

Weapons Systems and Explosives Safety in a Joint Warfighting Environment

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Agenda

- Safety Importance to Navy/Marine Corps
- Safety: Common Sense?
- Weapon System Explosives Safety Review Board (WSESRB)
- Other Services' Boards
 - USA Materiel Release Board
 - USAF NNMSB
- Joint Staff: Safe Weapons Capabilities Review
- Where to Next?



Safety Importance to the Navy/Marine Corps

- Nature of Expeditionary Mission
- All Weapons Carried to the Fleet
 - Initial Allocation
 - Sustaining Requirements
- Fuel
- Other Hazardous Materials

No Where To Escape, In Case of Incident





- Common Sense isn't always common.
- Mishaps/Accidents both on and off duty have cost hundreds of USN and USMC lives and an average of \$4B every 5 yrs
- Need for greater hazard awareness by all personnel at all times to preserve our greatest asset:





Although a weapon system can be designed to maximize safety,

People <u>really can</u> make poor decisions without applying either risk management OR

common sense









PHS&T Approved unit loads?



....and "Risk Management" closer to home?!!









WSESRB: Why?

WSESRB:

- established in 1968 as a result of mishaps aboard aircraft carriers
- provides independent oversight of weapon program safety effort to ensure maximum compliance with long standing weapon safety requirements.





WSESRB Authority

DODI 5000.2 Para E7.7

- PM shall identify, evaluate and manage safety and health hazards
- Explains the process for accepting risk

SECNAVINST 5000.2C

- CNO may establish system safety advisory boards

SECNAVINST 5100.10H

- Directs CNO/CMC to establish safety programs

OPNAVINST 8020.14/MCO P8020.11

- Explosives Safety Policy
- Tasks COMNAVSEASYSCOM to establish WSESRB

NAVSEAINST 8020.6D

- Defines WSESRB process and procedures



WSESRB: Who?

Policy Flow and Membership





WSESRB: What?

- Reviews weapon and combat system acquisition programs, including Product Improvement Programs, for compliance with longstanding safety design requirements.
 - PM identifies, evaluates and manages safety and health hazards
 - Focus on safety from an overall Combat System perspective
 - Emphasis on Human Systems Integration (HSI)
- Provides concurrence or nonconcurrence with the design; makes recommendations.
- PM responds to the Board with the actions taken or planned.
- For those hazards that cannot be eliminated, risk is assessed, Board provides concurrence.
- PM must get any residual risk accepted at appropriate level.
 - High risk = ASN (RDA)
 - Serious risk = PEO
 - Moderate/low risk = PM





- WSESRB works in partnership with Program Managers and the Fleet in identifying hazards
- Identify hazards
- Develop actions to mitigate the hazards
- Communicate any residual risks to Fleet operators



WSESRB: When?

Acquisition Events That Trigger WSESRB Reviews





Weapons Systems Safety





USA: Safety Reviews

- Army Fuze Safety Review Board
 - Board of Technical and Safety Experts
 - Certify fuze design for Army munitions based on STANAGs 4157, 4187 and 4497 and associated AOPs
 - Fuze Board approval included in milestone decision review package
- Army Ignition System Review Board
- Materiel Release Board
 - Looks at a system's Safety, Supportability and Suitability
 - Final QA check
 - Unresolved safety hazards?
 - Meets approved capabilities document?



USAF: Nonnuclear Munitions Safety Board (NNMSB)





Current Drivers in DOD



Joint Operations Are Now the Norm



<u>Challenges to Safe Joint</u> <u>Environment</u>

- Limited Joint Review of Safety Capabilities
- Increased Weapon System Complexity
- Weapon/Environment Incompatibilities
- Service Unique Design Requirements
- Implementation of Evolving and Varied Acquisition Strategies
- Technology Gaps
- Budget Pressures



CJCS, J8 (DDFP) Action

- Supported Chartering Service Representatives to Explore Process to Ensure
 - Safe Weapons in a Joint Warfighting Environment
- Review Capability Documents
- Recommend Process
 - CJCSI&M 3170 Changes
 - Charter
 - Process Development



