



Definitions of Safety

Informally
- "Nothing bad will happen"

N. Leveson, Safeware
- "Freedom from accidents or losses"
- But no system can be completely safe in absolute sense...
- Focus is on making systems safe enough, given limited resources
- Emphasis on accidents, rather than risk

N. Storey, Safety-Critical Computer Systems:
- "System will not endanger human life or environment"
- More emphasis on removing hazards than actual accidents...

Safety-critical system
- System that has the potential to cause accidents

Conflicting requirements

High performance v low cost

Reliability ≠ safety

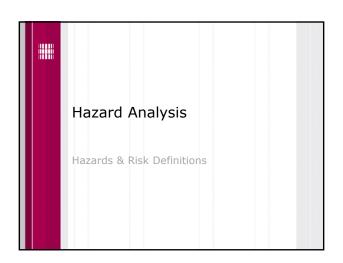
BUT

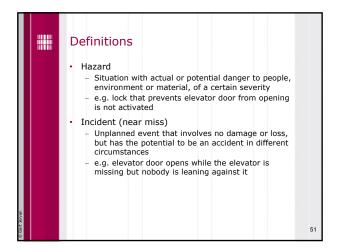
System must be reliable AND safe

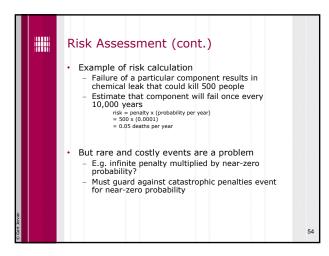
Hazard analysis and risk analysis to identify acceptable levels of safety and reliability

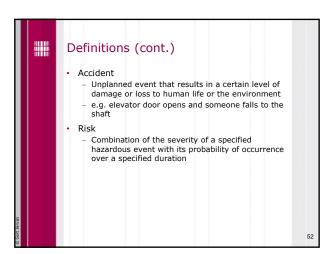
Safety requirements

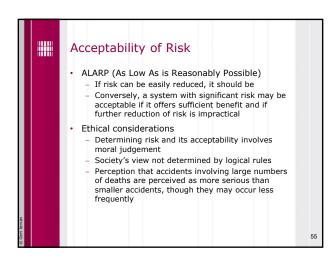
In order to determine safety requirements:
Identification of the hazards associated with the system
Classification of these hazards
Determination of methods for dealing with the hazards
Assignment of appropriate reliability and availability requirements
Determination of an appropriate safety integrity level
Specification of development methods appropriate to this integrity level











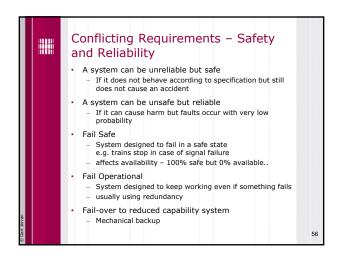
Risk Assessment

• Risk = penalty x likelihood

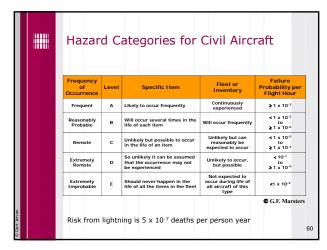
- Penalty can be measured in money, lives, injuries, amount of deadline...

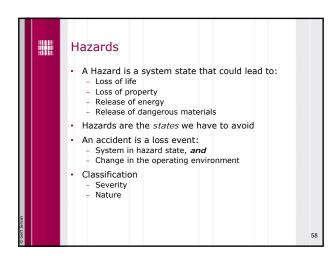
- Likelihood is the probability that a particular hazard will be activated and result in an undesirable outcome

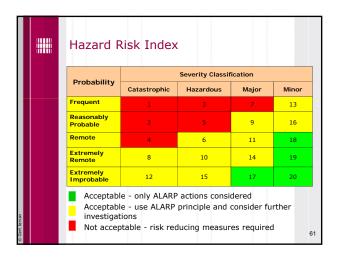
- Pareto ranking: 80% of problems are from 20% of the risks...



