

*Structured Safety Management –  
the response to future threats  
and risks in Fire and Rescue Services  
(Basics and examples)*

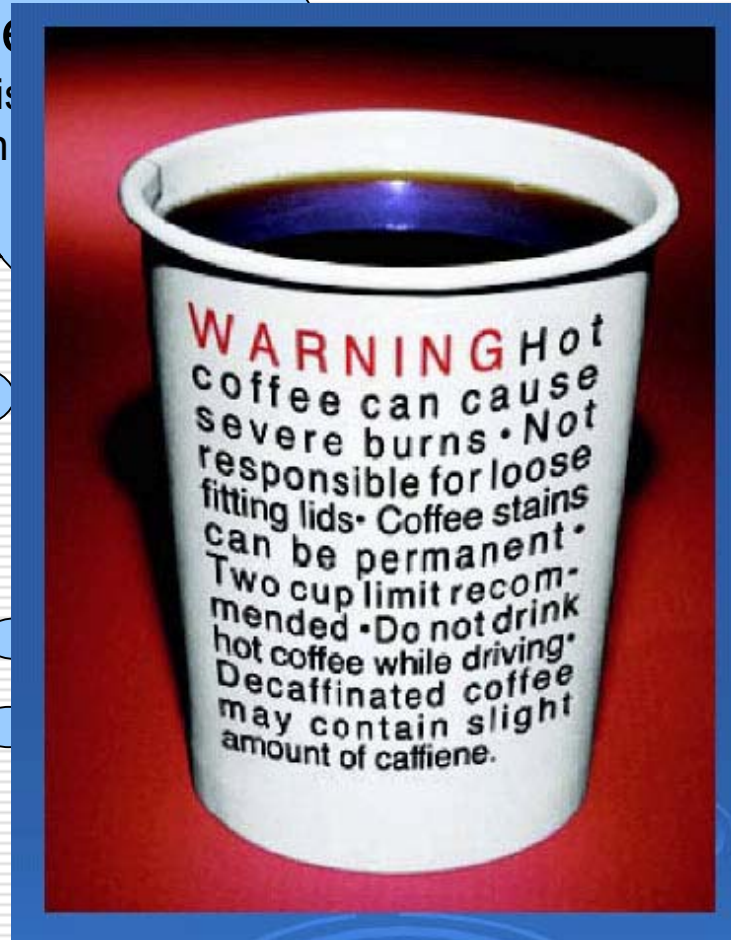
*CFO (ret.) Ernst-Peter Doebbeling, ipocm-consulting*



If you believe in these 5 theses,  
Don't waste time with my presentation  
and have a coffee outside  
...

But be careful !  
There are risks  
everywhere!

The  
EPS is  
ch  
es



Our equipment  
is always in  
good condition

## Being ironic someone could state the following theses:

Thesis 1: FRS interventions are always perfect thanks to best education, training, procedures and incident management

Thesis 2: The FRS equipment is always in good condition, well maintained and periodically checked according to regulations.

Thesis 3: The members of FRS take all necessary attention to wear complete PPE according to the risks

Thesis 4: The FRS is a family: each member likes the other and sees always the interest of the group.

Thesis 5: The FRS is an untouchable Organization because we are always the “good ones”

But in reality Fire and Rescue Services face multiple risks related to these subjects.

## Fire and Rescue Services are confronted by increasing cases of

- Defending the quality of work after fire and rescue interventions
- Media and press campaigns against FRS for being too late on the scene or having taken wrong decisions
- Complaints of damages due to inappropriate interventions
- Demands of recognition of professional diseases acknowledgement long time after exposure
- Complaints about professional accidents related to technology or insufficient personal protective measures and equipment
- Criticism and accusation in case of accidents in interventions

# Future Threats and Risks

Necessary  
or  
possible  
consequences ?

**FRS are**  
**Fire Chi**  
**behavio**

A firefighter from  
hospitalised after  
attacked whilst  
weekend.

The Sub Officer  
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called to a refus  
Crescent in Foch  
taken to hospita  
discharged, suffe  
bruising.

➤ **Compl**

**technology or insufficient personal protective measures and equipment**

➤ **Criticism and accusation in case of accidents in interventions**

rescu  
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ated to

***“Planning, organization and hard work is the key to our success***

*in providing a fire and rescue service to the 124,265 people living, working and visiting County Limerick. I am proud of our team of retained firefighters and full time staff who work so hard **to maintain a standard of service that complies with the international standard ISO 9001:2000 and particularly focuses on providing the services that are clearly needed and valued by our customers in County Limerick.**”*

*“By achieving ISO certification, Service staff **commit to work smarter, reduce risks, meet customer requirements, reduce operational costs and improve efficiencies** through strategic goal-setting and the implementation of the eight quality management principles.”*

Limerick Fire Service  
Awarded For  
Excellence In Service  
Delivery  
ISO 9000-2001

The QMS enables us define, **monitor and improve our support to the Services front line operations and contribute towards the vision of “A Safer Shropshire”**. In particular the QMS assists us in:

- Better monitoring of our performance
- A structured approach to improving our performance through improved quality or better use of time and resources**
- Consolidation of improvements and initiatives
- Documentation of existing processes
- Demonstrating systematic compliance with standards
- Greater consistency and traceability of products and services**

## Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service



 **Certificate of Registration**

**QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

*This is to certify that:*  
**Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service**  
Headquarters and Workshops  
St Michael's Street  
Shrewsbury  
SY1 2HJ  
United Kingdom

Holds Certificate No: **FS 503705**  
and operates a Quality Management System which complies with the requirements of BS EN ISO 9001:2000 for the following scope:

Maintenance and repair of vehicles and equipment.  
Management of assets including vehicles, equipment, hydrants and property.  
Procurement and supplier management.  
Design and modification of equipment and services.

For and on behalf of BSI:  
  
Managing Director, BSI Management Systems (UK)

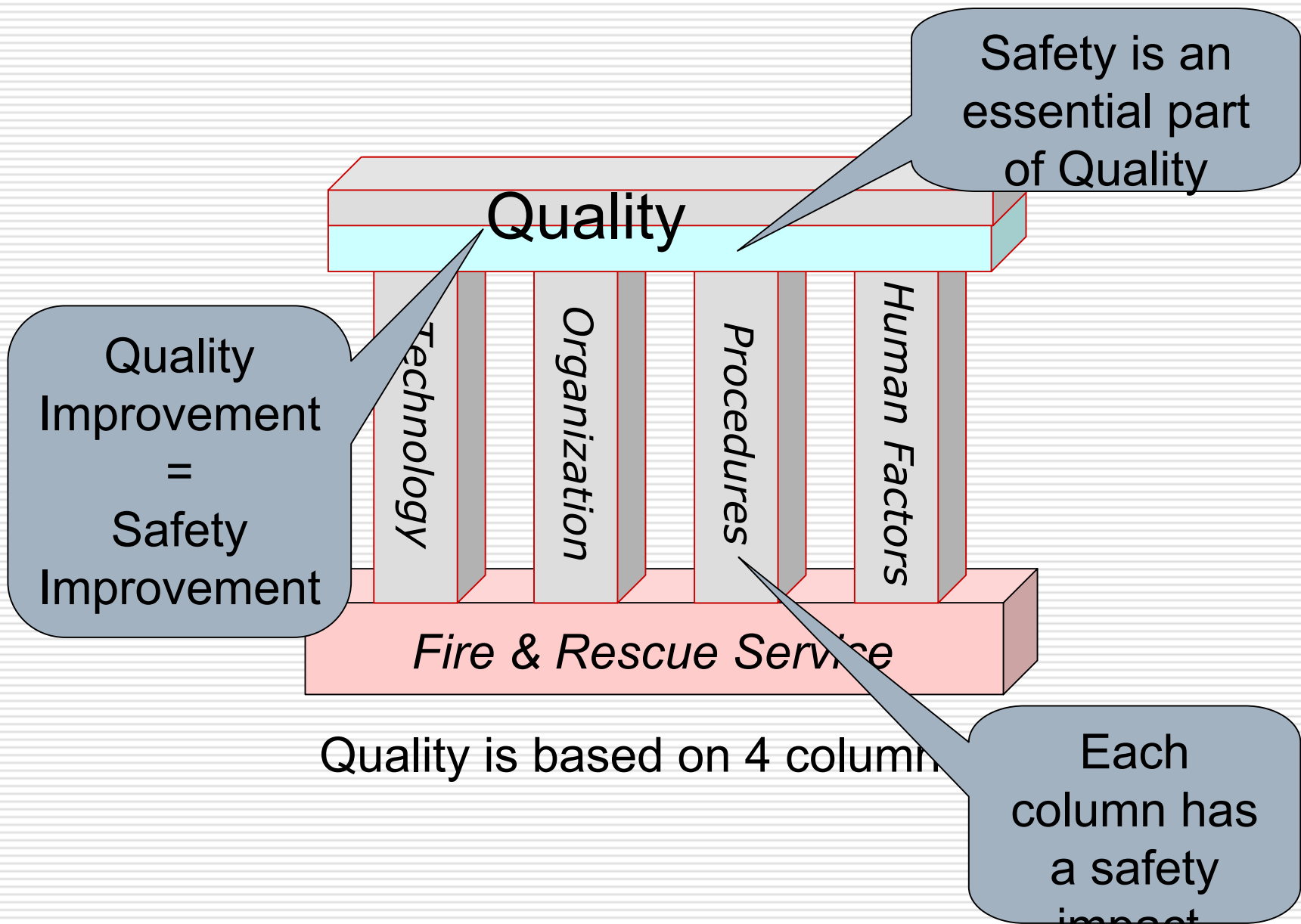
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*Risk and Safety Management has 7 successive elements. In this way is possible to describe risk and safety as a systematic process.*



