

# Flight Test Safety Workshop

## “Threat & Error Management” for Flight Test



**Captain Don Gunther**  
**Senior Director**  
**Safety & Regulatory Compliance**

# History of Crew Resource Management (CRM)

- NASA workshop 1979
  - Cockpit Resource Management
  - Reduce “pilot error” through better use of resources
- Phase 1 - CLR/CCC - 1981
  - Derived from corporate management
  - Focus on management skills
  - Goal - fix the “Wrong Stuff” captains
- Phase 2 & 3 1986 - 1996
  - Change the name to Crew Resource Management
  - Focus on concepts
    - Decision Making
    - Teamwork and Leadership

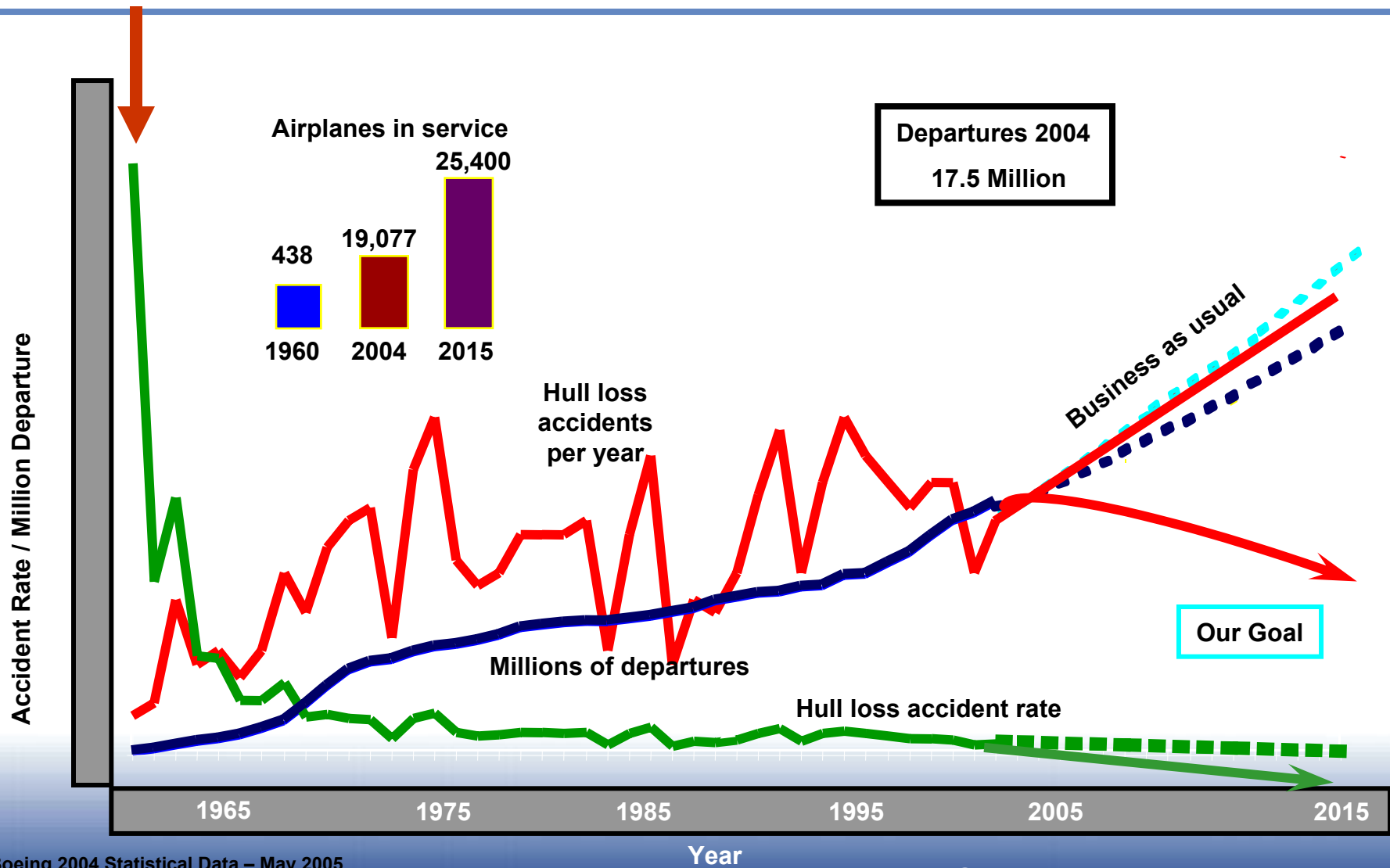
# History of Crew Resource Management (CRM)

- Phase 4 - Error Management - 1997
  - Returned to original concept Error avoidance strategy
  - Focus on managing human error
  - Changed from PNF to PM
- Phase 5 - Threat and Error Management - 2001
  - Identify threats that can lead to errors
  - Develop strategies to manage threats and reduce errors

Why are we still  
doing TEM/CRM training?

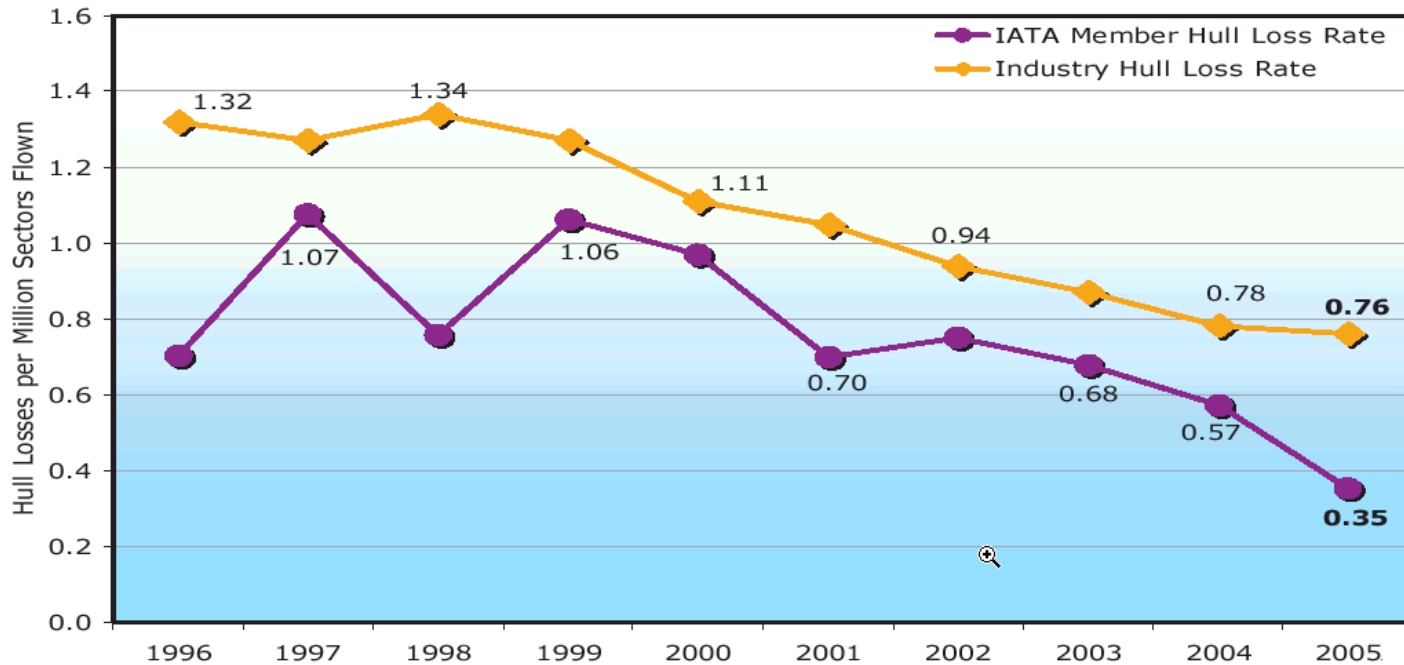
# We Need to Continuously Improve Aviation Safety

