



2026 FTA STATE SAFETY OVERSIGHT AND RAIL TRANSIT AGENCY SAFETY WORKSHOP

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Session 19

Roadway Worker Protection

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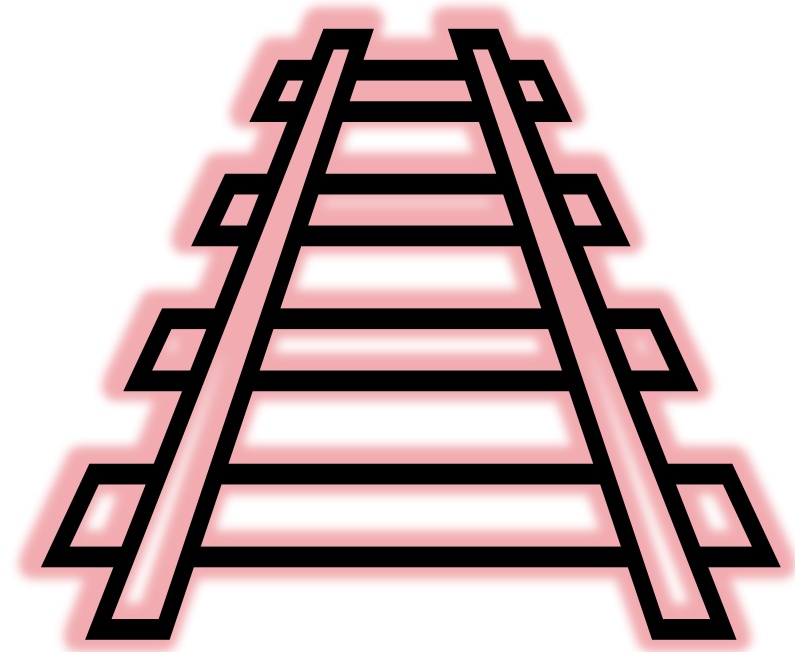
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Session Goals

1. To understand how to use Safety Management Systems (SMS) to support ongoing development of rail transit roadway worker protection (RWP) programs.
2. To review the role of SMS in identifying worker protections and assessing their effectiveness.
3. To work collaboratively and share best practices on using SMS practices in the context of RWP.



Agenda

- Looking Ahead – RWP Program Implementation
- Recent RWP Data and Trends
- SMS and the RWP Rule
- Workshop Activity – Using SMS to Advance RWP Programs



Looking Ahead – RWP Program Implementation

As Necessary:

- RTAs update the RWP manual and track access guide after any changes.

Quarterly:

- RTAs report to their SSOA on compliance with and sufficiency of RWP program.

Annually:

- RTAs brief Accountable Executive and Board of Directors, or equivalent entity, on RWP program performance.
- SSOAs audit RTA compliance with RWP program.

First Review and Every Two Years:

- RTAs review and update RWP manual, submit to SSOA for review and approval.

2025 Data Recap Events

RWP Events Per Year	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
	10	12	16

Injuries Per Worker	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Fatalities – Operator	0	0	1
Fatalities – Other Worker	2	1	0
Injuries – Operator	0	4	7
Injuries – Other Worker	11	12	11
Total	13	17	19

SMS and the RWP Rule – Why SMS?

- Activities conducted to carry out these RWP safety standards must be integrated into the RTA's SMS, including the Safety Risk Management process and the Safety Assurance process, specified in PTASP.
- FTA has considered the difference in size and operating environments across the country and anticipates that RWP programs will not look the same due to the variability of needs.



Incorporating RWP into an SMS supports the ongoing growth and maturity of RWP programs, and facilitates the continual assessment of program effectiveness, based on established SMS processes, to ultimately mitigate RWP-related risks and produce positive safety outcomes.

SMS and the RWP Rule

- Use of Safety Risk Assessments to determine redundant protections (671.39(b)):
 - Section 671.39(d) includes a non-exhaustive list of redundant protections that RTAs and SSOAs may use. Through safety risk assessments, RTAs may identify other redundant protections suitable to their specific circumstances.
 - The final rule establishes that there must always be at least two protections and, beyond that, the number of protections will depend on the work environment and the results of the RTA's safety risk assessment.
 - The RTA must review and update the safety risk assessment at least every two years.
 - The SSOA may also identify and require the RTA to implement alternate redundant protections.
- Determining the effectiveness of RWP redundant protections (671.39(b)(3)).
- SSOA Annual RWP program audit and RWP Program effectiveness (671.25(c)(2)).
- Briefings to Accountable Executive and Board of Directors (671.43(b)(2)).

The Importance of Safety Risk Assessment

Why Are We Discussing it Today?