“Risk” and “Risk management” defined in documents as for example

Risk can be defined as the combination of the probability of an event and its consequences (ISO/IEC Guide 73). In the safety field, it is generally recognized that consequences are only negative and

therefore the management of safety risk is focused on prevention and mitigation

Risk management is a central part of any organization's strategic management. It is the process whereby organizations methodically address the risks attaching to their activities with the goal of achieving sustained benefit within each activity and across the portfolio of all activities.

Do Fire & Rescue Services learn and implement systematic risk management to avoid accidents?

## Management related

- Lack of command and control
- Wrong decision in incidents
- Technical failure (\*)
- Incorrect procedures

## Human related

- Operational health capacity
- PTS syndrome
- Human error / failure

**In FRS risks can be related to 4 different sources**  
**Management – Human – Incident - Society**

## Incident related

- Fire, accident
- Chemical hazard
- Flooding
- Diseases
- Natural, technical disasters
- etc

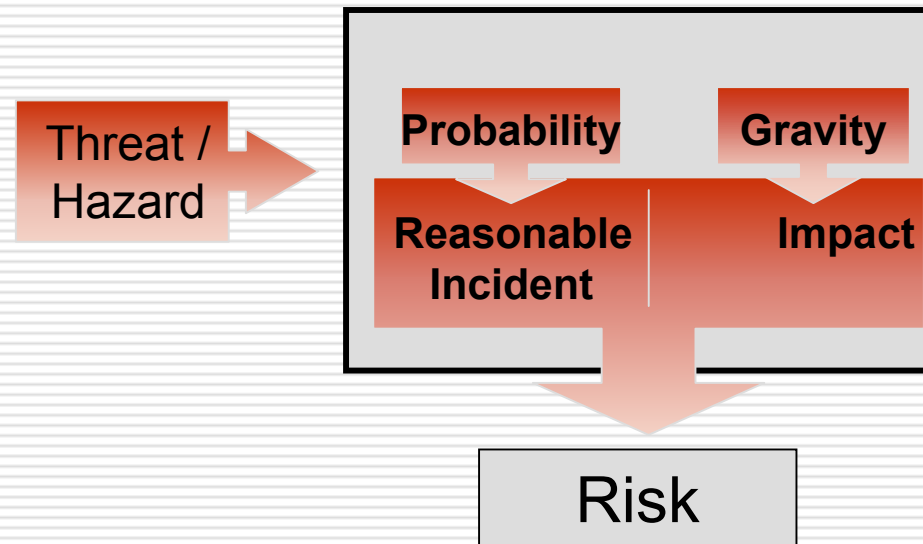
## Society related

- Vulnerability of infrastructure
- Violence, Terror
- Pandemics
- Total Information society
- etc.

\* As far as purchasing, maintenance and control is concerned

*“Threat” is not identical with “risk”.*

The risk is the outcome of correlating the threat with probability and gravity of impact.



*Example: People are in very different way concerned by threats*



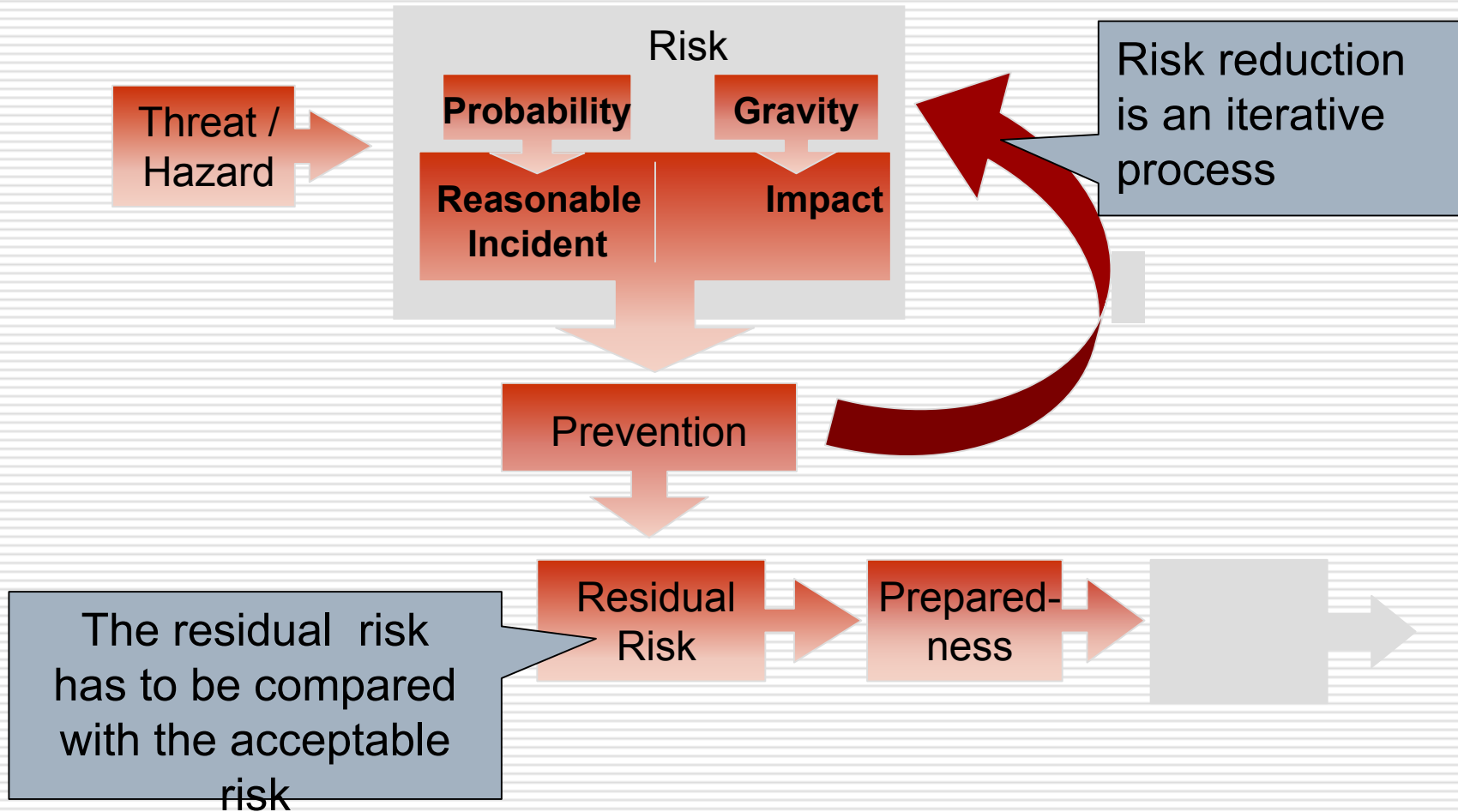
Threat:

Being attacked by the tiger

Only those who strongly believe in rebirth should risk going near

If you go in probability depends on A, B, C..  
Attack can be deadly  
Gravity is very high =  
Risk high

Risk assessment, risk evaluation, prevention and preparedness are elements of the structured risk and safety management process.



