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Enhancement of FMEA Risk Assessment with SysML

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Risk and Safety



- New technologies need to be examined when they are introduced to ensure that risk and safety is properly managed
- There are numerous approaches to risk analysis
 - These are used to aid understanding of the risks within the system and subsequently manage the risks to an acceptable level
- FMEA was selected as the SysML tool being tailored already supported capture of FMEA data
 - This reduced effort and allowed the focus on developing the enhancements to the presentation and derivation of the information



Heavy Rail Context



- The work described here has been done as a part of research into how heavy rail systems can benefit from the application of MBSE
 - Work sponsored by the Australasian Centre for Rail Innovation (ACRI)
- Project aims to aid understanding of the impact of the introduction of new technologies on track worker safety
- The approach has been to build a multi-disciplinary MBSE model that aids understanding of the impact of the new technology
 - How the technology integrates into the existing systems
 - Changes to required competencies
 - ...
- While the examples provided are based on heavy rail, the approach is designed to be tailorable to other contexts



Improving FMEA Tables in a Visual Language Environment

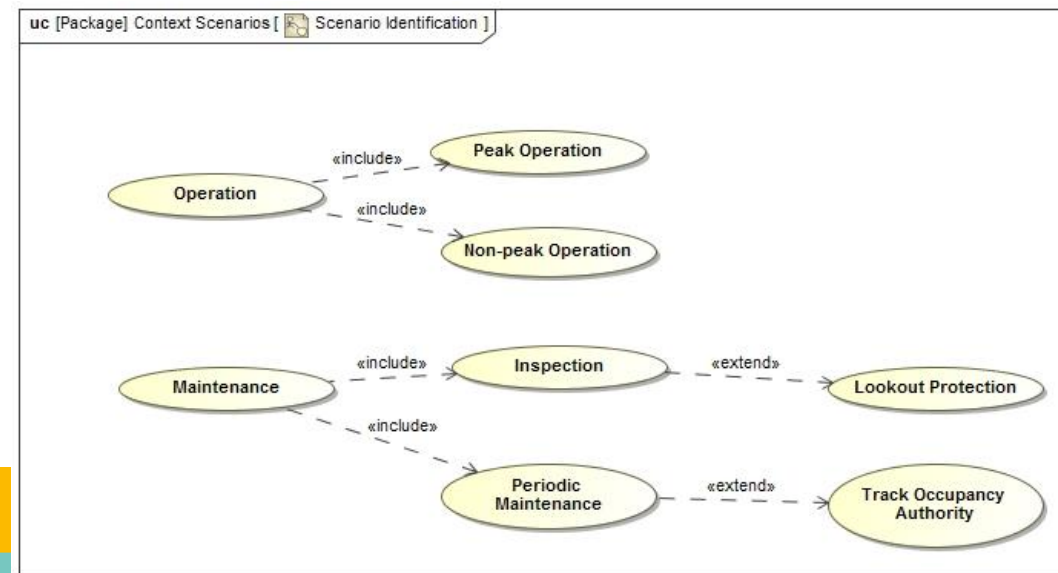


- Examining how the tool incorporated the FMEA information in tables
 - Table presentation reflects common reporting done in Excel
 - Benefit is that the information is then linkable to other available information
- However several opportunities to improve the tables were identified
 - Tables could be connected of the summary FMEA information to the underlying analyses
 - Retains traceability
 - Automatic table generation for consistency and completeness
 - The ability to create a multi-context analysis