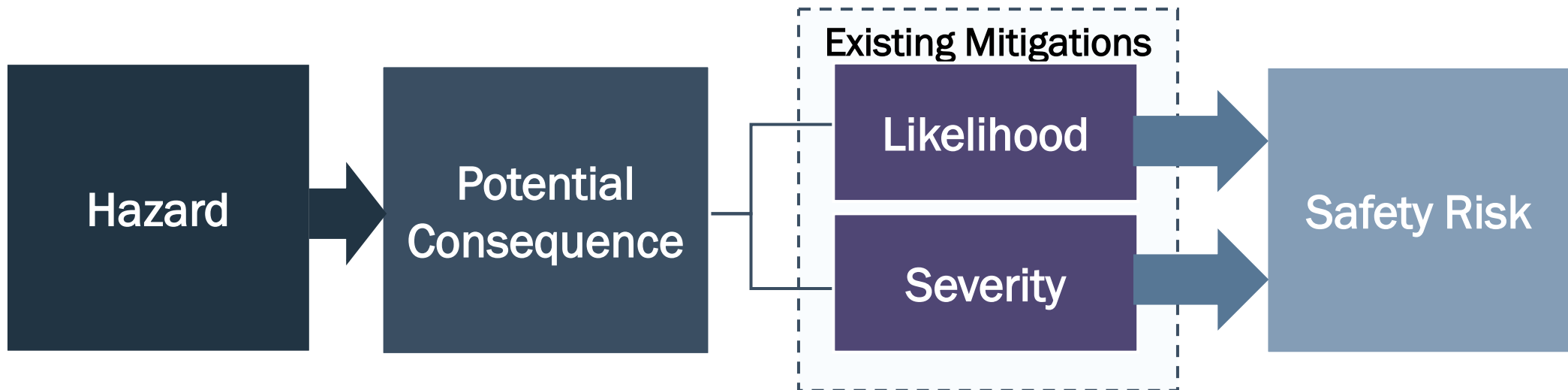
- As SMS processes continue to mature, Safety Risk Assessments will be an important tool to address emerging hazards.
- Effective review and analysis of completed Safety Risk Assessments are crucial in ensuring that hazards are effectively prioritized, and appropriate mitigations are developed.



Safety Risk Assessment

49 CFR 673.25

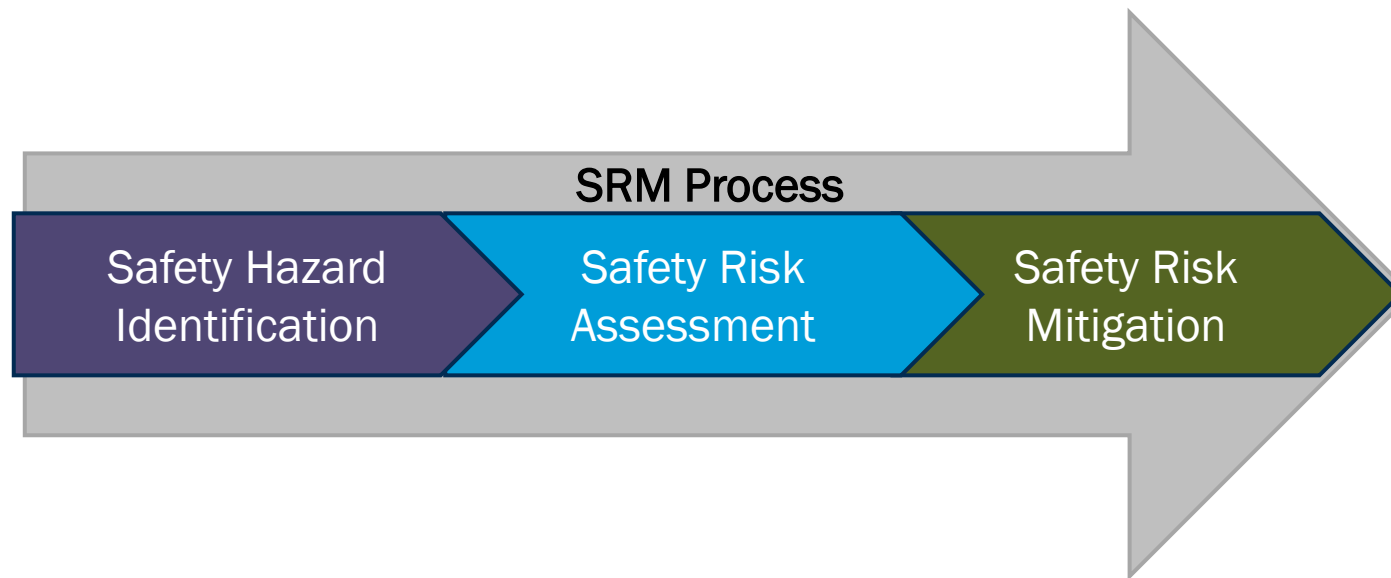
- c) Safety Risk Assessment
 - 1) A transit agency must establish methods or processes to assess safety risks associated with identified safety hazards.
 - 2) A safety risk assessment includes an assessment of the likelihood and severity of the potential consequences of identified hazards, taking into account existing safety risk mitigations, to determine if safety risk mitigation is necessary and to inform prioritization of safety risk mitigations.