## 1965 - 2004



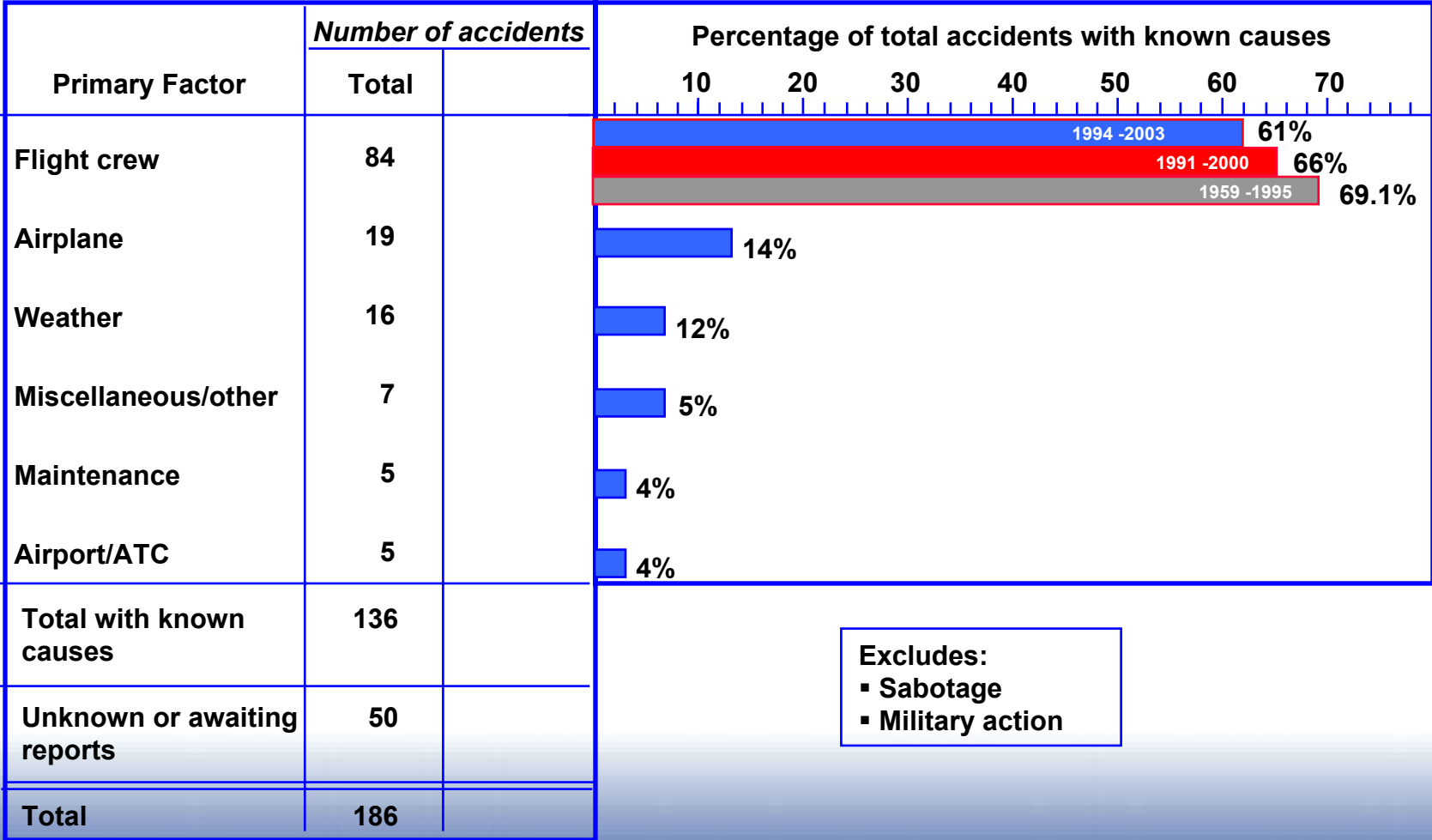
# Accident Rate

## Western-built Jet: Hull Loss Rate 1996 - 2005



# Accidents by Primary Cause

1994 - 2003



# TEM Workshop Agenda

- Developing a TEM Program
  - Line Observation Safety Audit (LOSA)
- TEM Program
  - Case Studies
  - Decision-making & Leadership
- Automation Policy



# Developing a TEM Program

# Error

**“If I commit an error I do it without bad intention.”**

*Stand Watie – Brigadier General Civil War*

# Safety Culture

## Aviation Week Article on Healthy Organizations

*“Investing the time and money needed to get at the root cause of a problem takes total commitment at the most senior levels of a company or organization. In most organizational settings, communicators learn early in life how bad news can impact their leaders. If the news is valued and the communicator is protected, there is a real chance information can and will routinely flow upward in time for proper action to be taken.”*

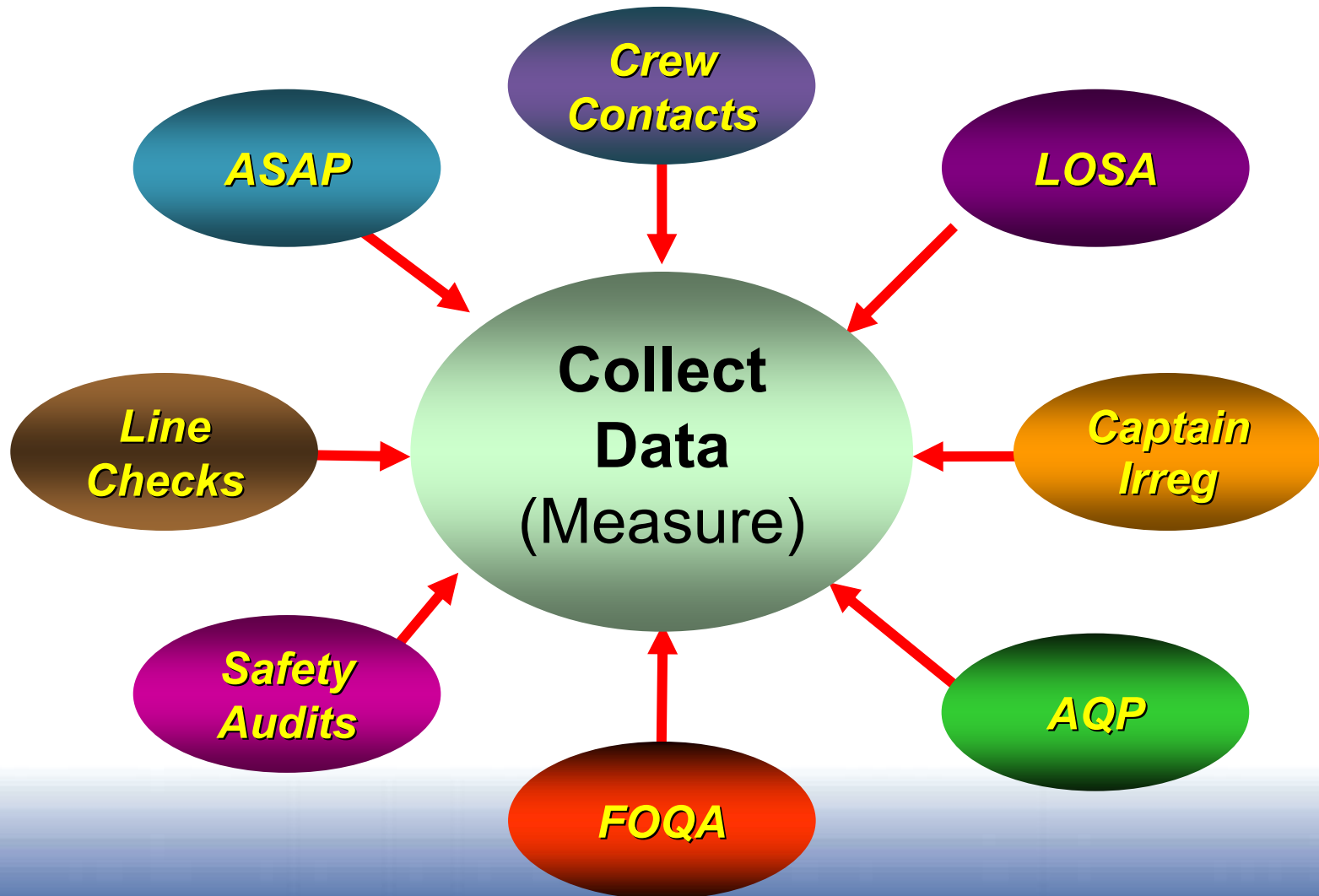
# The Safety Change Program

## *“Tailored to Continental”*

- To properly target change we need current operational data, specifically for Continental, which is unique due to its...
  - History & Culture
  - Areas of operation (CMI, polar routes, etc.)
  - Training Programs
  - Philosophy

# The Safety Change Program

*“Tailored to Continental”*



**By not having data to discover the precursors  
“specific” to your operations,  
this is the bottom-line...**

# LOSA Information for TEM

# “Normal” Performance



- Distance between “Perfect” and “Normal” performance varies as a function of culture, training, etc.
- LOSA enables us to get as close to normal performance than was previously possible.