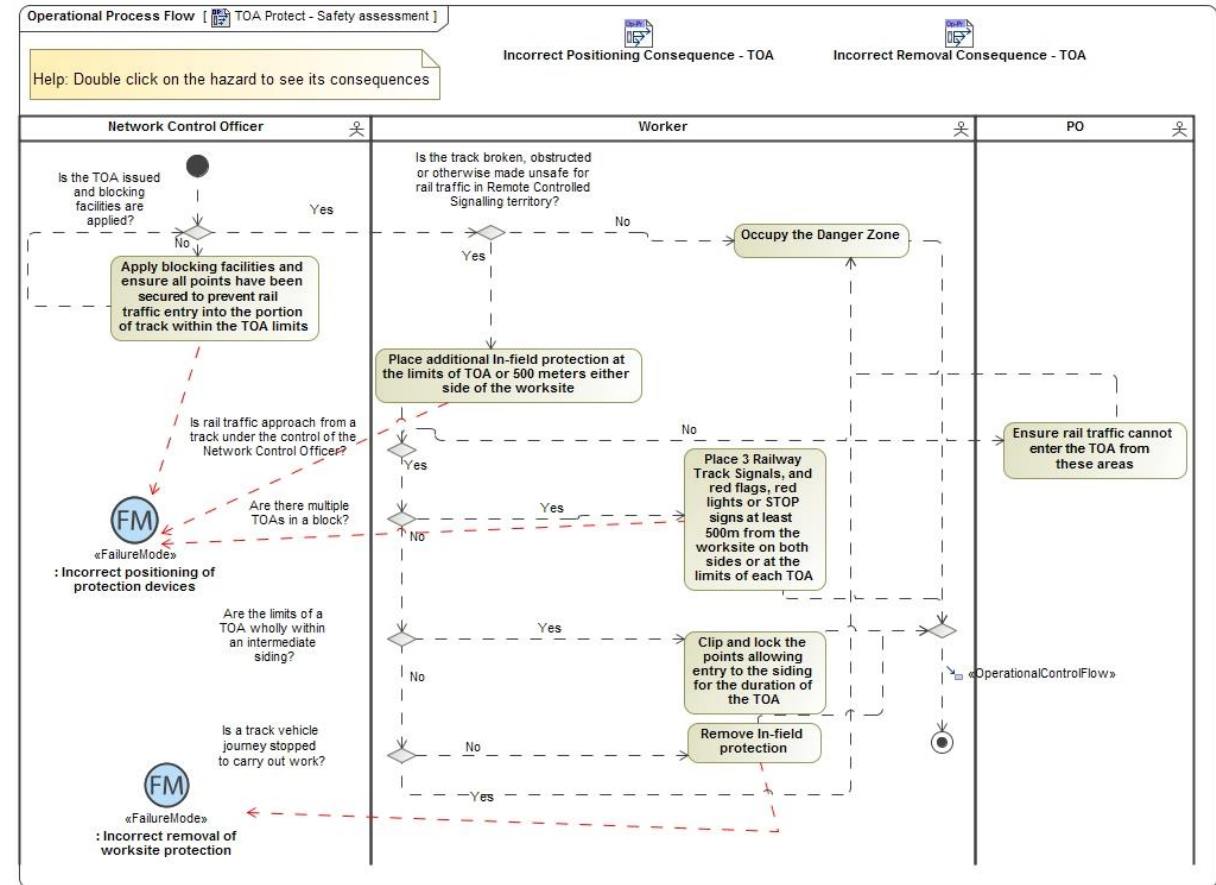
Risk Assessment in Multiple Contexts

- Risk assessment begins with establishing the context to be analysed
- With a complex system such as heavy rail, there are numerous situations that need to be examined
 - Each of these situations will occur in parallel