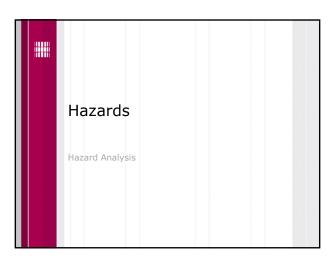


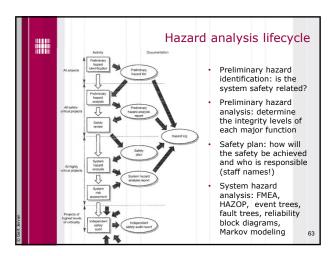


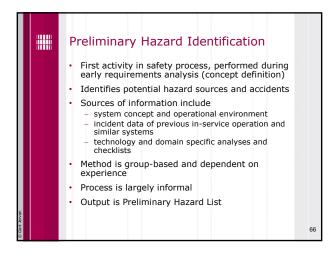






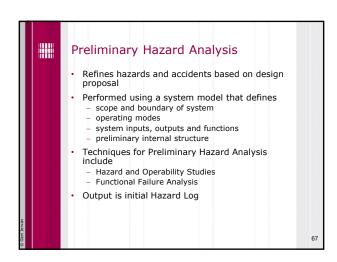


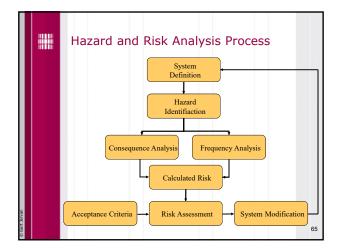


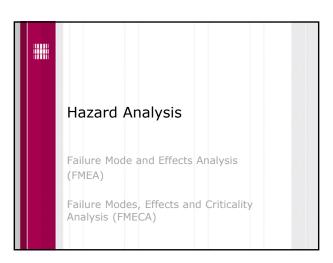


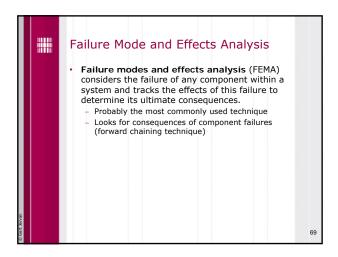
Hazard Analysis

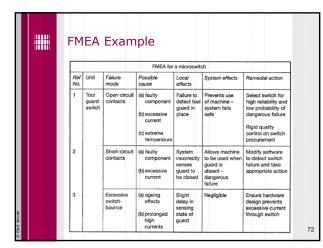
The purpose
Identify events that may lead to accidents
Determine impact on system
Performed throughout the life cycle
Analytical Techniques
Failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA)
FMECA: Failure modes, effects and criticality analysis (FMECA)
ETA: Event tree analysis (ETA)
FTA: Fault tree analysis (FTA)
HAZOP: Hazard and operability studies (HAZOP)
Standards