# The Continental LOSA Process

- 1<sup>st</sup> year
  - LOSA and data analysis followed by course development
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> years
  - Training course for all crewmembers, Check Airmen training and imbedding of TEM into courseware, policy & procedures, etc.
- 4<sup>th</sup> year
  - Preparation for next LOSA and targeting areas to be measured and new areas to be emphasized.

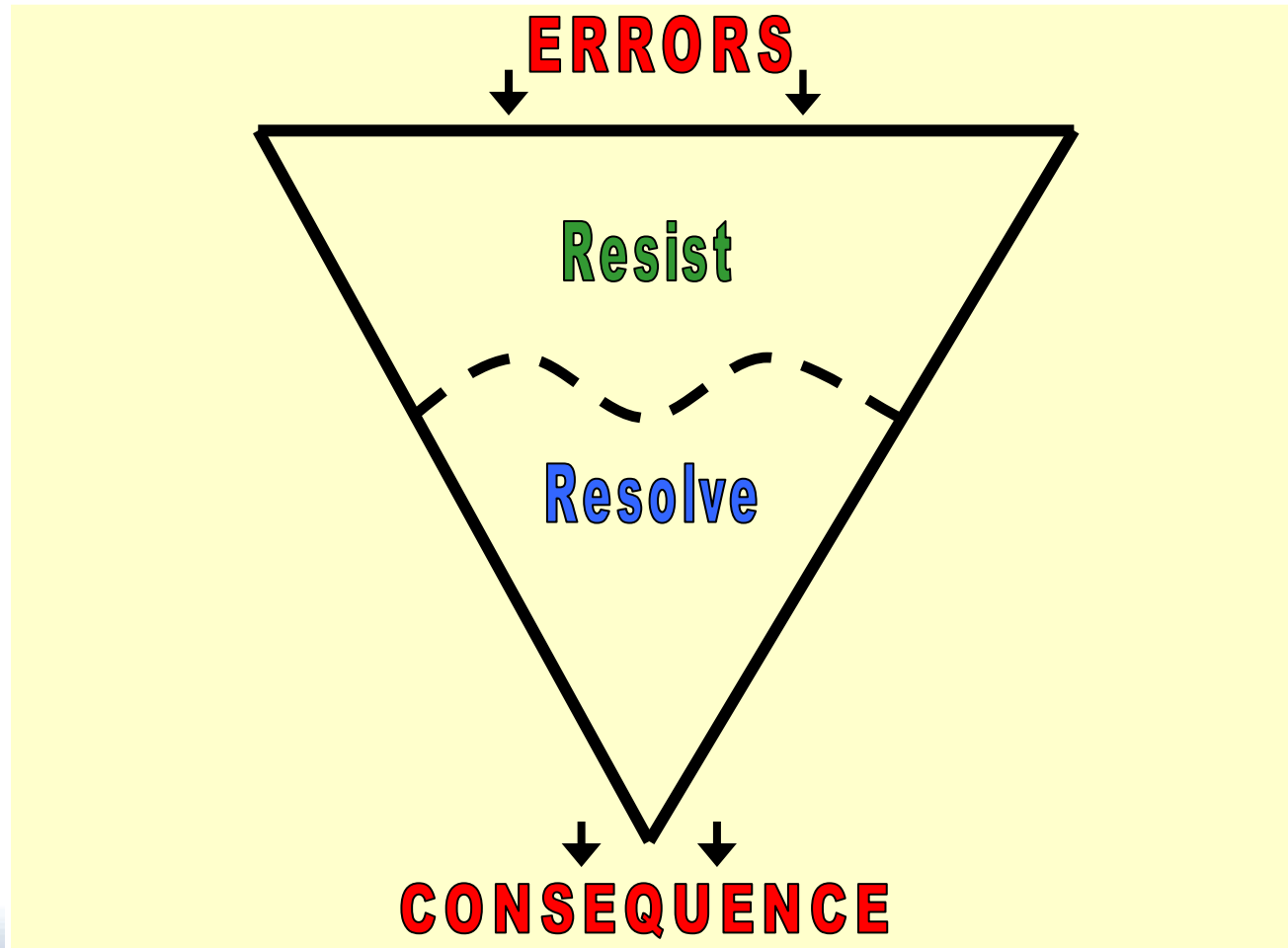
# **Line Observation Safety Audit**

## **LOSA 1996**

**Error Management's early focus was:**

**Managing *crew error***

# Error Management



# **Line Observation Safety Audit**

## **LOSA 2000**

# LOSA 1996 vs. 2000

- A 70% reduction in Checklist errors
- A 60% reduction in unstable approaches (confirmed by FOQA data)
- Overall improvement in crew performance
- Still a need for improvement in Leadership skills