Example: Fire prevention and preparedness

# Risk evaluation matrix

Reduction of probability necessary

Normally unacceptable

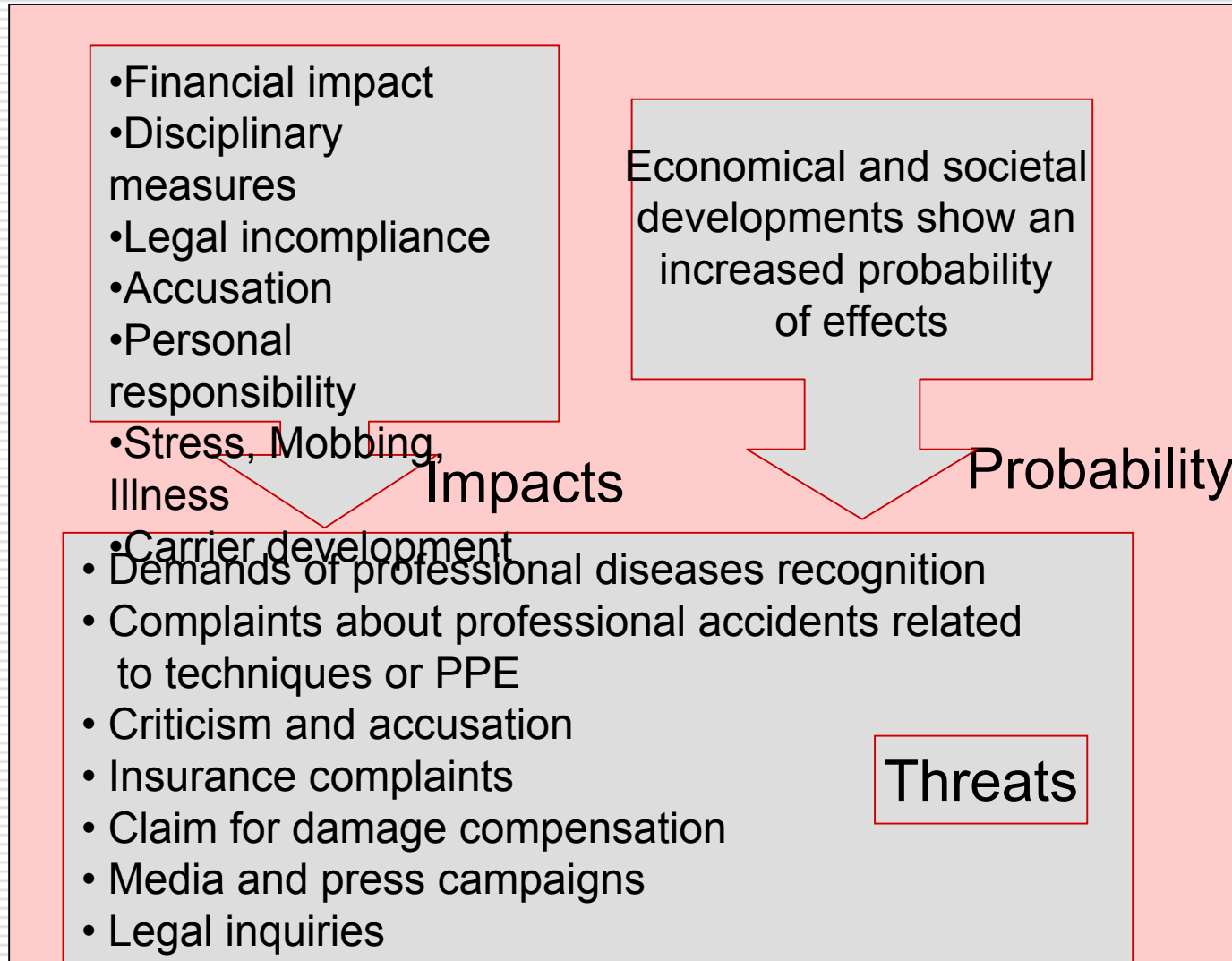
For which interventions acceptable ?

Probability

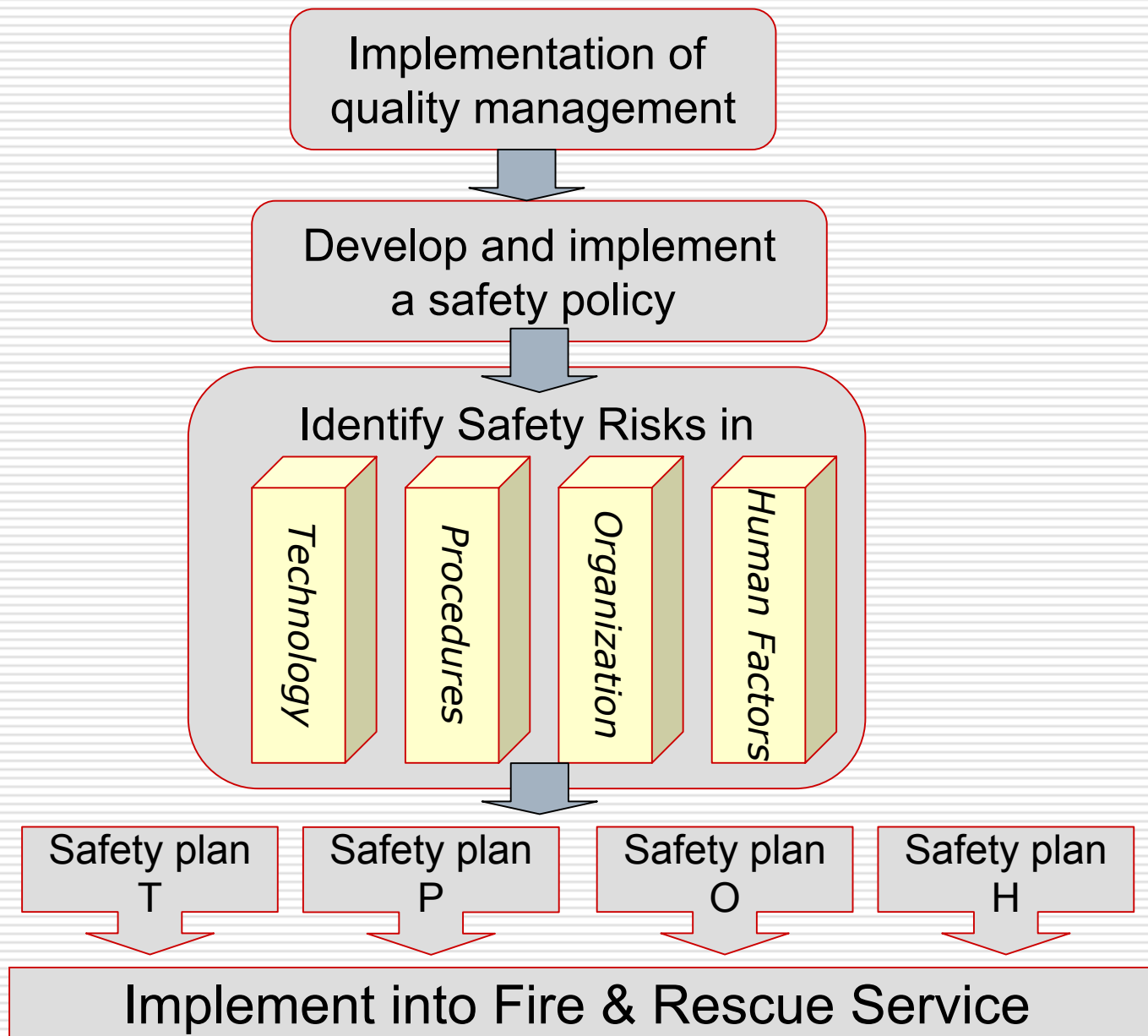
High Probability Low Gravity	High Probability High Gravity
Low Probability Low Gravity	Low Probability High Gravity

