HCRQ, Inc.

Newsletter - November 2010

More On Forensic Investigations

You may recall our first article regarding this subject. It appeared in the October 2008 newsletter.

As a result of conducting 7 of these investigations here are some of our observations.

- In many cases, even the most exhaustive testing would not have located the scenario which led to the accident.
- Investigative costs are dwarfed by the costs of the accidents which may have associated litigations.
- Prior to the accidents, clients have often been overconfident due to extensive testing that they performed on the system or due to system's longevity in the field with no accidents.

- Often safety analyses do not match the design.
- Sometimes the design documentation has not been kept current.
- Sometimes the system design is overly complex.
- We have seen worse designs with greater potential for accidents than we saw in these investigations.
- Software Change Hazard Analysis may not have been performed.
- Occasionally, excellent system development and concurrently performed safety assessment processes have been thwarted by poor product support following delivery.
- Interesting quotes such as "we thought that couldn't happen", and "the patient did not have long to live anyhow".

SSPP Example

Many people have been asking us for one for years.

It took us some time to piece one together from:

- our archived contract SSPPs,
- supplemented by the content of our SSPP Webinar, and
- our SSPP DID.

This example is available for purchase.

www.hcrq.com/SSPP_example.html

Software Safety Course

November 30– December 3 - http://www.hcrq.com/software_safety_course.html

System Safety Course

December 6-10 - http://www.hcrq.com/system_safety_course_5day.html

Hands-On Fault Tree Analysis Course

December 15-16 - http://www.hcrq.com/fta_2day_course.html

2011 Courses & Webinars

Events have been announced for January through March.

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