# Threat and Error Management

# Threat and Error Management

**↓ THREATS ↓**

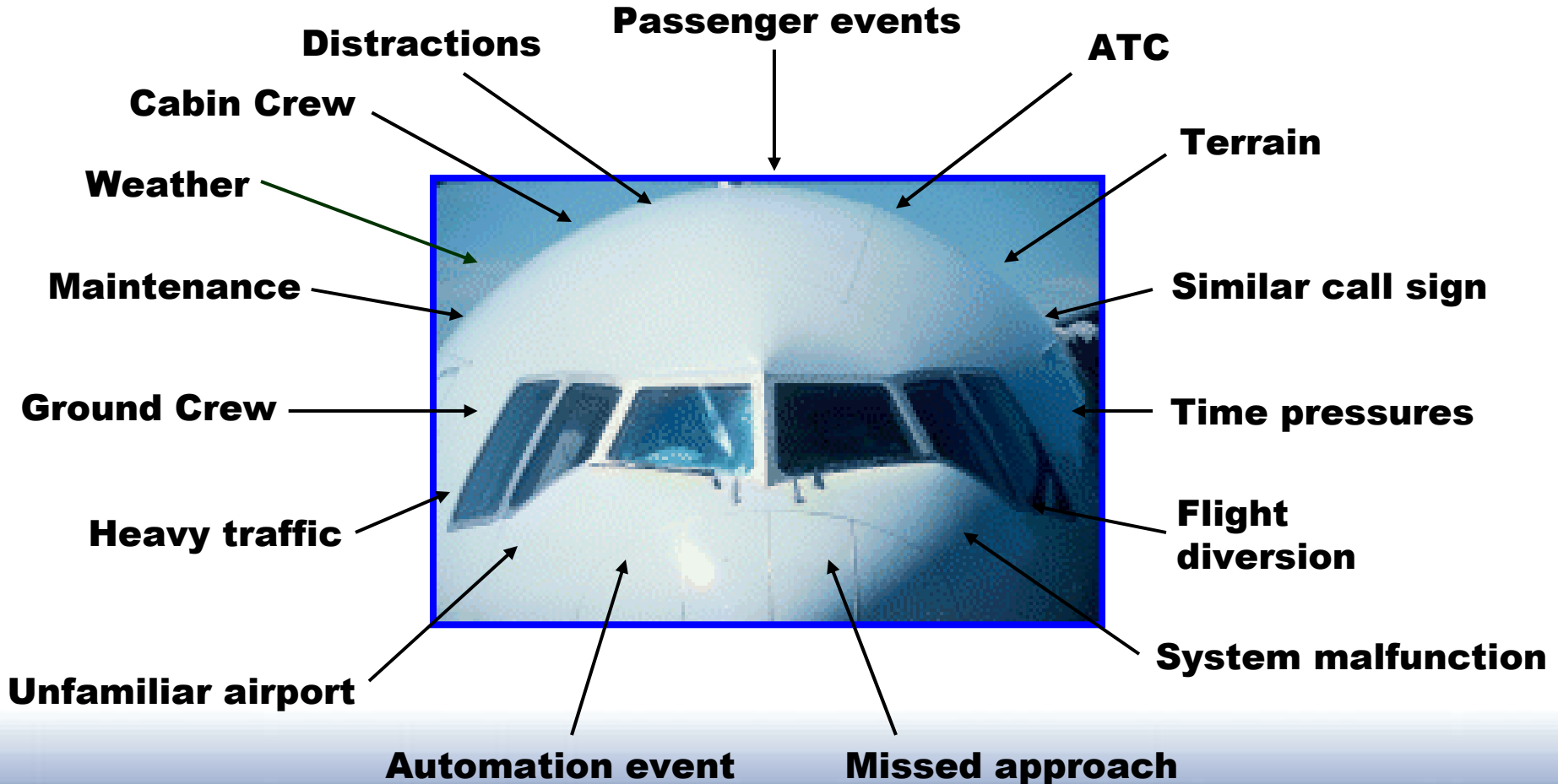


# Threat

- Event that occurs outside the influence of the flight crew, but which requires crew attention and management if safety margins are to be maintained
- Increases the complexity of the operation

# THREATS

Influences that can lead to crew error



# Threat and Error Management



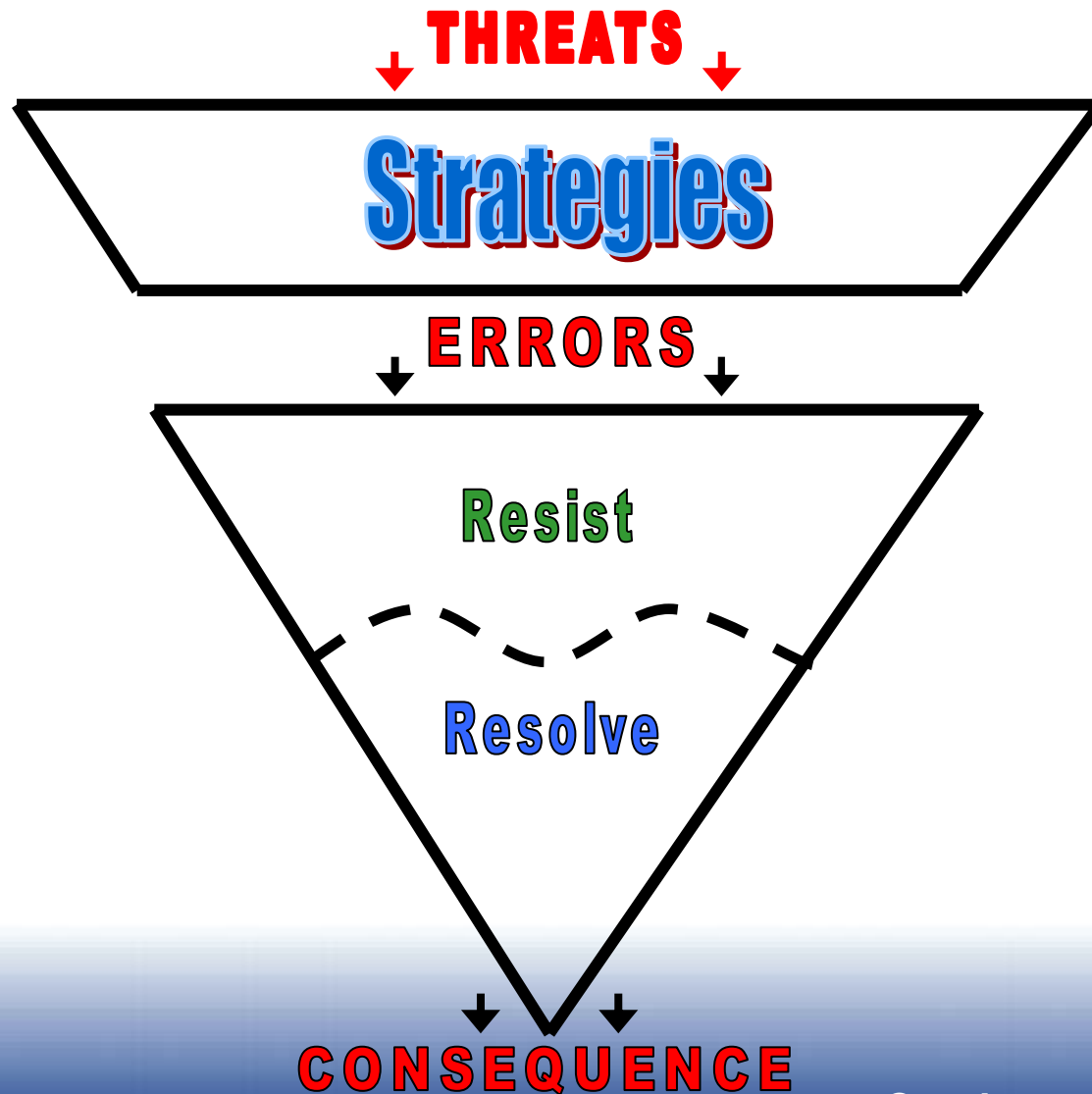
# Threat Management

## Strategies/Countermeasures

(Industry, Corporate and/or Personal)

- To reduce the number of errors
- To improve the error management process by increasing the awareness of potential errors
- Is managing your future

# Threat and Error Management



# Error

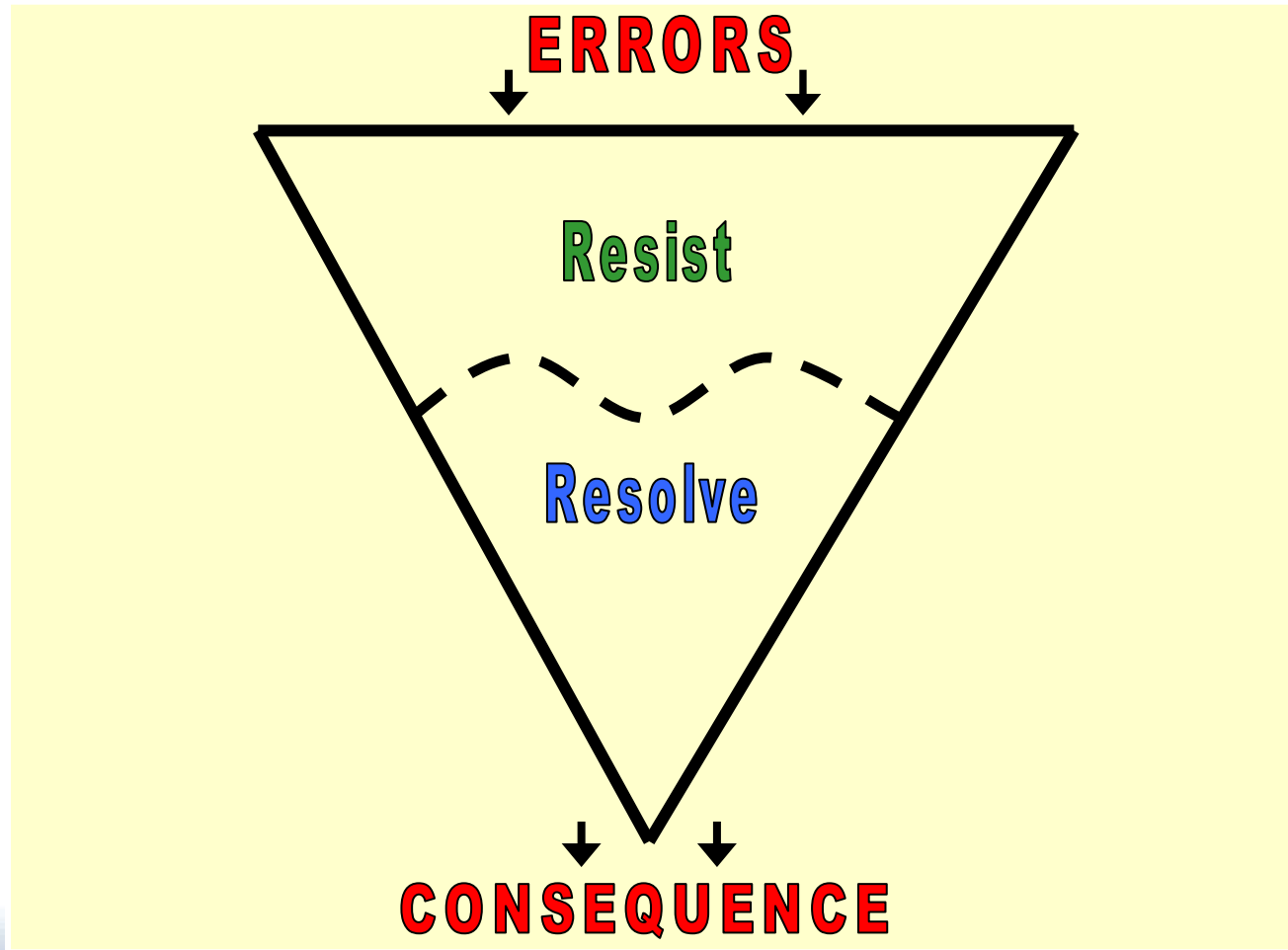
- Actions or inactions by the flight crew that lead to deviations from intention or expectation
- Intentional non-compliance is not an error