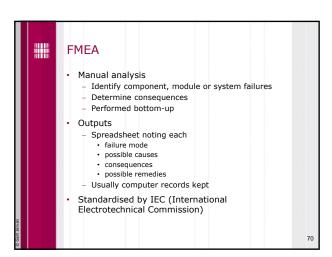


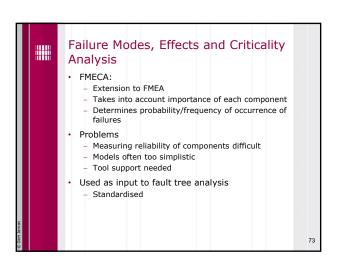


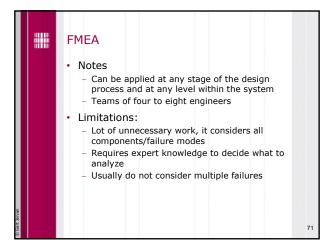


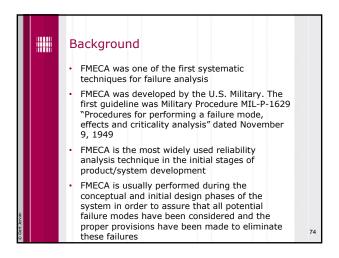


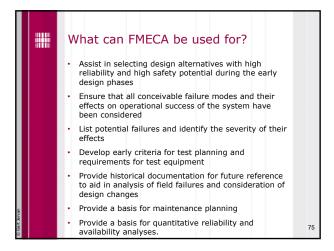




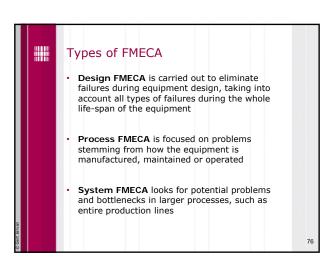


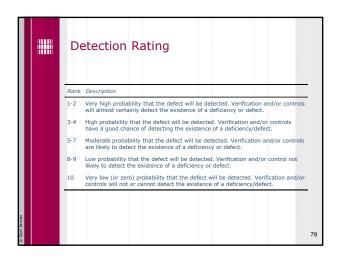


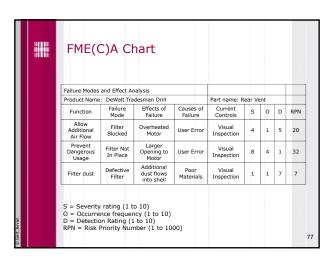


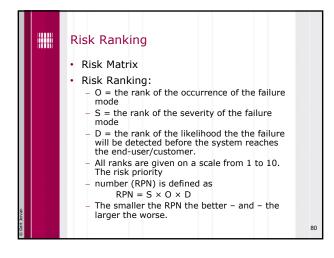


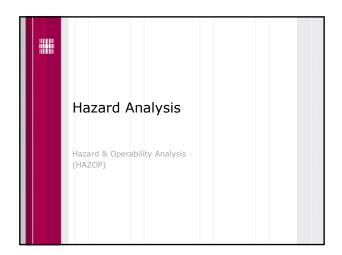


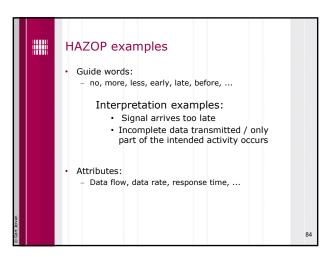


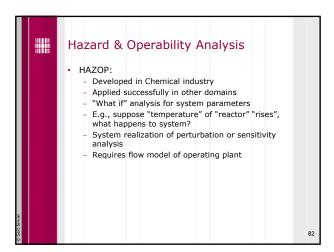


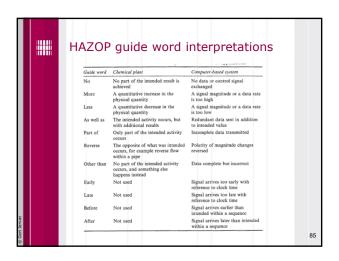












Hazard & Operability Analysis

Flowing items are "entities"

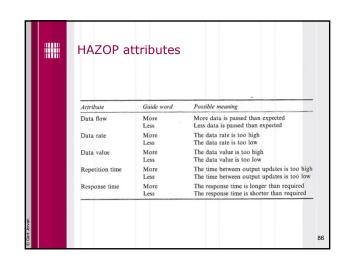
Entities have characteristic properties known as "attributes"

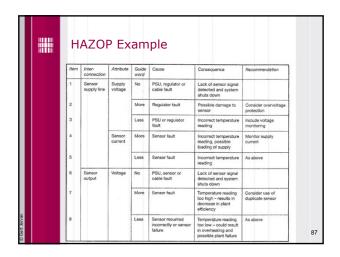
Analysis based on possible deviations of attribute values

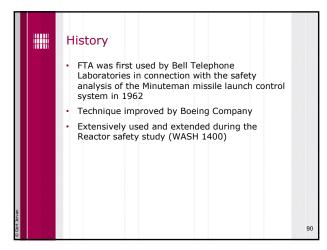
"Guide words" used to guide the analysis— designed to capture dimensions of variation

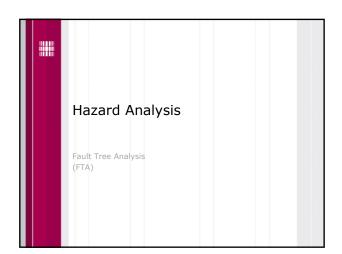
Supplementary adjectives add temporal element

