

UOR Safety Guidance

Platform safety cases for UORs are a requirement of DE&S Standing Instruction Number 14 – Acquisition Safety and Environmental Management. Safety Management applies to Urgent Operational Requirements (UORs) the same as any other project. It is recognised that because of the short timescales and pressures under which UORs are procured, it may not be practical to apply the full requirements of a Safety Management System before a UOR coming into service.

But those responsible must ensure that the MOD discharges its duty of care appropriately, and consequently, the following basic principles of a SMS should be established:

- A Safety Panel (SP) to agree the extent of the Safety Case (boundaries/interfaces). Define principal safety requirements and acceptance criteria. Provide input to safety assessment (particularly from the user and maintainer). Review and recommend acceptance of the Safety Case.
- A Safety Management Plan to detail all those with a key responsibility for safety (by post and responsibility). Agree requirements and acceptance criteria. Define the safety assessment process. Determine what safeguards will be adopted to give early identification of potential problems in-service for example accident and failure reporting, and additional briefings.
- A Safety Assessment providing a top down approach concentrating on the likely main hazards and accidents. The SP should ensure that mitigation action is robust only relying on training for instance as a last resort. The SP should also ensure that those with responsibility for the deployment of the system and the safety of personnel are aware of the limitations under which the safety assessment was carried out. MOD will be relying heavily on them to ensure that the system is used safely. In extenuating circumstances, the collection safety data and provision of confirmatory assurance evidence through tests or analysis may be acceptable. The Project Team (PT) must consider the best approach on a system by system basis, and this should be validated by the SP and lead safety office.