# Error Management

Actions taken to deal with errors committed by either

- Detecting and correcting them, or by
- Containing and reducing the severity
- Is managing your past

# Error Management

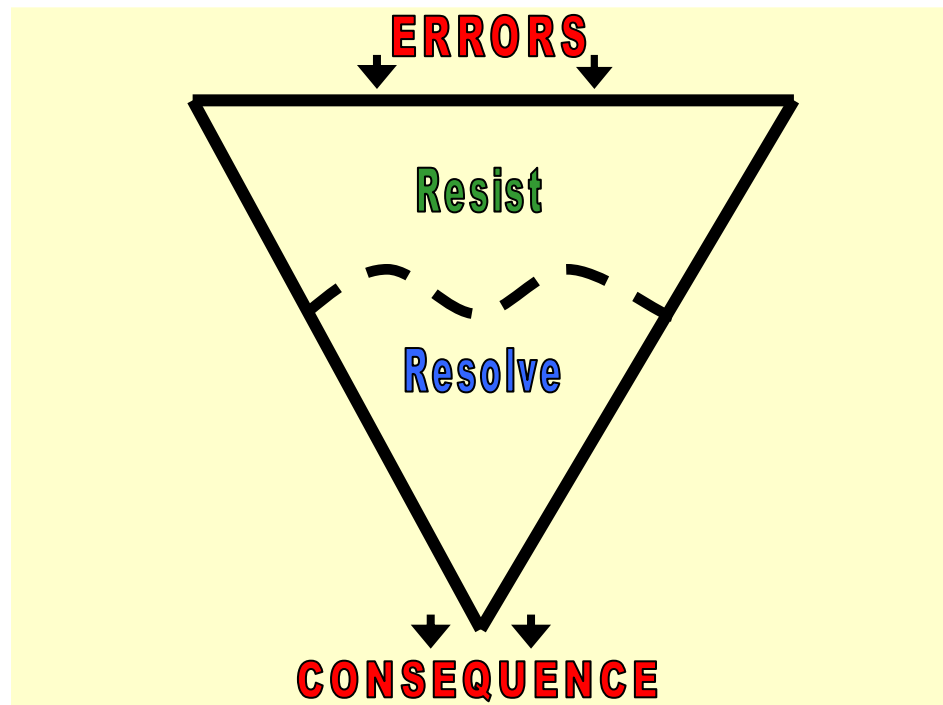




# Error Management

## RESIST

HARDWARE & SOFTWARE THAT EXISTS BEFORE THE HUMAN ENTERS



# RESISTANCE

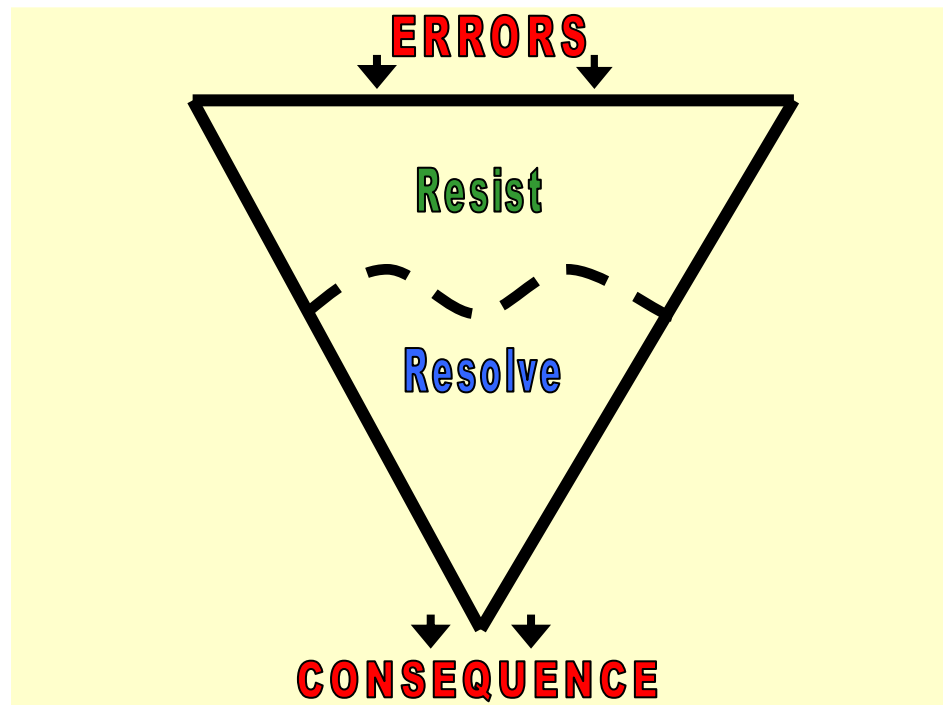
HARDWARE & SOFTWARE THAT EXISTS BEFORE THE HUMAN ENTERS

- GPWS
- TCAS
- TRAINING
- MANUALS
- SOP's
- CHECKLISTS
- AUTOMATION
- ATC

# Error Management

**RESIST**

**HARDWARE & SOFTWARE THAT EXISTS BEFORE THE HUMAN ENTERS**



**RESOLVE**

**WHAT THE HUMAN BRINGS TO THE SYSTEM**

# RESOLVE

## WHAT THE HUMAN BRINGS TO THE SYSTEM

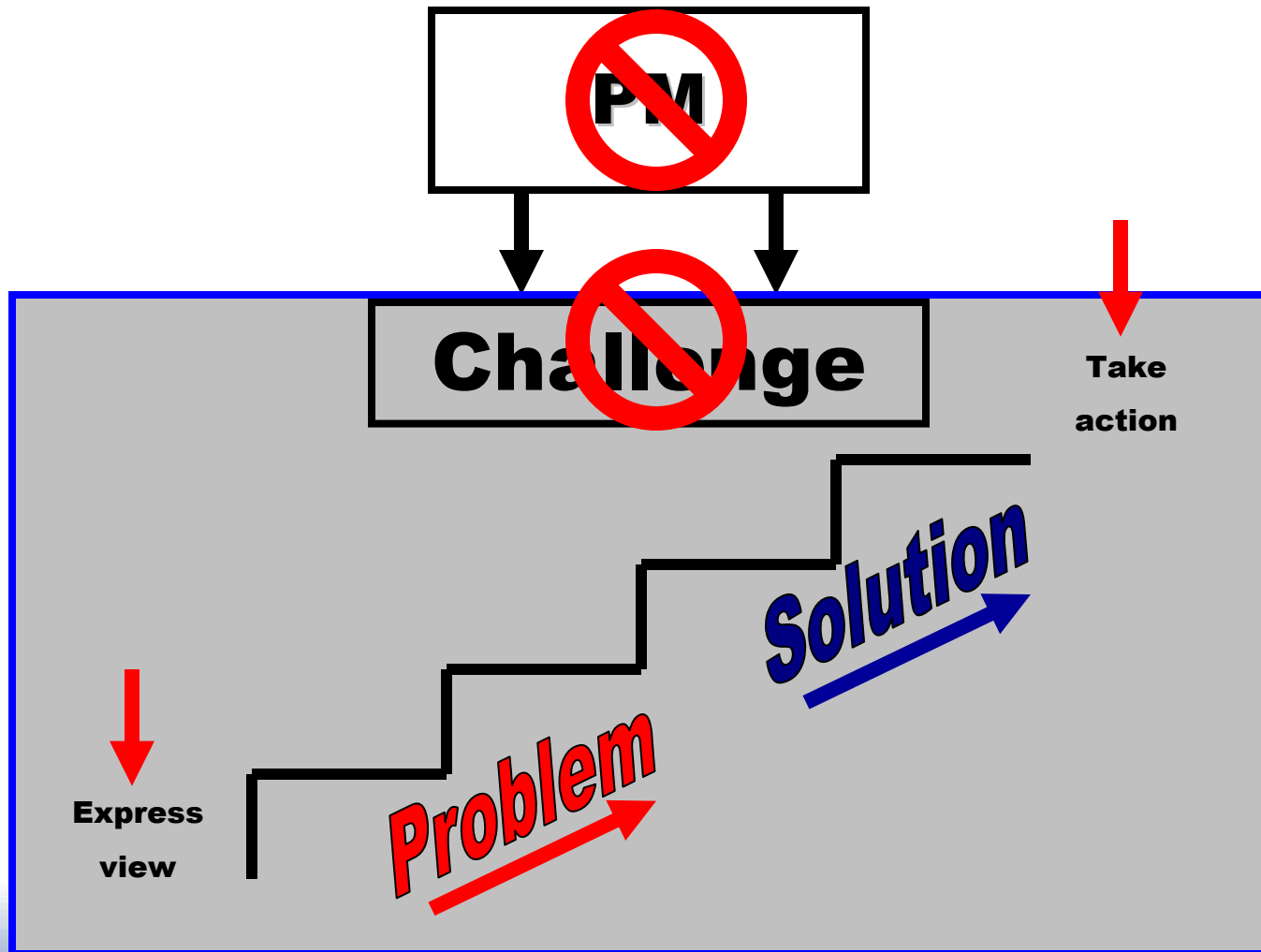
- PROFICIENCY
- VIGILANCE
- ASSERTIVENESS
- MONITORING & CROSSCHECKING
- DECISION MAKING
- EXPERIENCE
- LEADERSHIP
- SIT. ASSESSMENT
- CHECKLIST DISCIPLINE

# NASA Guidelines

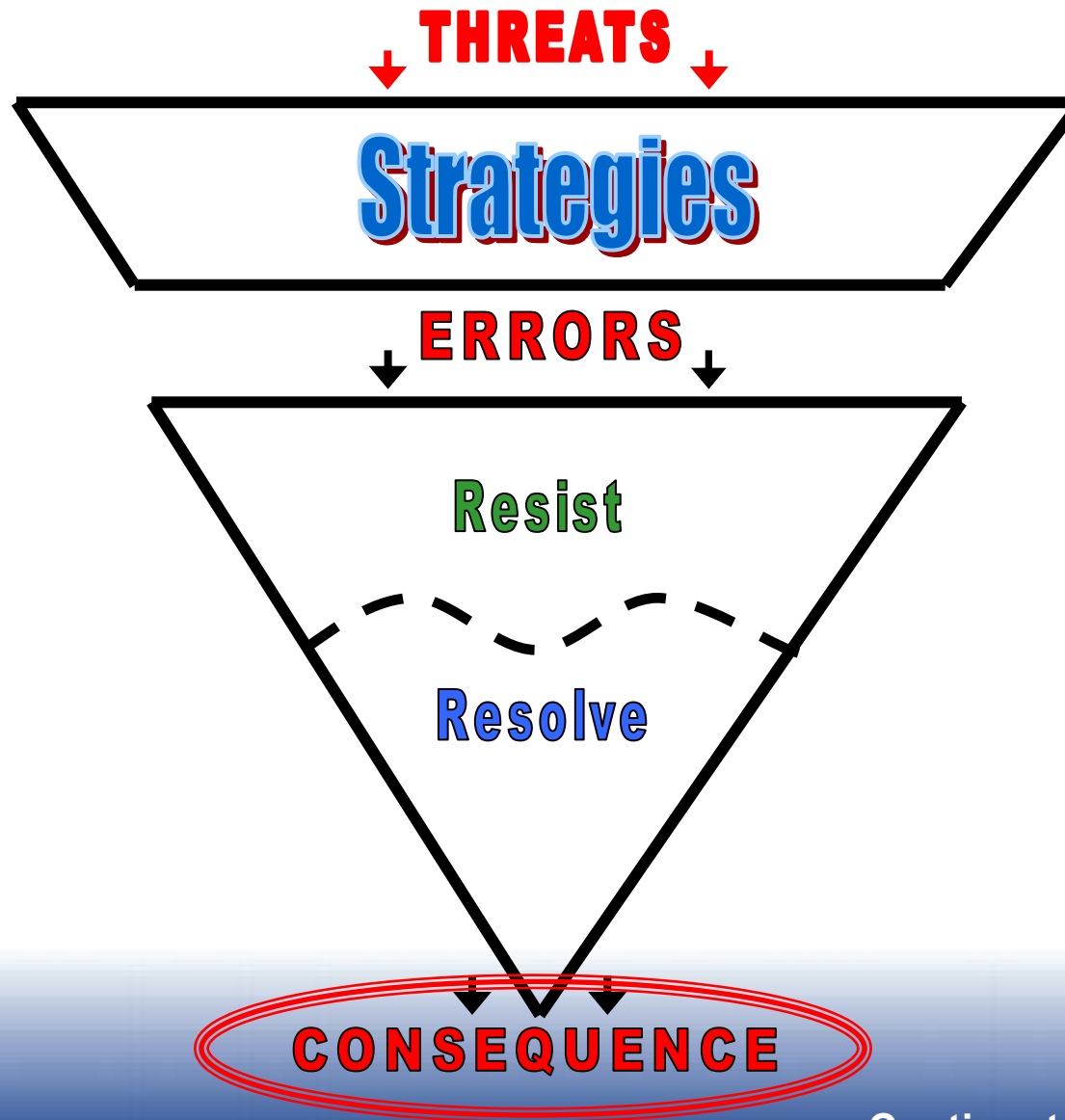
## Monitoring & Crosschecking

- Positively delegate flying and monitoring duties
- Monitoring is as important as flying
- Flying pilot does not become involved with secondary tasks
- When conflict arises-resolve with outside source
- When in doubt-must express!

# Monitoring & Crosschecking



# Threat and Error Management



# Consequences

Undesired Aircraft State (UAS)



# Threat and Error Management



# Case Studies

“Look in the mirror first”

# Threat and Error Management



# Case Study

# NTSB “37 Accidents”

US 121 Airlines 1978-1990

- Captain was Flying Pilot----- **81%**
- First Day of Trip ----- **73%**
- First Flight----- **44%**
- F/O Time in Position/Aircraft
  - Average **419** hours/seat
  - **50%** First Year
- Time Since Awake (TSA)
  - Captain           **12** plus hours
  - FO                   **11** plus hours

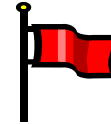
# NTSB STUDY

Late or behind schedule 55%

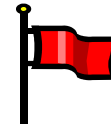
Time of Day	Operations	Accidents
0600 - 1400	44%	27%
1400 - 2200	43%	43%
2200 - 0600	13%	30%