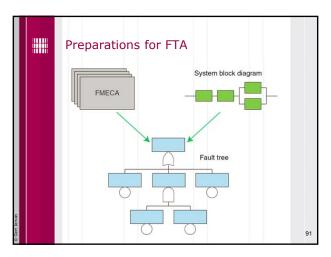
Different word sets for different applications











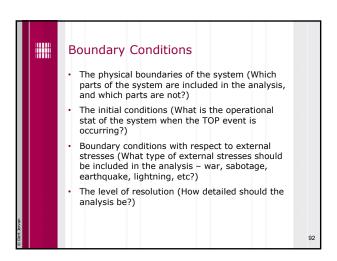
Fault Tree Analysis

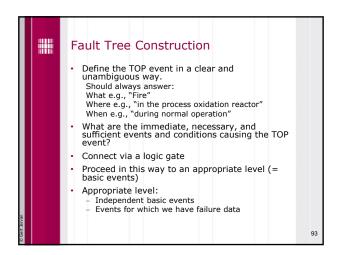
Fault tree analysis (FTA) is a top-down approach to failure analysis, starting with a potential undesirable event (accident) called a TOP event, and then determining all the ways it can happen.

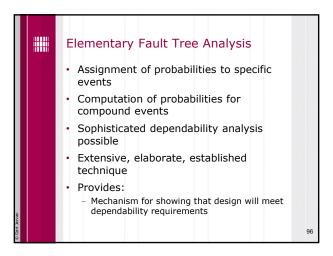
The analysis proceeds by determining how the TOP event can be caused by individual or combined lower level failures or events.

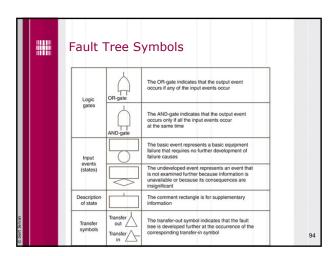
The causes of the TOP event are "connected" through logic gates

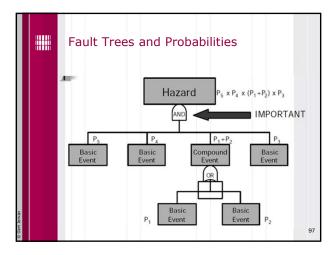
FTA is the most commonly used technique for causal analysis in risk and reliability studies.

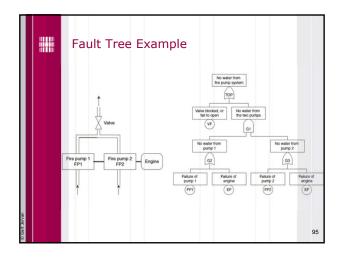


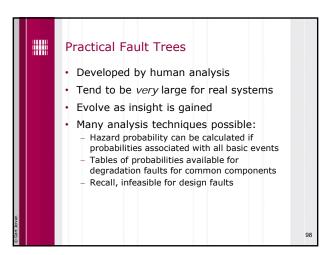


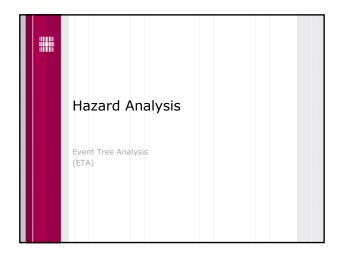


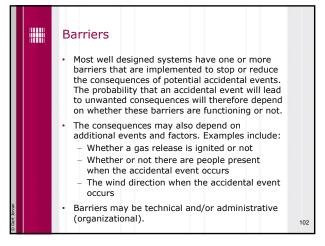










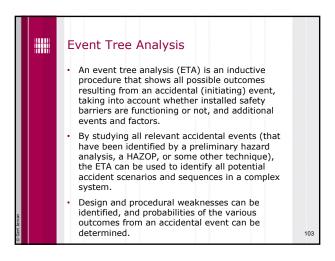


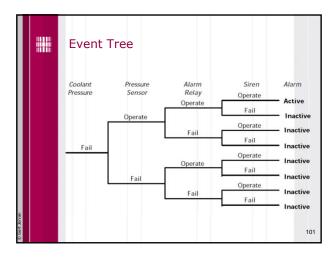
Event Trees

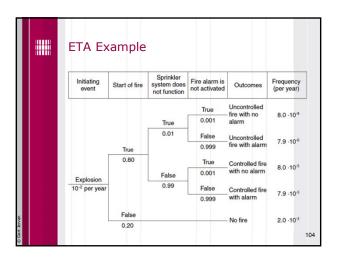
• Event sequences that follow from some initial event of interest, usually a component failure

