

# RISK

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## What Can Be AT Risk

- Injuries (short and long term, them & us)
- Deaths (Support for survivors, them & us)
- Cost of evacuation (shelter & needs)
- Cost of sheltering stranded travelers
- Loss of cultural/historic artifacts
- Loss of past
- Loss of future
- Resource impacts

### Things That People Value

- Destruction/loss of asset
- Lost business - supplies, workforce, access to markets, communications (short & long)
- Loss of infrastructure
- Cost of recovery - cleanup, removal, assessments, restoration, communications
- Liability - legal costs, settlements
- Cost of mitigation
- Cost overrun
- Increased insurance costs
- Personal reputation
- Professional reputation
- Organization's reputation
- Professional/corporate license, accreditation
- Loss of equipment, tools
- Loss of intellectual property/trade secrets
- Time loss to replace
- Impacts of reliance
- health
- Mental Health
- Welfare
- Morale
- Social factors
  - Blame
  - Cohesion
  - Psychological impact
  - Stress, uncertainty
  - Loss of trust

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## Questions To Think About

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- Can you measure risk?
- Can you manage risk?
- Can you have real or actual risk?

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## Paradigms

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Risk Analysis  
Risk Perception  
Risk Interpretation

-Kadvany (1997) Varieties of risk representations

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## When Can 'It' Happen?

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- Deterministic
- Probabilistic
  - Opportunities
  - Frequency
  - Scientifically Determined
- Unforeseen

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## What is Risk?

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# Perceptions of Risk Perception



Die in the next year?	18.7%	0.1%
Die before turning 20?	20.3%	0.5%

-de Bruin, Parker, & Fischhoff, (2007). Can adolescents predict significant life events?

[http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-HiYINDBK-os/T9lWF5lF7LI/AAAAAAAAACU/\\_HF90gARW54/s320/Skate.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-HiYINDBK-os/T9lWF5lF7LI/AAAAAAAAACU/_HF90gARW54/s320/Skate.jpg)

CBS NEWS / September 8, 2017, 8:20 AM

## "500-year" rain events are happening more often than you think

Monster Hurricane Irma comes just two weeks after a record rainfall to parts of Houston. But Harvey and other events are happening far more often than their name implies.

Just two years ago Charleston had flooding that was thought to be a thousand-year event. Now with Irma approaching, it begs the question of whether these really are once-in-a-lifetime events, correspondent Kris Van Cleave.

The flooding Hurricane Harvey left behind in Houston was devastating. Entire neighborhoods became submerged. It exceeded "500-year" levels, but as it turns out, it's not so rare.

WHIO TV 7 AM NEWS WHIO

### Louisiana flooding: What is a 500-year flood and why is it happening so much?

**Published:** Wednesday, August 17, 2016 @ 8:23 AM  
**Updated:** Wednesday, August 17, 2016 @ 8:27 AM  
**By:** Debbie Lord - Cox Media Group National Content Desk

As of Wednesday morning, 11 people have died and more than 40,000 homes have been damaged in ongoing flooding in southeastern Louisiana.

Up to two-and-a-half feet of rain that swelled rivers and swamped the area in and around Baton Rouge, La., has led the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to classify the flooding as a once-in-every-500-years event.



## Expressions of Risk

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- Individual Risk
- Deaths Per Unit Measure of Activity
- Loss of Life Expectancy
- Frequency Against Consequence

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## Risk Definition

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**Adverse Consequences Under Uncertainty.**

-Kadvany (1997) Varieties of risk representations


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## Benchmark

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1 in ~~10,000~~ Per Year

1 in 6,900 Per Year

1 in ~80 

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## Ways of Quantifying

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- Expert Opinion/Expert Audit
- Simple Stratification Method
- Weighted Scores
- Traditional Financial Analysis
- Calculus of Preferences
- Probabilistic Models

-Hubbard (2009). The failure of risk management

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## Formulas for Calculating Risk

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**Risk = Vulnerability × Hazard**

**Hazard × Vulnerability [× Exposure] = Risk → Impact**

**(Hazard × Vulnerability × Exposure) / Resilience = Risk → Impact**

**Risk = [Hazard × Vulnerability] - Capability ←**

**Risk = Hazard × Vulnerability / Capacity ←**

**Hazard × (Vulnerability / Resilience) [× Exposure] = Risk → Impact**

**Risk = Likelihood (Probability) × Consequences ←**

**[Probability (Freq.) + Magnitude (Extent)] / 2 = Hazard Risk Value**

**Risk = (Freq. + Magnitude)/2 × (Exposure + Fragility + Resilience)/3**

**Risk = Probability Of Failure × Consequence**

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## Formulas for Calculating Risk

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- Require Calibration
- Can Only Be Used to Compare Options  
Calculated With The Same Process
- Highly Subjective
- Influenced By Biases, Heuristics, Experience
- Meaningless Outside of Their Context
- Can be Misleading

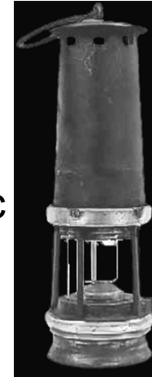
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## Risk Perception



What shapes it?

