft):

- Each process has an associated fatality risk faced by individual passengers and members of the public due to:
 - ‘On Craft’ hazards and threats (typically system or performance failures)
 - Hazards and threats that may impact the “Off craft’ elements of the UA system (typically system performance failures and human performance failures)
 - Risks created by external hazards and influences unrelated to the UA systems
- National **Aviation Safety Criteria** met
- That, for each given process, can be demonstrated that the risk is **ALARP**
- The Foundation Safety Case **Target Level of Safety (TLS) = $<4 \times 10^{-6}$**
- That the risk of not being able to carry out a given operational process is **$<10^{-7}$** per flight hour (measured quantitatively where possible else qualitatively)
- That the collision risk is **$<10^{-7}$** per flight hour (measured quantitatively)

Downloaded from <http://ajph.org/> on November 10, 2015

<div> <div> Welcome (CSC) Test Alert of Operator Not yet </div> <div> Currently viewing: ASD EVMS Safety Case </div> <div> To change settings view or set up a new safety case, click on this help page </div> </div>					
Threat-Event Sequence Analysis					
ID	Function	Process	Operator Progress	Action	
1.0	Personal awareness and navigation	Conduct (PNA) and EIS navigation	70%	Go	Download
2.1	Maintain aircraft domain situational awareness	Maintain distance and terrain awareness and separation	70%	Go	Download
3.1	Maintain distance and terrain awareness and separation	Awareness of obstacles and fused threat	70%	Go	Download
3.2	Maintain distance and terrain awareness and separation	Awareness of terrain	100%	Go	Download
3.3	Maintain distance and terrain awareness and separation	Manoeuvre and respond	100%	Go	Download
4.1	Other aircraft	Obtain air traffic information	100%	Go	Download
4.2	Other aircraft	2-way communications and info flow	100%	Go	Download

Function 1.1 Postional awareness and navigation
 Process 1.1 Conduct VR and IFR navigation

Red fields have not yet been filled in. Grey fields can not be edited by this user.

On UA	Off UA	External	Outcomes	Risk	UAS Safety Argument	Notes
Type fault ② Loss of required navigation capability				Other potential effects ① Unexpected change in heading or apparent routing leading to reduction in safety and passenger alarm		
System objects ③ • Airspace, heading and reference system • Flight management systems • Mission computer				Phase of flight ④ • A: Taxi • B: Lift off • C: Transition - Climb out		

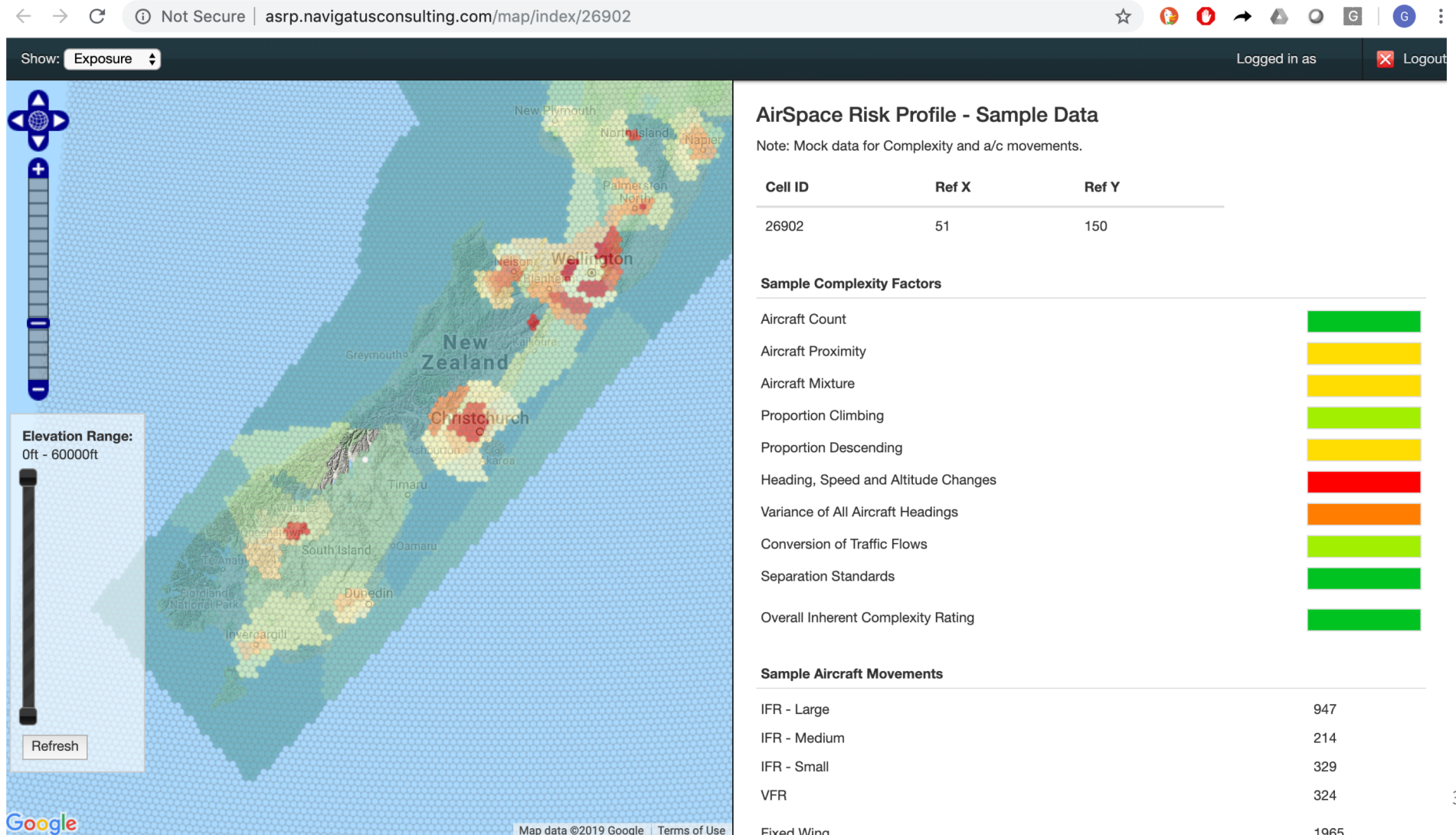
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Practical Example:

for Unmanned Aircraft and General Aviation
Aircraft in Uncontrolled Airspace

Linking airspace collision model with Safety Case

National Airspace Risk Reference System



Safety Case Linked to Airspace Risk Model

Link to the Operational Base

[Open Airspace Risk Tool](#)

Show selected cell on the Airspace Risk Tool

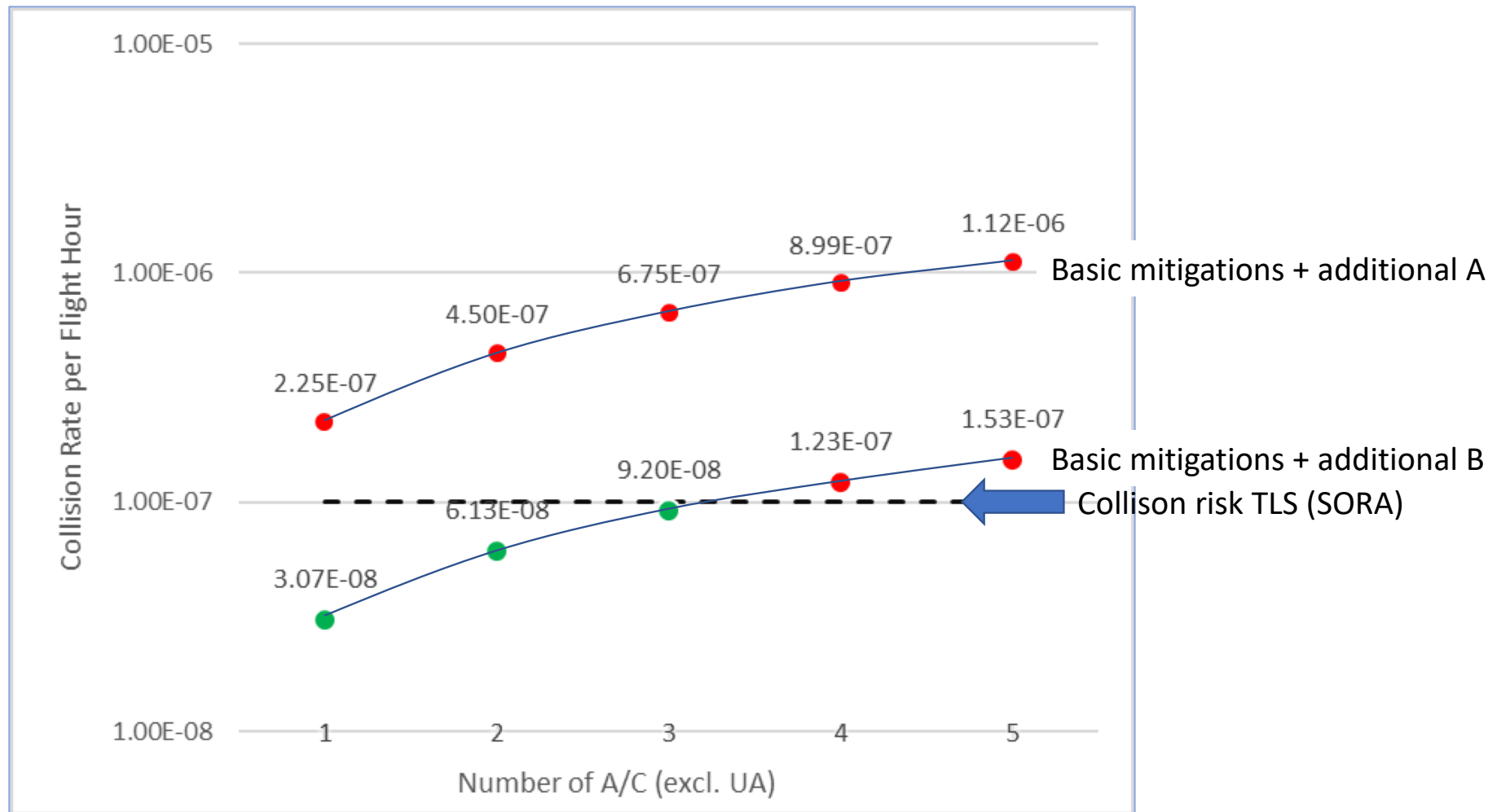
Operational Area

26902

Select a cell from the Airspace Risk Tool grid below



Example results – Applied Collision Risk Model



Take aways (1)

A: Until:

- Technology matures
- Rule system catches up with technology

Safety Case approach offers near term regulatory solution to managing risk while enabling innovation.

B: Process model enables objective of existing system

C: Establishing criteria is not straight forward

Take aways (2)

D: While Safety Case solution potentially huge burden on regulator

E: Practical Safety Case framework can be developed that:

- Enables efficient oversight and monitoring
- Flexible – allowing ongoing innovation

F: For UAV; a practical quantitative / universal collision model can be developed

G: The proposed safety criteria (a step up from the current 'accepted' risk) are probably achievable

Thank you

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