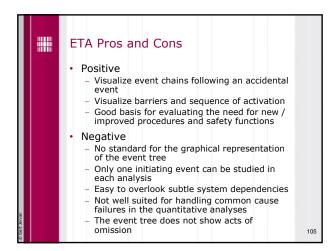
• Downstream events follow from original event and subsequent events of other components

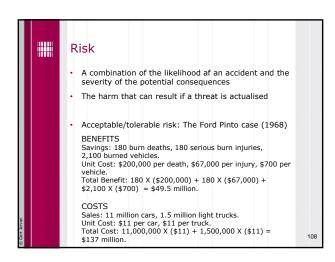
• E.g. Chemical plant pressure sensor sounds siren when pressure drops to unsafe level











Hazard Analysis in the Life Cycle

• FME(C)A

- Used to generate event trees and fault trees

• FME(C)A, FTA, ETA

- Appropriate when functional design complete

• Preliminary HAZOP

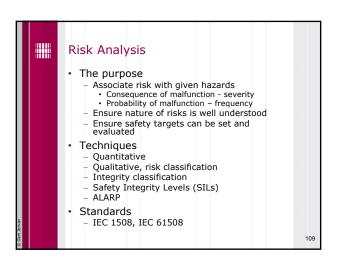
- Early in the life-cycle

- Identify hazards, take account of them in the design

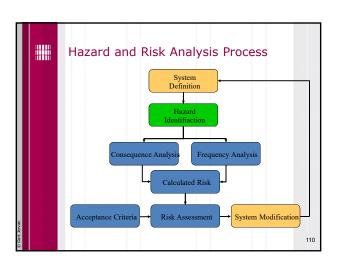
• Full HAZOP

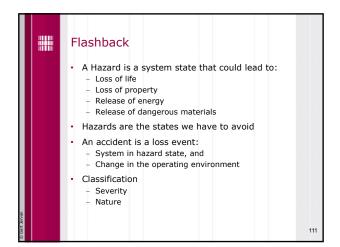
- Later in the life-cycle

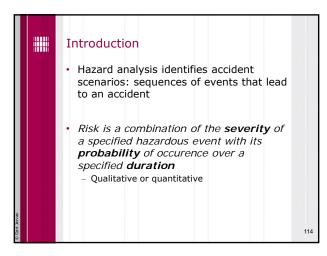
- Identify further hazards, feed back into design design

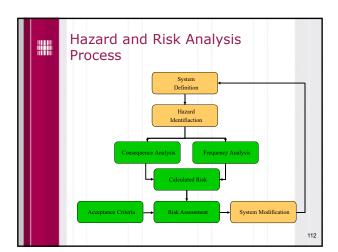


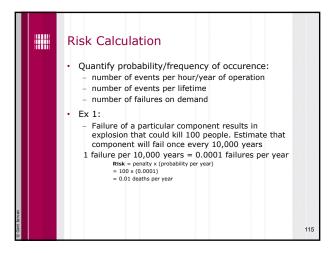










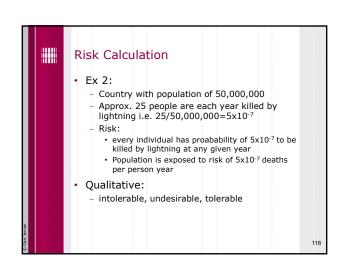


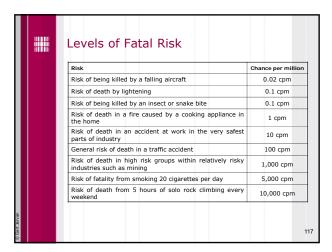
Introduction

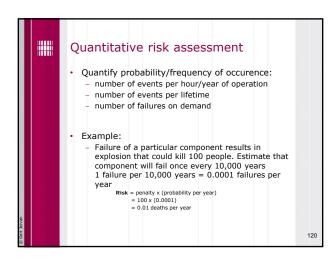
Risk is associated with every hazard
Hazard is a potential danger
i.e. possibility of being struck by lightning
Associated risk

