

Getting Your Rail Safety Program on the MAP

Conference Presentation

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Landmark Legislation

- December 2009: DOT Secretary transmits landmark safety legislation to Congress
- First legislation focused exclusively on public transportation—safety in particular
- FTA's new regulatory role with respect to transit safety
- Responds to gaps in safety stemming from
 - NTSB investigations
 - GAO and OIG audits
 - FTA audits of State Safety Oversight programs



New authority, new opportunity

- Keep a safe mode of travel even safer
- Scalable, flexible solutions
- Not one size fits all
- Acknowledge diversity within the transit industry
- Add value without adding bureaucracy or unreasonable cost



New challenges

- For both FTA and transit agencies:
 - We need to strengthen safety management and oversight
 - We need to build proactive and even predictive capabilities into our existing safety programs




A new framework - Safety Management Systems

- Adopted by FTA in May 2013
- SMS strategically applies resources to risk
- A toolbox for management
 - Accountability at the highest levels
 - Structured and strategic safety decision-making
 - Proactive safety risk analyses
 - Increased confidence in safety risk controls



What SMS isn't, what SMS is

What SMS isn't

1. A "buzzword"
 2. A substitute for oversight
 3. Replacement for system safety
 4. A tool only for the Safety Manager
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What SMS is

1. Formal system safety management process
2. An effective interface between regulator, overseer and provider
3. Completes the system safety approach
4. A set of decision making processes for senior and front line management

Moving forward

- Engagement in rulemaking
 - National and Agency Safety Plan ANPRMs
 - Safety Certification Training Program ANPRM
 - SSO NPRM
- Partnering in implementation
 - SMS Training and Pilots
- Supporting SSOAs
 - Committed \$21.9M to states to strengthen safety oversight

