

# STPA at Boeing Driving Safety Requirements for Future Aircraft Design

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# Agenda

- Why use STPA
- Team Effort
- Control Structure
- Requirements
  - Analysis
  - Sample
- Conclusion



### Why use STPA?



Nasa 2004 Space Shuttle 500,000 lines of code



Boeing 787 6.7 million lines of code



Edmonds.com 2018 Ford Taurus 50 + million lines of code



Next new aircraft?

### **STPA Enables Engineers to Manage Complexity**

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## Benefits of cross functional teaming for STPA

- Encourages inclusive teamwork
  - Including key stakeholders
  - Open communication
  - Joint purpose

### Enables productive reviews

- The knowledge of the team is more than the knowledge of any one member
- Higher ability to assess completeness
- Communication to non-engineers, common language
- Assistance for understanding despite complexity





### **Control Structure**





# Comparing two methods for development of requirements



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### Traditional

- Design objectives created
- Architecture is necessary (use cases, functional architecture etc.)
- Requirements driven from the architecture



STPA

- Design objectives created
- Control structure created
- Driving requirements from the control structure
- Can be used as the basis for development of a system architecture

Safety Requirements Driving the Architecture and Design





## Requirements analysis



### 92% of STPA Requirements were improvements over Traditional Requirements



## Example: Thrust during ground operations

#### **STPA Requirement**

The design of the system must ensure the pilots have an accurate mental/process model to make sure ground instructions are interpreted correctly, to prevent an engine blast that will damage other aircraft, structures as well as injure people, create foreign objects and debris, etc.

High level (system level) safety requirement

New Requirement

#### **Traditional Requirement**

#### No equivalent requirement was created

How would this fit into a more traditional Engineering requirement system:

Traditional Example:

The aircraft shall have a systems interface that prevents engine blasts from causing damage.

Rationale: The requirement is Intended to prevent an engine blast that will damage other aircraft and provide the pilots an interface that allow ground instructions to be interpreted correctly



### Example: Thrust command for stall STPA analysis compared to traditional requirement

#### **STPA Requirement:**

The design of the system must ensure thrust is commanded when the A/C speed is less than the necessary speed to maintain lift, to eliminate the possibility of a stall condition that may damage the aircraft or injury people.

High level safety requirement

**Enhanced Previous Traditional Requirement** 

#### **Traditional Requirements:**

The aircraft shall be designed such that no single failure, regardless of probability, leads to loss of stall envelope protection or associated functions in combination with stall warning, during impending stall, preventing continued safe flight and landing.

How would STPA enhance the traditional requirement?



### Conclusion

- STPA has the ability to identify potential safety issues before a design or architecture exists
- Complexity is increasing
- Teamwork is a necessity for completeness
- A representative control structure is vital for the completion of STPA





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