FAA SMS – Safety Risk Management

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) publishes Advisory Circular 120-92B, *Safety Management Systems (SMSs) for Aviation Service Providers.* The Advisory Circular describes the regulatory requirements, guidance, and methods of developing and implementing an SMS – designating "what" must be accomplished, not "how" it must be accomplished. The aim of the FAA SMS is to integrate safety programs and contemporary safety concepts into an SMS, emphasizing safety as a fundamental business process.

Safety Risk Management is a component of the FAA SMS, describing how the SMS should work in your organization. It directs organizations to identify hazards and mitigate risks to an acceptable level. Risk management processes are ongoing, helping organizations continually recognize and evaluate risks. Safety Risk Management is essential because it helps identify workplace hazards and employ controls to reduce injuries and illnesses.

Safety Risk Management evaluates and controls workplace risks through:

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- Establishment and execution of an ongoing hazard identification process

- Application of a risk management process for implementation of new systems, revision of existing systems, identification of hazards, development of operational procedures, and identification of ineffective risk controls

- Consideration of the following during system analysis:

    o Function and purpose

    o Operating environment, processes, and procedures

    o Personnel, equipment, and facilities needed for operation

- Continual analysis of the safety risks related to identified hazards

- Determination of acceptable safety risks before controlling the risks

- Selection and employment of safety risk controls to address risk assessment findings.

Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 5, Subpart C provides additional information regarding Safety Risk Management. Additionally, visit the FAA for additional information on SMS expectations.

For additional information on the SMCX's services, please visit the SMCX-hosted website at: https://www.smscx.org/.