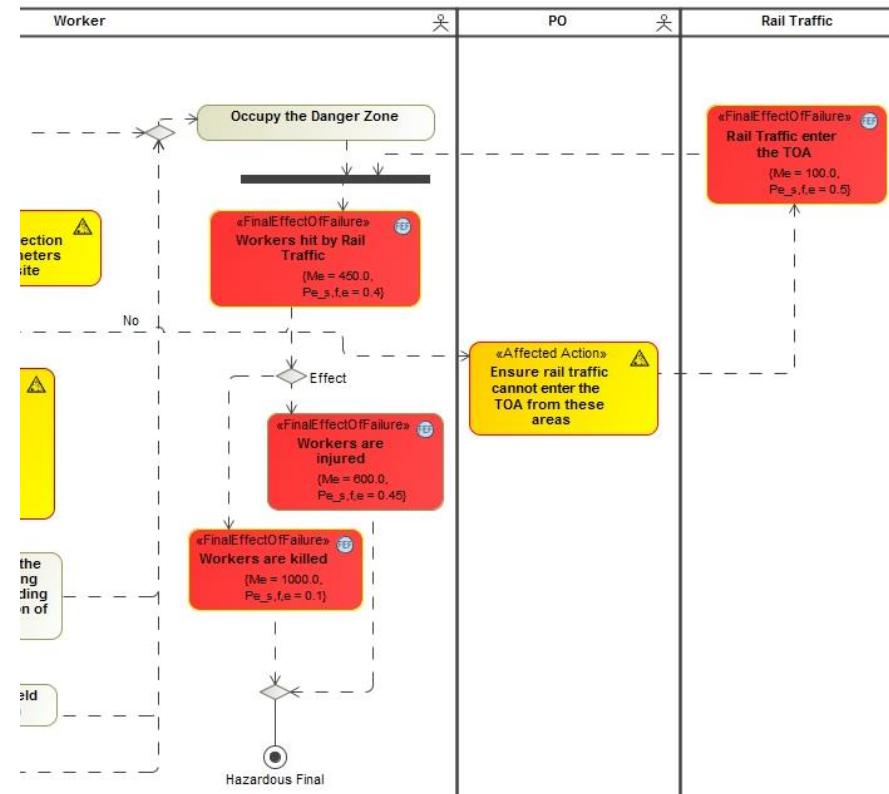
Risk Identification Example for a TOA

- Processes are examined to identify which have failure modes.
 - Diagrams are annotated to identify where failure modes may occur in the process
- These diagrams were created as variations for many processes
 - When processes were updated, the failure modes needed review


























Risk Analysis Example for a TOA

- For each scenario and each failure mode
 - The process diagrams are refined to understand the sequence of events that result in the final effect
- Many process diagrams are often “vanilla” versions
 - i.e. they lack protective gates and actions when adverse events are encountered
- These failure modes capture this important information as well as the consequences for when the protections fail
 - Note that multiple alternative effects can be identified
 - The outcome may be the result of mitigating processes or merely chance



Summary of Effects

- Given the various scenario analyses, it is possible to then report the variety of effects of a particular failure mode
- As the scenario analyses are assumed to be conducted independently, it is important to determine the variety of effects
 - This then helps identify the overall set of possible effects

#	Failure Mode	Final Effects of Failure
1	 Incorrect positioning of protection devices	 Workers hit by Rail Traffic  Rail Traffic enter the TOA  Workers are injured  Workers are killed
2	 Incorrect removal of worksite protection	 Damage to the train and protection devices  Train hits the protection guards and signs
3	 Incorrect identification of worksite location - TOA	 Workers hit by Rail Traffic  Conduct TOA in wrong location  Workers are killed  Workers are Injured  Understand the Authorized TOA Incorrectly
4	 Incorrect identification of worksite location - TWA	 Workers hit by Rail Traffic  Workers are injured  Workers are killed
5	 The type of protection being incorrect	 Issue wrong Protection  Accidents caused by wrong protection  Wrong Blocking facilities  Wrong briefing of workers

Risk Evaluation and Prioritisation



- So what is the most critical “risk” to address?
- There are two approaches that have been identified:
 - Which scenario contains the highest risk?
 - What failure mode reflects the highest risk?
- The stakeholders can then choose to address a specific failure mode or a scenario/process that contains an unacceptable level of risk.