The Importance of Safety Risk Assessment

Why Conduct an SRA?

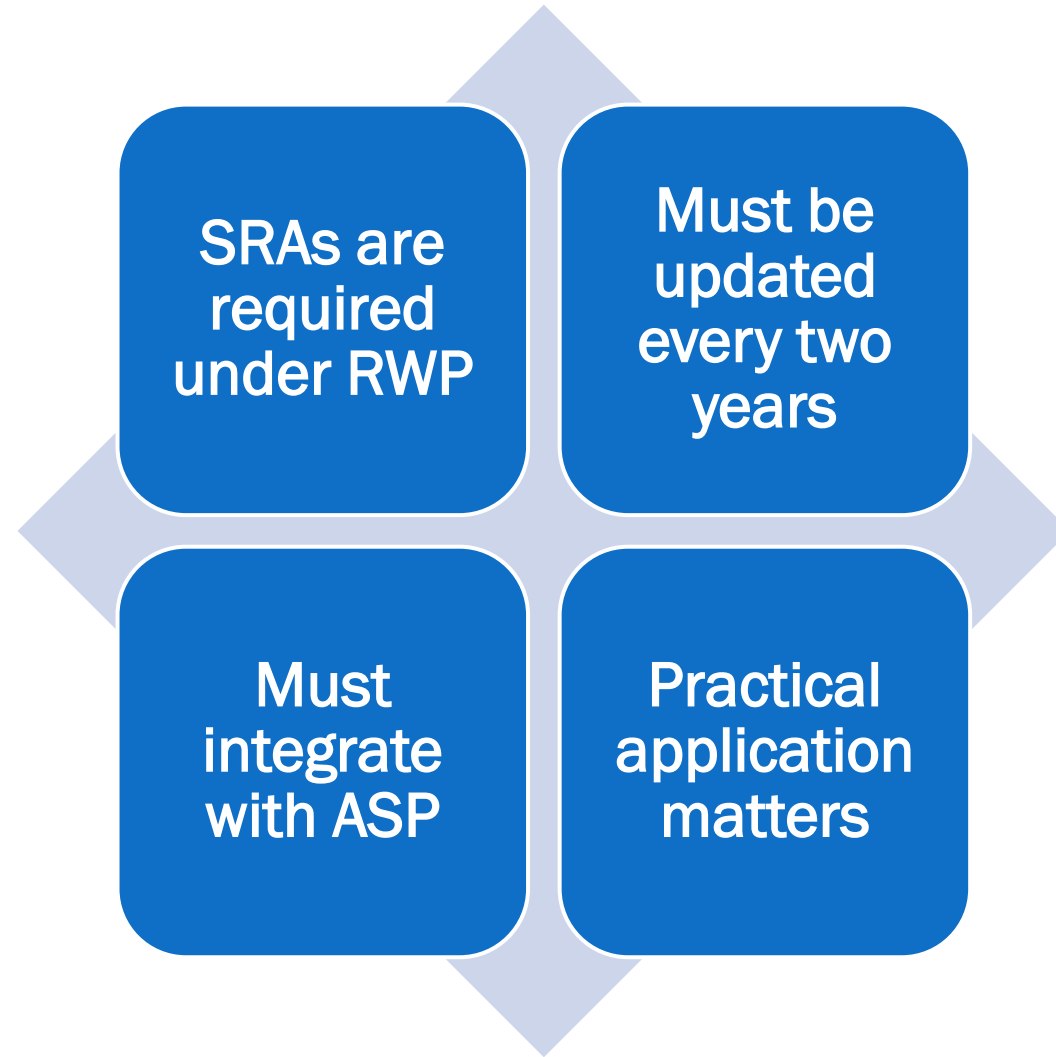
- Required Safety Risk Management element under 49 CFR 673.25.
- Helps to define the scope of the risk.
- Assists in the identification of stakeholders to ensure relevant parties are included in the discussion.
- Supports effective prioritization of hazards instead of a reactive approach.
- Identifies existing mitigations and their effectiveness.
- Allows for an analytical approach to developing new mitigations.
- Documents analysis for future SRM consideration.



Workshop Activity

Using SMS to Advance RWP Programs

Key Takeaways



Conclusions

- Q&A



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