Accident is an unintended event or sequence of events that causes death, injury, environmental or material damage

Storey 1996







The Need for Safety Targets

• Learning from mistakes is not longer acceptable

• Disaster, review, recommendation

• Probability estimates

• Are coarse

• Meaning depends on duration, low/high demand, but often stated without units

• Need rigour and guidance for safety related systems

• Standards (HSE, IEC)

• Ensure risk reduction, not cost reduction

• For risk assessment

• For evaluation of designs



Quantitative Risk Assessment

How it works

Predict frequency of hardware failures

Compare with tolerable risk target

If not satisfied, modify the design

Example

The probability that airbag fails when activated

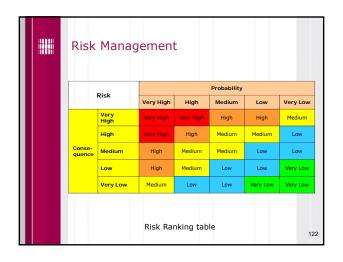
The frequency of the interconnecting switch failing per lifetime

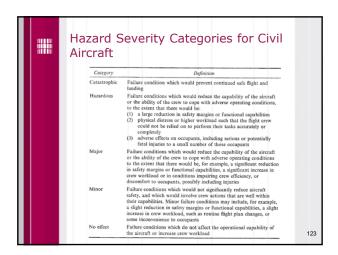
Even if target met by random hardware failure

Hardware could have embedded software, potential for systemic failure

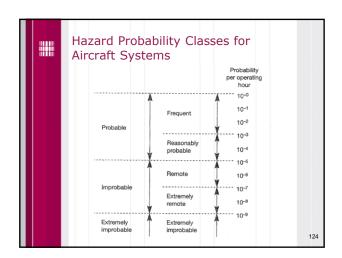
Engineer's judgment called for in IEC 61508

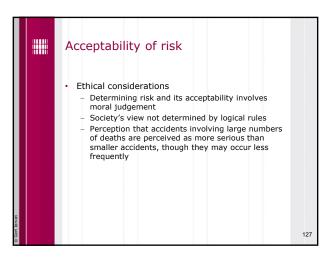
(IEC 61508 - Functional Safety - www.iec.ch)









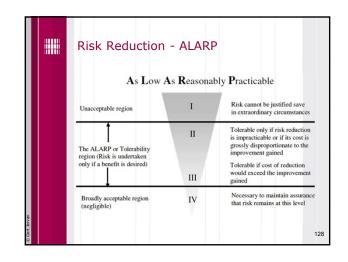


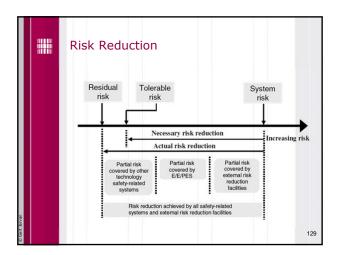
Risk Management Advice

Identify risks and track them
Avoid "unknown" risks at all costs!

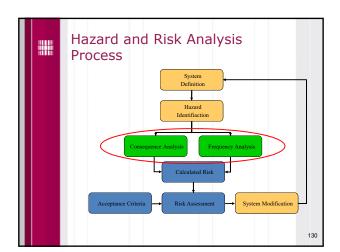
Approaches to risk
Mitigate, i.e. perform risk reduction
E.g. solve the problem, obtain insurance, etc
Avoid
Use a less risky approach - not always possible
Accept
Decide that expected cost is not worth reducing further
Often sensible choice