JCIDS Recommended Process

- ICD/CDD/CPD Required to Address Weapon Safety
 - ICD to Contain Weapon Safety Capabilities Statement
 - CDD and CPD to Address Specific Weapon Safety Attributes Needed for Joint Warfighting Environments
- DDFP Validates that the ICD/CDD/CPD Adequately Address Weapon Safety Attributes within the JCIDS Process
- J-8/DDFP Provides Weapon Safety Capabilities Endorsement, with Any Limitations Identified
- Joint Weapons Safety Technical Advisory Panel Council (JWSTAP) Created to Advise the DDFP and Sponsors in the Weapon Safety Capabilities Endorsement Process









Where Will This Take Us?

- Toward Service Collaborative Reviews
- Toward More Universal Cross-Service Criteria
- Toward Single Safety Reviews



How Can You Help?

• If the WSESRB is Remiss in Coordinating Reviews...

– ask for coordinated review?

 Communicate Early in the Acquisition Process?



Questions?



Back-ups

• USAF NNMSB

- Chart #5



Why a Weapon Safety "Certification" Process?

Over a program's lifecycle it costs less to integrate safety early

Curve adapted from NASA's Practice No. PD-AP-1314.



System Engineering/Acquisition Phases



Joint Operations Example

- USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER September 1994
 - Embarked Army Contingent; 14 AH-1F Cobra, 13 MH-58 Kiowa and 26 MH-60 Blackhawk Helicopters
 - Examples of Issues
 - Shipboard Bow Whip Antennas Secured Until All Cobra Helicopters Departed
 - Hot tube loading of 2.75" Rockets Not Authorized
 - Thermite Grenades (NALC G900) Not Permitted, Exceeded Jettison Locker Capacity
 - Army Munitions on Wooden Pallets, Wooden Boxes; Shipboard Fire Issue



Joint Operations Example

- USS KITTYHAWK, Fall 2001
 - Embarked Army SOF in Support of Enduring Freedom
 - Examples of Issues
 - HERO Unsafe, Untested, or Susceptible; Required Restrictive EMCON to be Set When Handling SOF Ordnance
 - Reduces Communications, Detections, and Tracking Capabilities of the Ship
 - Waiver Granted for Non-thermally Protected Ordnance Aboard Ship
 - Waiver Granted for SOF to Conduct Hot Tube Loading of 2.75 Inch Rockets
 - Identification, Compatibility, Segregation of SOF Ordnance



Joint Operations Example

EMV Compatibility Issues

- Aircraft Susceptibility Issues Discovered During EMV Testing to the Army/Navy Joint Operation Electromagnetic Environment (Reports Available Dated July 1986, April 2001, February 2002)
 - Engine Instrumentation
 - Avionics Systems
 - Multifunction Display
 - Weather Radar
 - GPS System
 - HF and UHF Communication Set
 - Digital Electronic Control System



Interim Workarounds

- Joint Shipboard Helicopter Integration Program (JSHIP)
 - 5 Year DoD JT&E Sponsored Program (1998-2003)
 - Ordnance was One Part of the JSHIP Effort
 - Attempt to Develop Procedures to Mitigate Risk
 - Cost: \$22M
- Joint Shipboard Weapons/Ordnance Program (JSWORD)
 - 1 Year Quick Reaction Test Sponsored by DoD JT&E (12 May 03 – 31 March 05)
 - Sponsored by USSOCOM
 - Focused on Developing Shipboard Procedures for Hot Tube Loading of 2.75" Rockets On Army Helicopters
 - Cost: \$1M



Working Group Recommendations

- Establish a Weapon Safety Capability Certification Process for Joint Warfighting Environments
 - <u>Not</u> Modeled on Current CJCSI Certification Processes
 - Risk Identification and Acceptance Decision Process
 - Safety Is Risk Management, Not Compliance, Issue
- Identify Weapon Safety Capabilities in ICD/CDD/CPD Process
- Establish a Technical Advisory Committee to Review Capabilities Specified in the ICDs/CDDs/CPDs and Advise DDFP on Risks and Limitations, If Any