

From the Editor's Desk...

JSS Technical Editor
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Communication

I was once in a meeting with a program manager (PM), where we were discussing the risk associated with some mishap scenarios. The PM stated, "I do not understand or care about anything that has less than a 10 percent chance of happening." That pretty much included *all* the safety-related mishaps. It became clear that we were having "a failure to communicate" that we had to overcome. The first technical paper in this issue, "Speaking Risk with Our Project Managers" by Dustin Nix, John Fellows and Dr. John Hall, gives some insight as to how we might solve our communication problems.

Also in this issue of *Journal of System Safety*:

- The second technical paper, "Chasing the Black Swan" by Dr. Malcolm Jones, addresses the continual concern that there may be an "as yet" undiscovered flaw or lack of understanding in the design of a product, process or facility that could lead to a catastrophic event.
- In their paper, "An Assurance Framework for Independent Co-assurance of Safety and Security," Nikita Johnson and Dr. Tim Kelly describe a safety/security approach and provide a Safety-Security Assurance Framework (SSAF) based on a core set of assurance principles.
- In his "Design-Based Safety" column, David MacCollum discusses some issues with the construction of the *RMS Titanic* that contributed to this famous disaster.
- In the "TBD" column, Charlie Hoes opines that the most important "initiative" the ISSS has agreed to undertake is the creation of a new, high-level, system safety standard. He goes on to describe some important attributes of this proposed standard.

As usual, I welcome your comments, letters to the editor and article submissions.

Regards,
Chuck

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