- Voluntary vs. Involuntary
- Edgework
- Affect Heuristic
- Representativeness Heuristic
- Availability Heuristic
- Anchoring And Adjustment Heuristic
- Group Experience
- Optimism Bias
- Risk Homeostasis



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## Culture

- “The mix of shared values, attitudes and patterns of behaviour that give the organisation its particular character. It is 'the way we do things round here’” - HSE(2005)
- Frames our Reference, Perceptions, Risk Acceptance, Attitudes, Priorities, Goals

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## Acceptable Risk

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- Risk Appetite, Risk Tolerance
- Acceptable Risk vs. Risk that is Accepted

RISK ↑

Option 1

○

Option 2

○

DANGER DANGER DANGER DANGER DANGER DANGER

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## Acceptable Risk

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Challenger  
1986

Deepwater Horizon  
2010

Costa Concordia  
2012

Columbia  
2003

Herald of Free Enterprise  
1987

**“...From top to bottom the body corporate was infected with the disease of sloppiness...”**

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## Safer? How'd They Do That?

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- Systems Approach
- Checklists
- Comprehensive Training, Cross Training
- Multiple Redundancies
- Research
- Guidelines
- Organizational Learning
- ASRS
- Built Resilience

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## Probability

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What are the odds? How Are They Determined?  
Professional Gamblers Know



- Delta Flight 810
- UA Flight 232
- Vincennes Shootdown
- Barings Bank
- Exxon Valdez
- Mt. St. Helens

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Things that have never happened before  
happen all the time.

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## Risk Matrices

		Impact				
		Insignificant damage, minor injury	Non-reportable injury, slight damage	Reportable injury, limited damage	Major injury, damage, single fatality	Multifatalities, catastrophic loss
Probability		1	2	3	4	5
Almost certain	5	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>25</b>
Will Probably occur	4	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>
Possible	3	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>
Remote possibility	2	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>
Extremely unlikely	1	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

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“...they can be 'worse than useless,' leading to worse-than-random decisions.”

-Cox (2008). What's wrong with risk matrices?

## Rating Probability

Certain	>99%	Near Certainty	90%	Very High	>80%	Almost Certain	>95%	Almost Certain	1 in 10
Likely	50-99%	Highly Likely	70%	High	10%	Likely	>65%	Likely	1 in 100
Possible	5-49%	Likely	50%	Medium	>1%	Possible	>35%	Possible	1 in 1,000
Unlikely	2-5%	Unlikely	30%	Low	>0.1%	Unlikely	<35%	Unlikely	1 in 10,000
Extremely Rare	<1%	Remote	10%	Very Low	<0.01%	Rare	<5%	Rare	1 in 100,000

What Context?

## Parts of Risk

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A Proposed Way of Looking at Risk



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## Hazard

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Types of Hazards:

- Biological
  - Physical
  - Chemical
  - Ergonomic
  - Psychological
  - Environmental
  
  - Executive Failure
- Perrow (2007). The next catastrophe

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## Hazard Controls

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- Elimination
- Substitution
- Engineering controls
- Administrative Controls: Education & Training, Procedures, Scheduling, Regular Inspections, Warning Systems

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## Are Warnings Enough?



<http://www.funmysigns.net/files/if-you-hit-this-sign-you-will-hit-that-bridge.jpg>

## **Exposure**

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- Opportunity, Occasion, Opening
- Passive (Hazard is Active)
- In Time And Space
- People, Equipment, Reputation, Liability
- Short Term, Long Term (Once or Multiple)

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## **Exposure Controls**

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- Communications
- Barriers, Boundaries
- Alternative Courses of Action (Plan B, C, D)
- Set Rules and Limits; And Follow Them
- Have Redundancies, Resources in Reserve

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## Vulnerability

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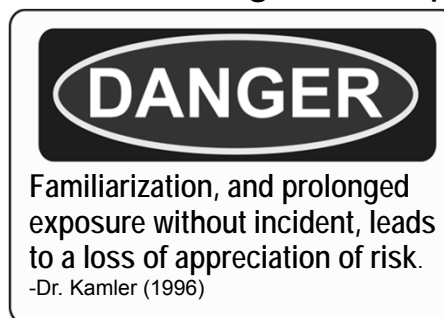
- Weakness, Fragility, Sensitivity, Susceptibility
- Passive (Hazard is Active)
- Determines The Magnitude of The Impact
- Lack of Capacity to Anticipate a Hazard, Cope With It, Resist It And Recover (Rottach, 2010)
- Different Vulnerabilities - Physical, Social, Economic, Technological, Biological, Community, Environmental (at risk list)

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## Vulnerability Controls

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- Build Resilience
- Put “Tools” In The “Toolbox”
- Consider An 'All Target' Approach
- Plan to Address Contingencies: What If...?
- Ability to Prevent, Mitigate, Respond, Adapt



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“Concentrations of hazardous materials, populations, and economic power in our critical infrastructure make us more vulnerable to natural disasters, industrial/technological disasters, and terrorist attacks.”

-Perrow (2007). The next catastrophe

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## **Build Resilience**

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- Seek Out Every Opportunity for Improvement
- Learn As An Organisation From Experience
- Listen to The Weak Signals
- Think That Adverse Outcomes Are Organizational Problems
- Educate, Equip
- Identify Vulnerabilities And Exposures And Fix Them

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## Parting Thoughts

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- Regard Risk as a Property of Our Decisions
- Think About What Professional Gamblers Do
- Address Residual Risk, Secondary Risk
- Consider That Risk Cannot Be Quantified or Measured, Only Certain Indicators
- Methods For Assessing Risk Vary Widely
- Risk Cannot Be Objectively Assessed

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## Worth Reading

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