Gravity

## Elements of structured risk analysis of FRS managerial risk



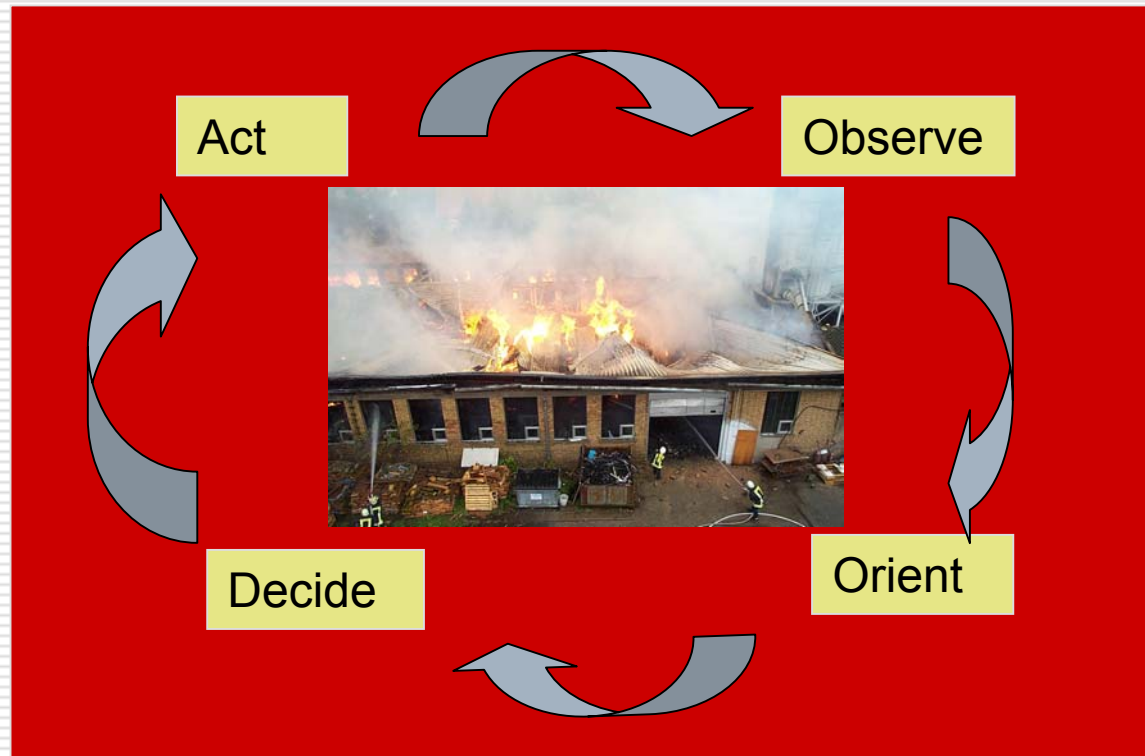




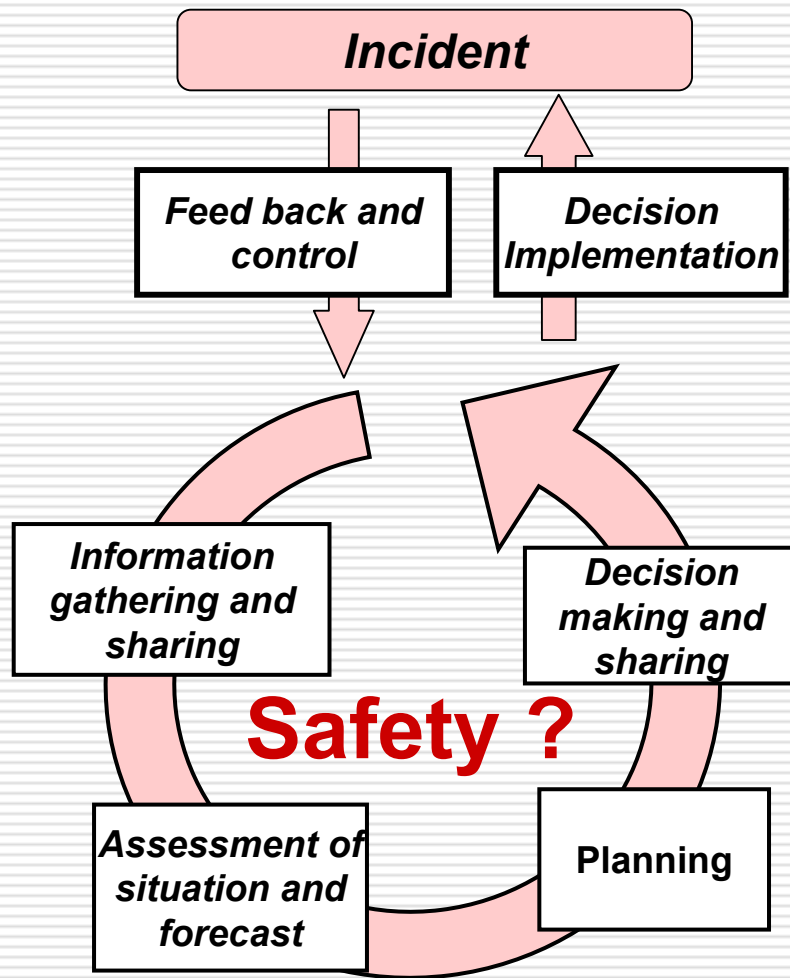
## Risk assessment as part of the command and control process