Measuring Risk over Multiple Contexts



- As a risk is spread over multiple scenarios, it is necessary to modify the risk formula
- A subsequent analysis is also created to rate the failure modes based on the combination of:
 - The likelihood of a scenario occurring
 - The likelihood of the failure mode occurring within the scenario
 - The likelihood of each effect in the event of the failure mode in that scenario
 - The measure of the effect's impact

$$F_i = \sum_s \sum_e P_s P_f(s) P_e(s, f, e) M_e$$

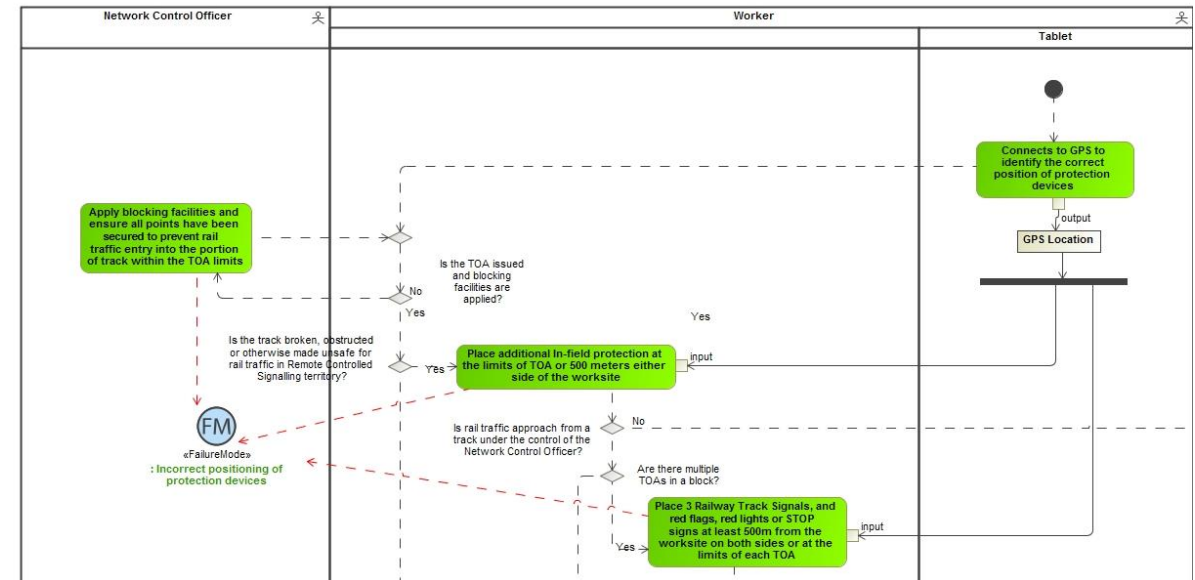
s is the scenario with an associated probability P_s ,
 e is the effect,
 $P_f(s)$ is the probability of the failure mode in scenario s ,
 $P_e(s, f, e)$ is the probability of effect e given scenario s and failure mode f ,
 M_e is the measure of the impact of the effect (assumed to be context independent)



Risk Treatment



- Treatments can then be identified to mitigate the various risks
- Further variants of the process diagrams are created that subsequently capture how protections have been put in place to mitigate the risk
- This then results in a flow of diagrams that capture the understanding of how the risk has been analysed and subsequently treated
- A final FMEA table (not pictured) is created that enables the user to see the processes in the various forms and subsequently understand how the risk is being managed



Effectiveness



- Methodology has been well received during the presentations to multiple heavy rail organisations
 - Automation is seen as cost saving
 - SysML adds richness to the previous standard table based representations
 - Traceability and retention of the analysis are also beneficial
- Concerns about availability of the required information
 - Situations in new projects may lack the level of detailed information needed
 - Information is needed earlier in the acquisition process
 - Effort required to keep diagrams aligned
 - Some handled by tools but other algorithms being developed
 - Requires a notification system when underlying changes are made

And... I'm out of time so onto the questions

