

From the Editor's Desk...

JSS Technical Editor
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Initiatives for the ISSS

In the TBD column in this issue, Charlie Hoes proposes some important initiatives for the ISSS:

- Create a high-level system safety standard owned and maintained by the International System Safety Society.
- Assist universities with integrating system safety concepts into their engineering curriculum. This activity will create engineers and managers who are familiar with system safety practices but is not intended to “create” system safety engineers.
- Provide consistent, high-quality system safety training and education for system safety engineers and managers.
- Develop a method for certifying safety engineers and managers.

Members of the International System Safety Society (ISSS) will have an opportunity to participate in discussions of these — and related — initiatives at the Society's upcoming International System Safety Conference (ISSC) this August in a forum setting. The forum will consist of a series of related sessions in which panelists will make presentations, followed by informal discussions by any or all participants. Each session will be led by a facilitator and is expected to run about one hour. The content of this forum/tract will fit well with the Conference technical program's focus on training and educating new system safety engineers, as well as engineers in other disciplines. More importantly, it will address potential pathways leading to furthering the objectives of the ISSS.

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

In his Design-Based Safety column, “A New Dimension Safety Education,” David MacCollum discusses

some of the safety-related activity at Arizona State University (ASU).

In the System Safety in Healthcare column, “Positive and Negative Impacts of Six Sigma Programs in Healthcare Safety,” Dev Raheja and Dr. Maria C. Escano describe the application of “Six Sigma” to a variety of medical applications and systems.

The first technical paper, “Defending Against Firmware Cyber Attacks on Safety Critical Systems” by Chris Johnson, Mohammed Hashim Saleem, Maria Evangelopoulou, Marco Cook and Rob Harkness, addresses a growing threat to the cyber security of certain safety-critical applications and describes various methods that are used in firmware attacks.

The second technical paper, “Using Karnaugh Maps in Software Requirements Analysis,” by Anthony S. Cantone and Yawa Adonsou, presents Karnaugh Maps as a tool that can aid in the detection of missing requirements and resolution of the duplication of a set of related requirements. The authors introduce techniques associated with Karnaugh Maps as used in other technical areas, and demonstrate their applicability in software requirements analysis.

I am pleased that this issue of the JSS includes two letters to the editor inspired by recent articles. Please note that letters may be excerpted or edited for length and content.

I welcome your comments, letters to the editor and article submissions. Please email me at cmuniak@stevens.edu.

Regards,
Chuck

Get Ready for the 36th ISSC!

August 13-17, 2018 • Arizona Grand Resort • Phoenix, Arizona

It's almost time for the next International System Safety Convention! For more information about paper submissions, tutorials, registration, programs, sponsor and exhibitor opportunities, watch for future issues of *Journal of System Safety* and for updates on issc2018.system-safety.org