# ADDITIONAL “RED FLAGS”

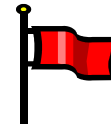
Night



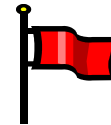
Weather



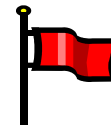
Late runway change



Unfamiliar Airport



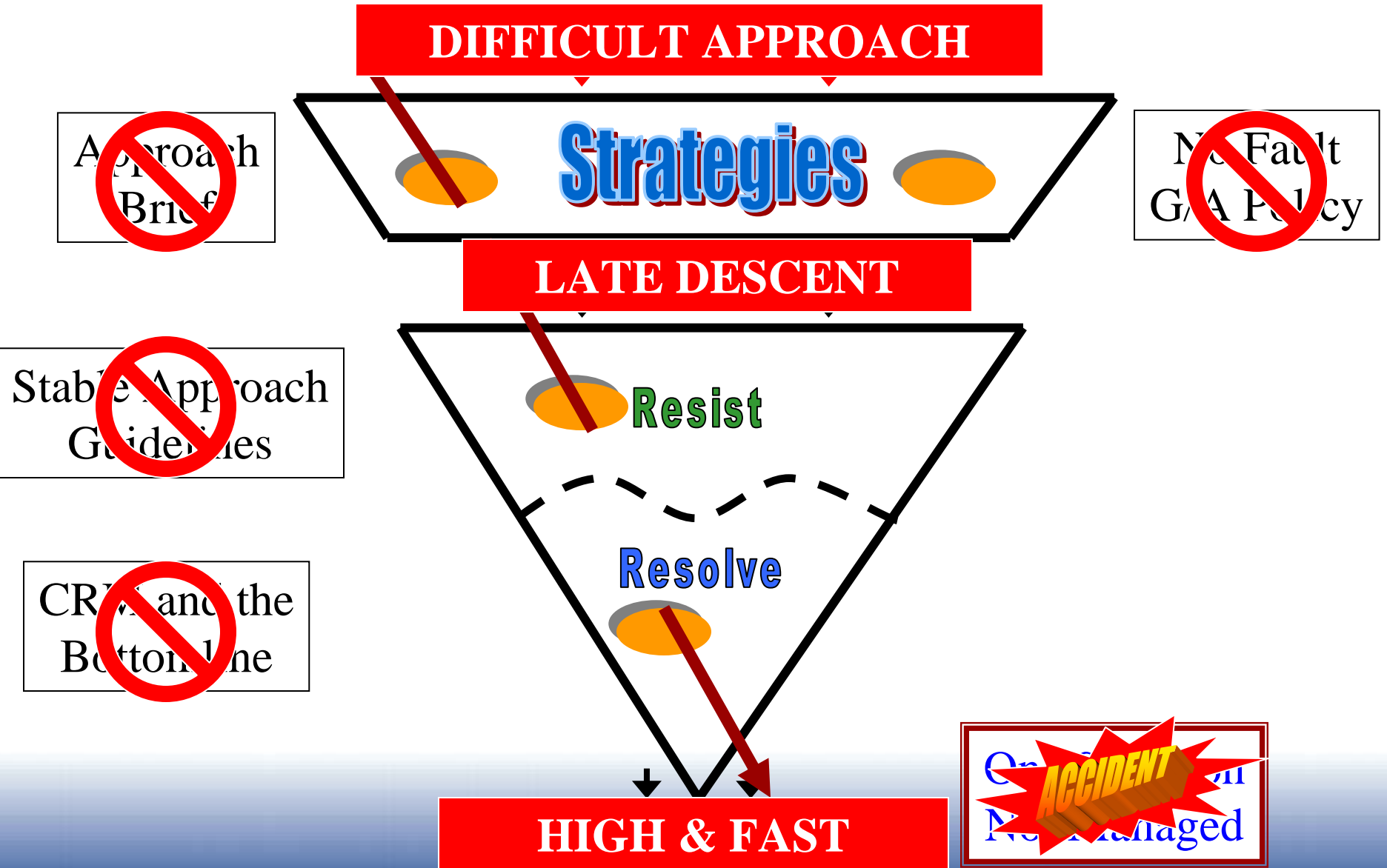
Operational Pressure



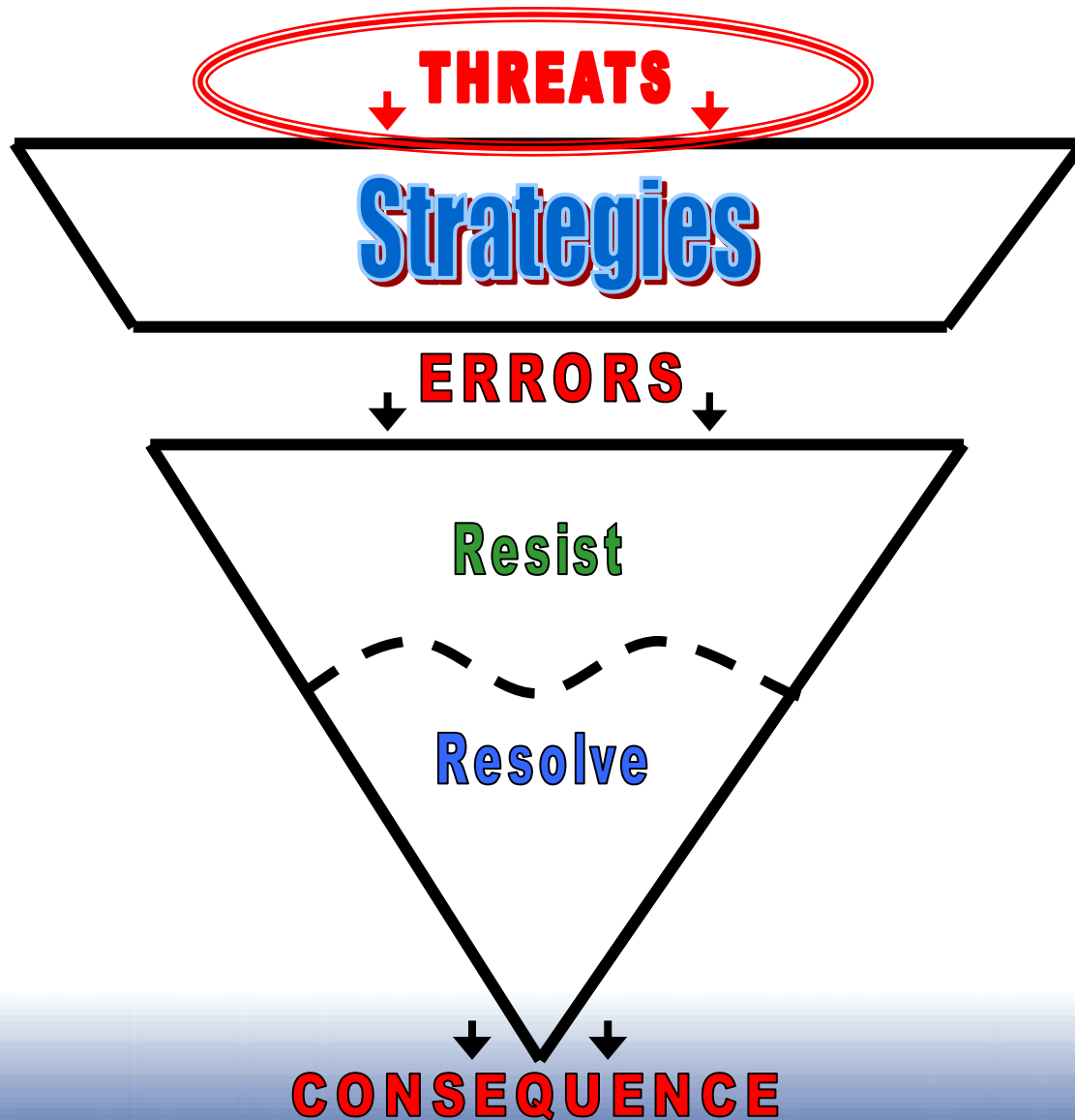
# Reason's Swiss Cheese Model



# THREAT AND ERROR MANAGEMENT



# Threat and Error Management



# **TEM**

**“the challenge”**

**How to improve**

**“Threat & Error”**  
**identification**

**“Get it on the RADAR”**

# Distraction

# Flight Test Case Study

# Threat and Error Management



# *DECISION-MAKING*

*“Plan, Review, Monitor & Modify”*

# Decision Making

## **Tactical**

Perceive Situation

**Situation Assessment**

**Select a Course of Action**

Monitor Results



# Situation Assessment

## *The Nature of the Threats*

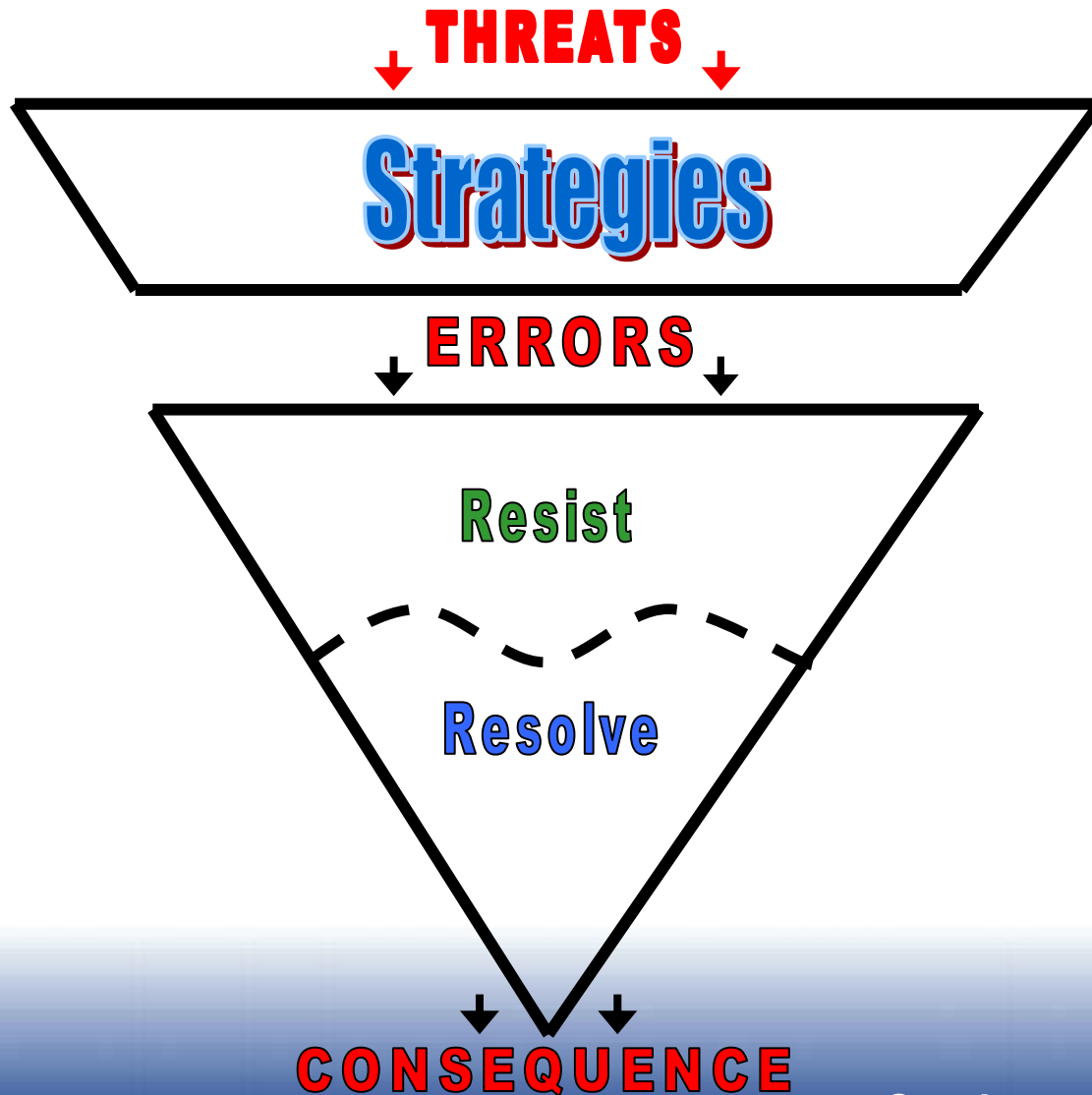


# Proper Threat Identification to Enhance Situational Awareness

# Leadership

**What have you seen?**

# Threat and Error Management “Training”



# TEM & Automation

To ERR is Human

*To REALLY screw up  
you need a computer!*

# **The Continental Airlines Automation Policy**

**Verbalize  
Verify  
Monitor**

# TEM

“the challenge”

Improve “**Threat & Error**”  
identification by using

**Verbalize, Verify, Monitor**

To help “**Get it on the  
RADAR”**



# Industry FOQA/ASAP Information Sharing

- Several airports were identified that due to ATC, environment, etc. put crews in a high-energy or potential unstabilized approach situation.
- MCO selected as the “pilot” project to establish process for FMS visual approaches.
- Industry and MCO TRACON worked together and established an FMS visual procedure.
  - Steve Ruckman – MCO TRACON
  - Jim Carmen – Delta Airlines
  - John Anderson – Continental Airlines
- HNL, ABQ, EWR are being developed.

# Managing Automation

# Threat and Error Management

## AUTOMATION THREATS

**Verbalize, Verify, Monitor**

**ERRORS**

**Resist**

**Resist**

**Resolve**

**Resolve**

Hardware & Software that  
exists before the human  
enters

What the human brings to the  
system

**CONSEQUENCE**

# Threat and Error Management



# TEM Applied to Incident & Accident Analysis

TEM Toolkit  
for  
Incident & Accident (IA)  
Analysis

# IATA Safety Advisory Committee

## Incident & Accident analysis



Human Factors Working Group

### THREAT AND ERROR MANAGEMENT (TEM): ANALYTICAL TOOLKIT

#### Introduction

The TEM Analytical toolkit has been developed for Safety Managers to facilitate presenting and sharing events and lessons learned. The toolkit is comprised of this document, explaining the TEM concept, and the presentation template. For more information on Threats and Errors and LOSA, refer to ICAO's LOSA Manual, Doc 9803.