*The OODA loop is a general systematic approach to decision making.*

*“Quickly understand what’s going on”*



# Example: Command and Control

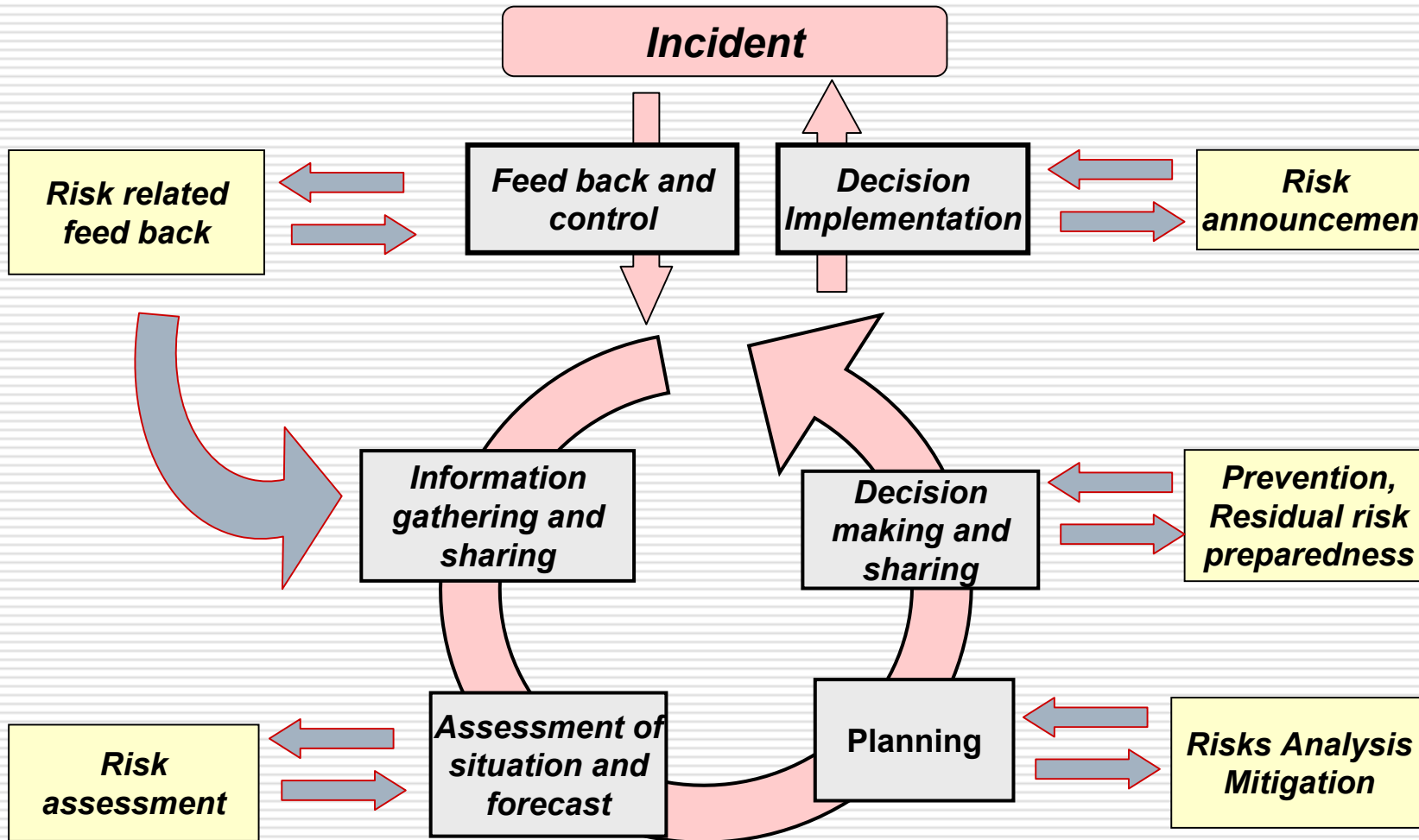


Each commander from fire engine team leader up to incident commander should reconsider, how many time he spends in intervention on safety in the decision making process.

Many intervention are routine and also safety is “business as usual”. The key element to improve safety is to brake the “routine thinking” and to evaluate in any intervention safety issues.

Safety should be included in each step of the command and control process on any level of command. Delegation of command should also delegate explicitly responsibility for safety.

# Example: Command and Control



Which is the reasonable risks in fire interventions for the protection of values compared to that of rescue humans ?



Département HSE  
10, Rue Jean Zay  
56325 LORIENT CEDEX  
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## Réalisation d'un manuel pour Appareils Respiratoires Isolants (ARI)



Maître de stage : Monsieur DOEBBELING  
Tuteur de stage : Monsieur HUET

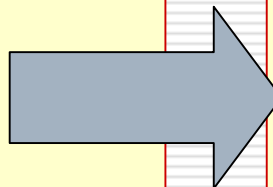
LEFFRAY EMILIE  
IUT HSE  
Année 2006/2007

*CERN  
Fire Service  
BA Manual*

This example shows the application of the systematic and integrated safety approach for the Breathing Apparatus circle of a Fire and Rescue Service.

## **Normal approach:**

1. Technical procedure
2. PPE procedure
3. Safety procedure
4. Incident procedure
5. Training procedure
6. Legal obligations
7. Special training course regulations
8. Health surveillance procedure
9. ...others



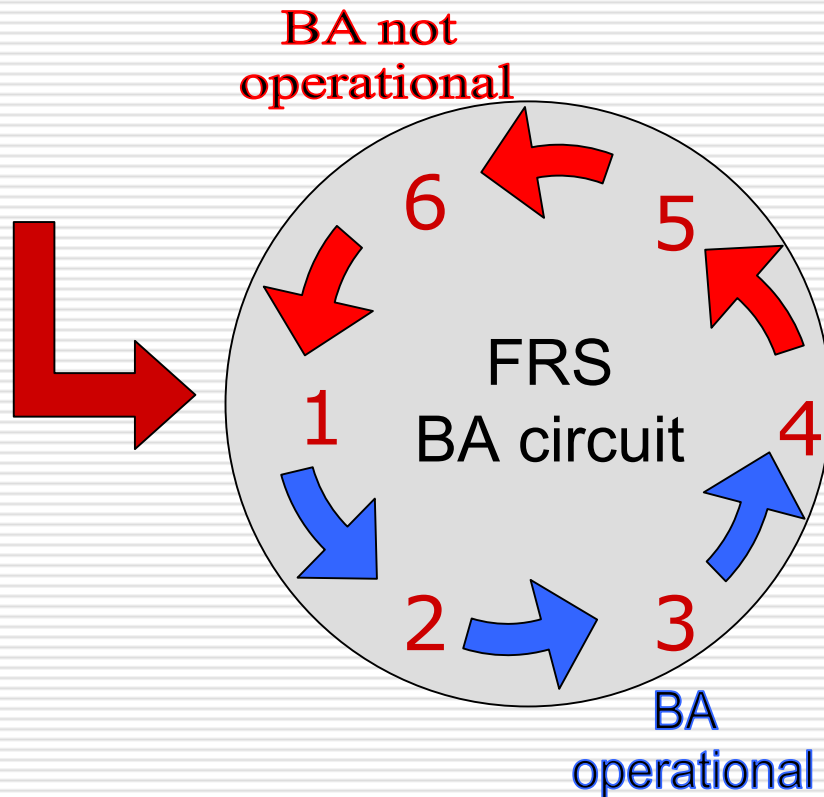
## **Systematic integrated safety approach:**

Analysis of the BA processes  
Starting from delivery of the components to the end of their life cycle. Mitigate safety risks in operational / not operational BA procedures by e.g.

elaboration of a FRS BA-  
Manual

Not independent procedures of different departments and responsibilities give the rules for maintenance, training and intervention, but based a systematic risk analysis an BA manual describes all parts of the BA use and maintenance. In this way the safety risks can be minimized.

The BA circuit is as safe as the single step is safe



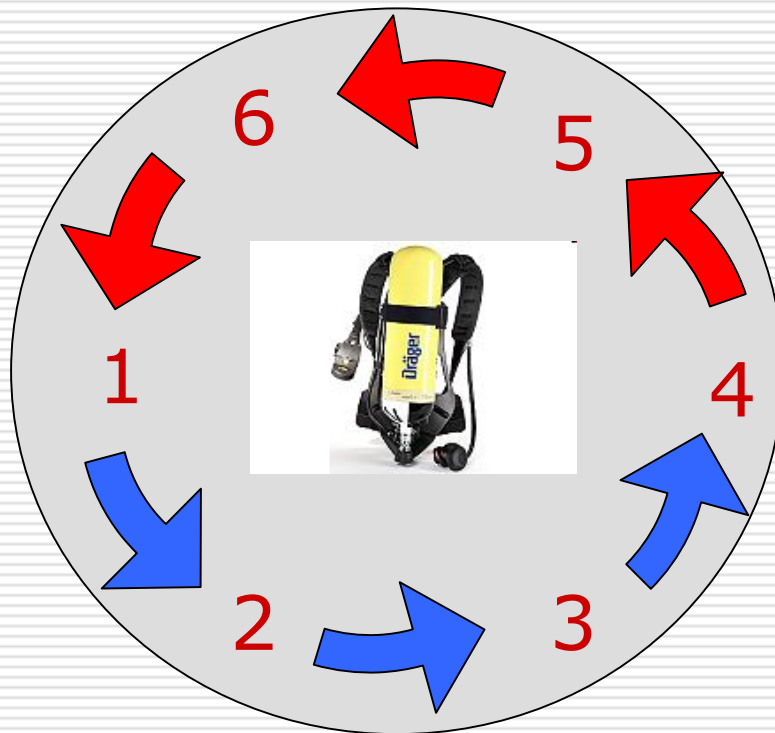
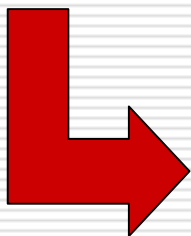
The 6 steps of the BA circuit are:

1. Operational readiness and Storage
2. Transport to exercise or intervention
3. BA intervention
4. Out of service after use
5. Return transport, storage for maintenance
6. Recondition and maintenance

# Step 0: Put into service

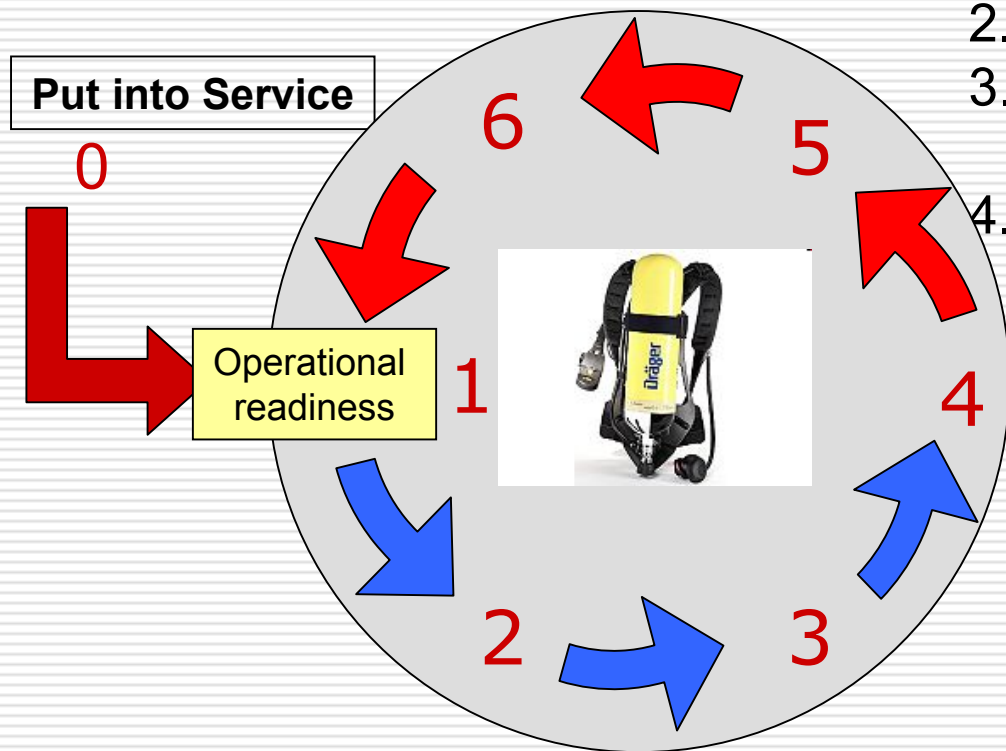
**Put into Service**

0



1. New BA delivery
2. Reception and registration of all components
3. Verification of test and maintenance procedures
4. Functional test
5. Recorded confirmation of operational status
6. Initial training for users
7. Operational introduction of the BA system





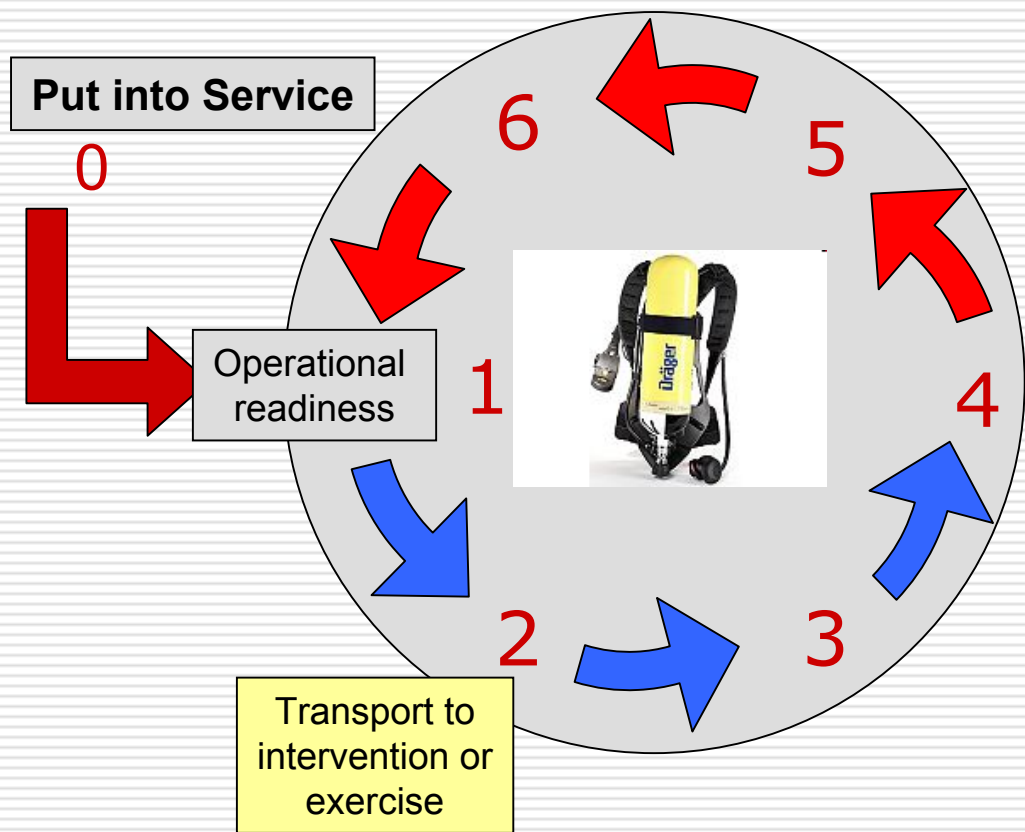
Regulations and procedures for:

1. Safety and security labeling
2. Appropriate storage area
3. Periodical checks and tests



Security: Sealing of the box

# Step 2: Transport

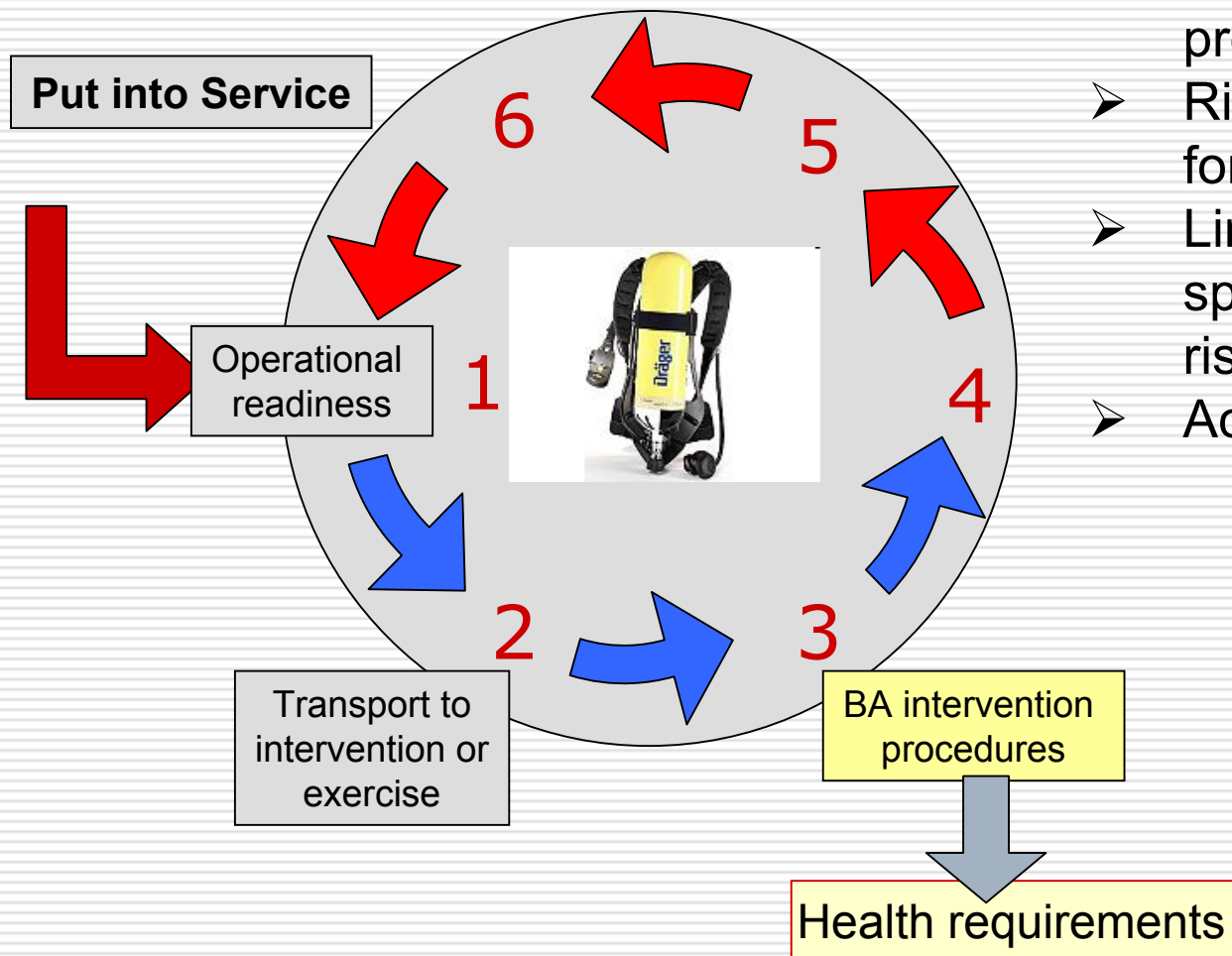


## Transport procedures

1. Compliance with legal transport requirements
2. Transport in Fire Engines (Cabin or cargo hold)
3. Transport in other cars
4. Transport of bottles under pressure
5. Transport of bottles



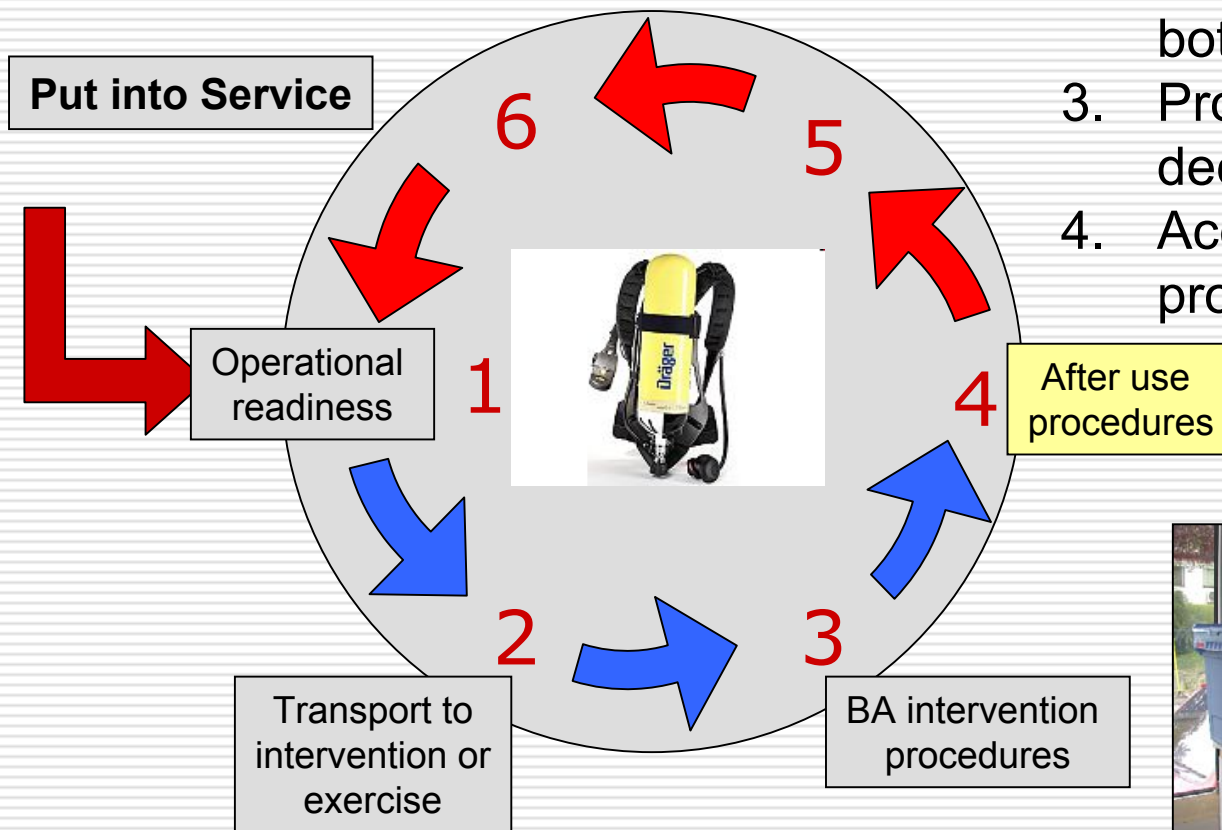
# Step 3 Intervention / Exercise



BA intervention procedures:

- Common basic intervention procedures
- BA intervention safety procedures
- Risk analysis procedure for special interventions
- Limits of BA use due to special risk (BA related risk analysis procedure)
- Accident procedure



