

Project: Bowtie Module

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Duration: 1 month (2 April 2020 - 1 may 2020)

Main goals:

- Implement the module in synergy with existing modules.
- Generated a bowtie chart from the data.
- Plug with Risk Management module.
- Make simple and basic functionalities to be improved later with advanced functionalities

Meting ressources (3/6/2020) :

Documents Type to provide :

- *PID*
- *Datasheet*
- *Procedure*
- *Risk management*

The bowtie method has several goals:

- Provide a structure to systematically analyse a hazard.
- Help make a decision whether the current level of control is sufficient
- Help identify where and how investing resources would have the greatest impact.
- Increase risk communication and awareness.

The steps supposed:

1 Step one - Identify hazards

Hazards can be operations/activities (operating rotating machinery, driving a car), substances (chemicals, hot fluids, etc.) or situations (a load suspended at height) we deal with in the normal processes of our business. As long as these hazards are under control, they will not cause harm, but they introduce the potential for harm.

2 Step two – identify top events

When control over a hazard is lost, it is usually possible to identify the moment when a normal situation changes to an abnormal situation. That point is called the top event in bowtie and is also the centre event of the diagram. The top event is not a catastrophe yet, but the company is now exposed to the potential harm of the hazard.

3 Step three – identify threats

There are often several factors that could cause the top event. These are called threats in the bowtie. Threats lead directly to the top event and should be able to cause the top event independently.

4 Step four – identify consequences

When a top event has occurred it can lead to certain consequences. Consequences are unwanted scenarios that could be caused by the top event. They should be realistic and specific. Consequences are mainly unwanted because they will lead to loss or damage.

5-6 Step five and six – identify preventive and recovery barriers

Risk management is about controlling risks. This is done by implementing barriers to prevent certain events from happening. A barrier (sometimes also called a control) can be any measure taken that acts against some undesirable force or intention, in order to maintain a desired state. Barriers can be hardware systems, design aspects, human behaviour and so on. Barriers are placed on both sides of the top event. Preventive barriers on the left side of the bowtie prevent the top event from happening. Recovery barriers on the right side of the bowtie can either prevent the top event from resulting in unwanted consequences or mitigate further consequences.

7-8 Step seven and eight – identify escalation factors and escalation factor barriers

Once the control measures are identified, the bowtie method takes it one step further and identifies specific conditions or actions that make it more likely that a barrier will fail. These are called escalation factors. There are barriers for escalation factors as well. These barriers protect the main barrier from an escalation factor.

Next step after the basic bowtie

After creating the basic bowtie diagram, there are several ways to work out the barriers in more detail. One good way is to identify and link the underlying management system activities to the barriers. This will tell you what should be done to keep the barriers working, like maintenance activities on hardware barriers.

Annexes