Ignore
Proceed ahead blindly – uninformed acceptance

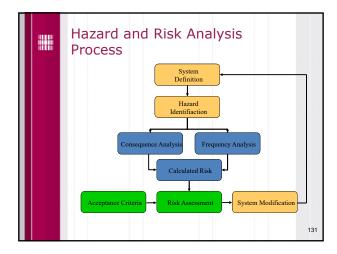




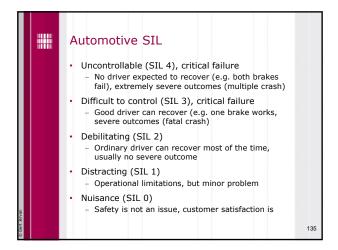


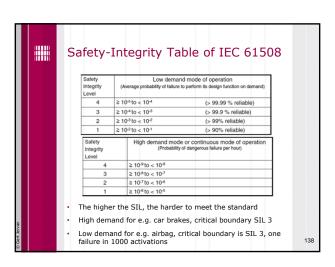


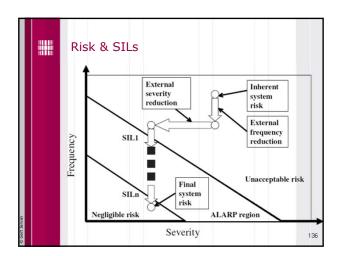


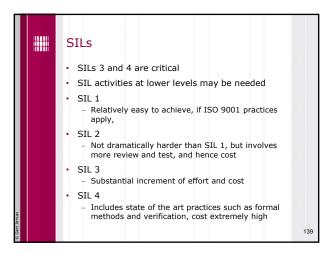












IEC 61508 Standard

• Main standard for software safety

• Can be tailored to different domains (automotive, chemical, etc)

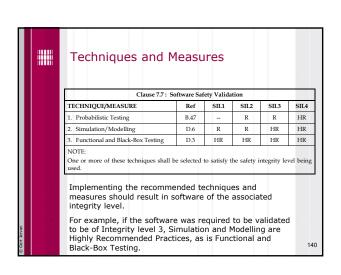
• Comprehensive

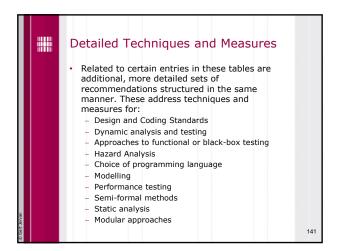
• Includes SILs, including failure rates

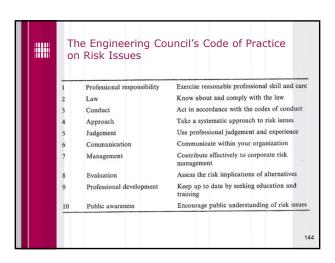
• Covers recommended techniques

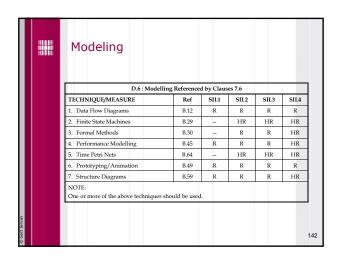
• IEC = International Electrotechnical Commission

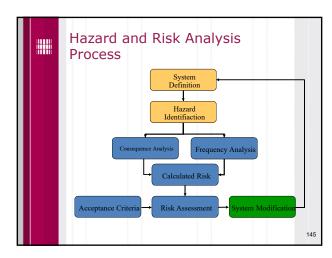
• E/E/PES = electrical/electronic/programmable electronic safety related systems

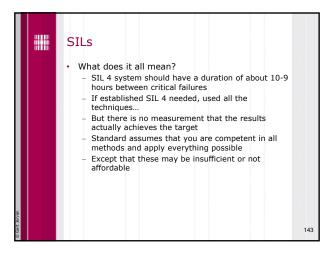


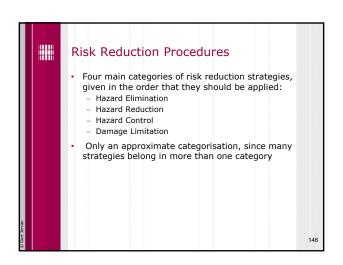


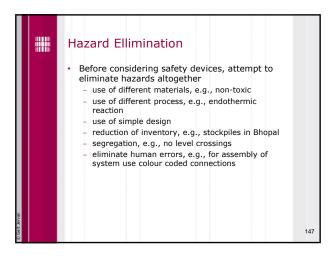




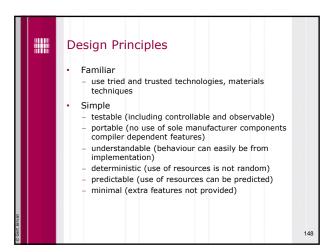












Nature of Random Failures

- Arise from random events generated during operation or manufacture

- Governed by the laws of physics and cannot be eliminated

- Modes of failure are limited and can be anticipated

- Failures occur independently in different components

- Failure rates are often predictable by statistical methods

- Sometimes exhibit graceful degradation

- Treatment is well understood

Design Principles (cont.)