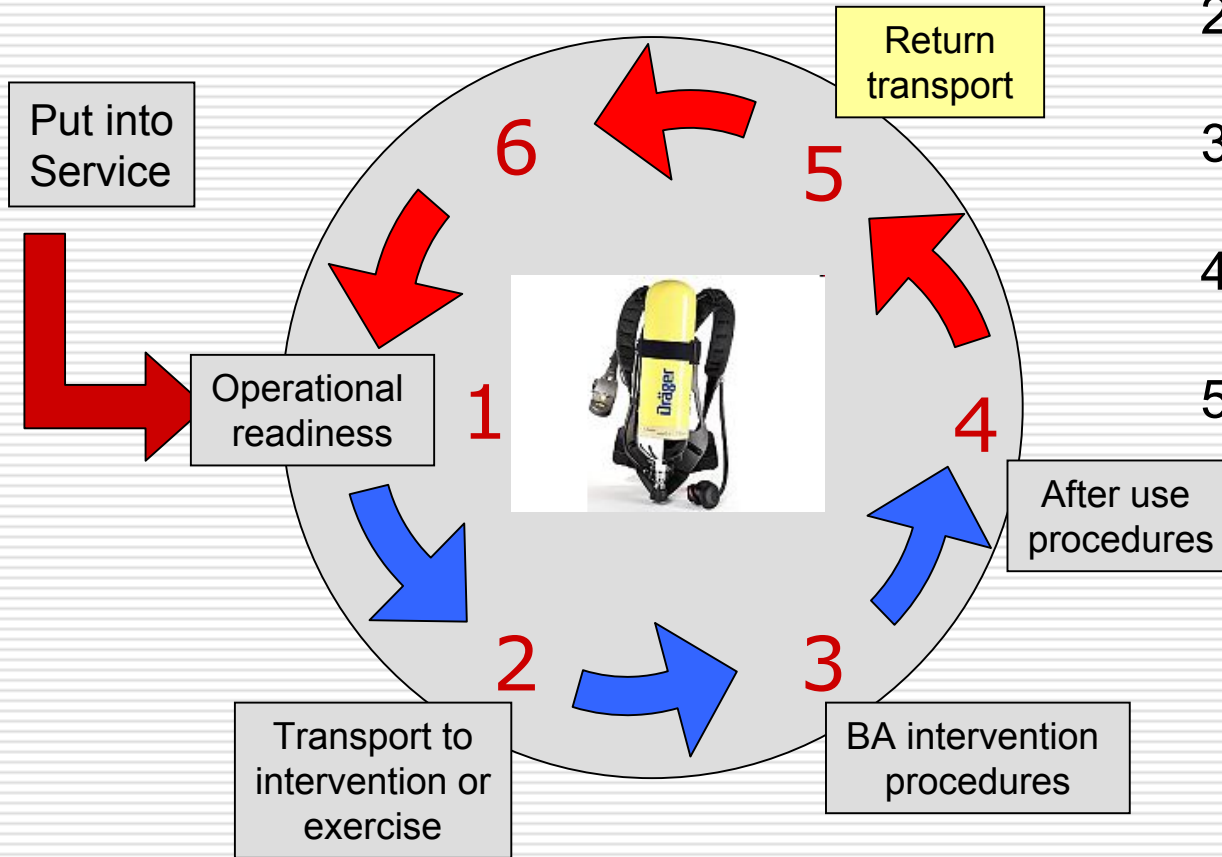


## After use procedures

1. Black/white separation and labeling
2. Exceptional re-use with bottle change
3. Provisional decontamination
4. Accident follow up BA procedure



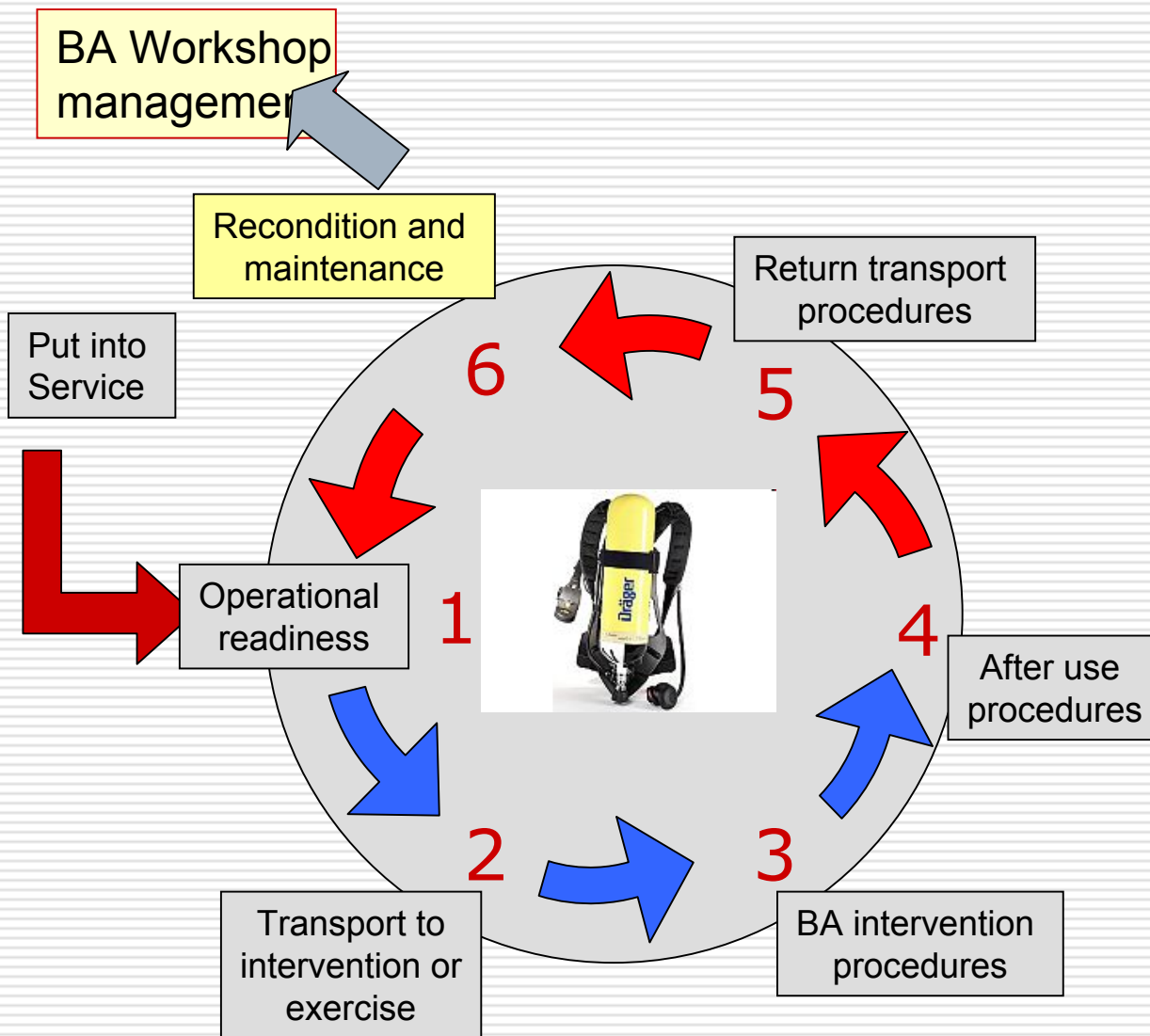
# Step 5 Return transport - storage



## Return transport

1. Transport in the fire engine
2. Transport in other cars
3. Transport in case of contamination
4. Compliance with legal obligations
5. Separated storage before maintenance

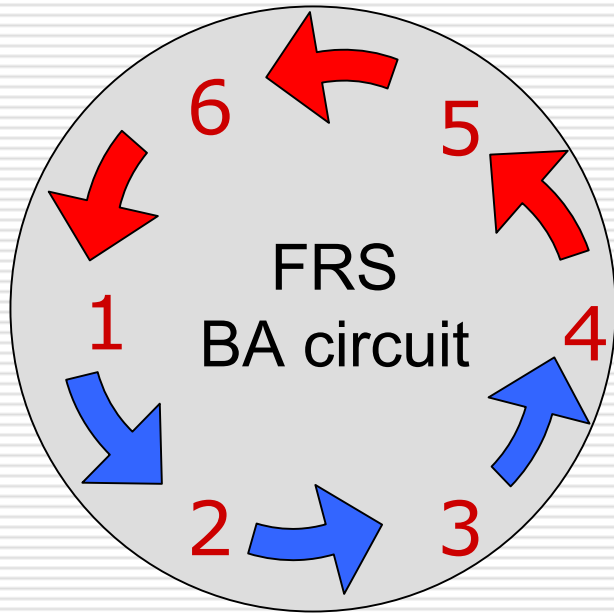
# Step 6 Recondition and maintenance



## Recondition and maintenance

1. Decontamination and cleaning
2. Maintenance procedure
3. Periodical exchange of piece
4. Test procedure
5. Update BA record before start of a re-use cycle

The FRS BA circuit is an example for a safety management approach in FRS.



If all procedures and quality descriptions have been evaluated and confirmed the BA process is safe



FRS officers are responsible for safety matters and face managerial and operational risks .

The Fire Services are not anymore out of critical questions and are confronted of enquiries after interventions and especially after accidents of fire service members

Without a structured risk management process within the general quality management FRS might run into more and more difficulties. Therefore a risk management Related to

- Organization
- Procedures
- Equipment and
- Human factors

carried out continuously and with dedicated resources before during and after

interventions should be considered