• Structured design techniques

- defined notation for describing behaviour

- identification of system boundary and environment

- problem decomposition

- ease of review

• Design standards

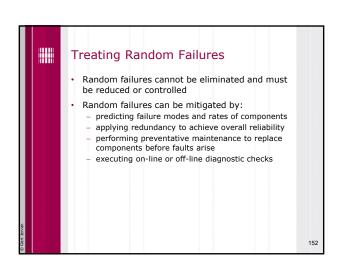
- limit complexity

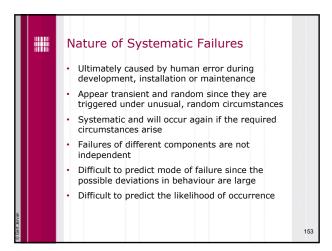
- increase modularity

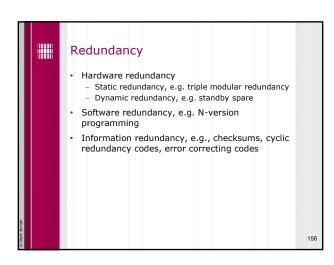
• Implementation standards

- presentation and naming conventions

- semantic and syntactic restrictions in software







Treating Systematic Failures

In theory, design failures can be eliminated

In practice, perfect design may be too costly

Focus the effort on critical areas

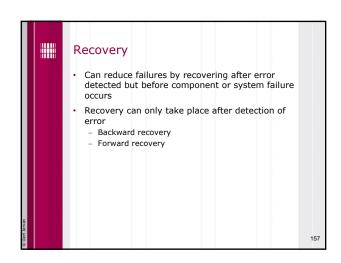
identify safety requirements using hazard analysis

assess risk in system and operational context

Eliminate or reduce errors using quality development processes

verify compliance with safety requirements

integrate and test against safety requirements



Hazard Reduction

• Reduce the likelihood of hazards

• Use of barriers, physical or logical

- Lock-ins

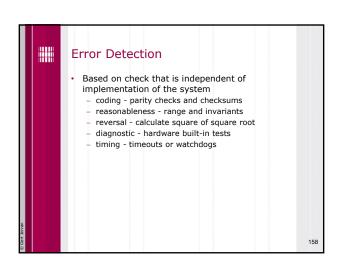
- Lock-outs

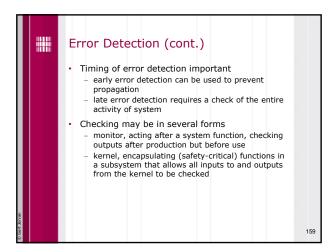
- Interlocks

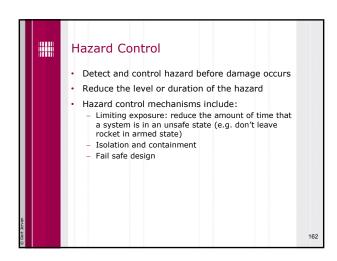
• Failure minimization

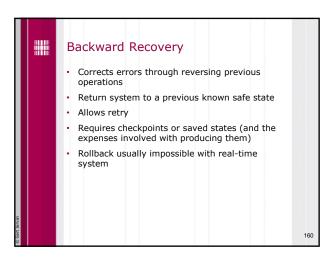
- Redundancy

- Recovery











Forward Recovery

Corrects errors without reversing previous operations, finding safe (but possibly degraded) state for system

data repair, use redundancy in data to perform repairs

reconfiguration, use redundancy such as backup or alternate systems

coasting, continue operations ignoring (hopefully transient) errors

exception processing, only continue with selection of (safetycritical) functions

failsafe, achieve safe state and cease processing

use passive devices (e.g., deadman switch) instead of active devices (e.g., motor holding weight up)