#### Background

Threat and Error Management (TEM) is proposed as a useful tool to analyse incidents and occurrences. Using this model naturally leads to prevention strategies, remedial actions and corrective measures. The model helps to reinforce positive strategies and highlights areas and issues that need to be addressed. It also helps to keep the focus on the relevant lessons learned from the event, moving away from the *who* and *what* and towards understanding the *WHY*.

#### Definitions

**Threats:** are situations external to the flightdeck, that must be managed by the cockpit crew during normal, everyday flights. Such events increase the operational complexity of flight and pose a safety risk to the flight at some level. (See attached list of examples of Threats)

**Errors:** are actions or inactions by the crew that lead to deviations from organisational or flight crew intentions or expectations. Errors in the operational context tend to reduce the margin of safety and increase the probability of accidents or incidents. (See attached list of examples of Errors)

**Undesired Aircraft State:** occurs when the flight crew places the aircraft in a situation of unnecessary risk. An undesired aircraft state may occur in response to a crew action or inaction (error).

#### Managed vs. Mismatched:

- Managed: an active crew response in which a threat, error, or undesired aircraft state is detected and mitigated to an inconsequential outcome.
- Mismatched: a crew response in which a threat, error or undesired aircraft state is detected but the crew action or inaction allows it to induce an error, additional error, undesired aircraft state, incident or accident; OR, a lack of crew response to a threat, error or undesired aircraft state because it was either ignored or undetected.

#### Clarification between Threats, Errors and Outcomes:

Errors originated by non-cockpit personnel are considered threats. The following example is used to illustrate the difference between threats, errors and outcomes.

*Aircraft B is taking to the stand and bid to hold short of the active runway. The hold-short lines are poorly painted and very faint. Aircraft B passes over the hold short lines. A runway incursion incident results.*

#### In this scenario:

- The threat is the poorly painted hold-short lines;
- The error is committed by the flight crew of Aircraft B when they taxi onto the active runway;
- The outcome is a runway incursion.

#### Prevention Strategies

Identifying threats and errors and examining how and if the crew anticipate, recognise and manage the threats and errors, logically reveals prevention strategies, remedial actions and corrective measures. This approach enables safety managers to go beyond the traditional approach of identifying "what went wrong" and fixing it, to a more proactive approach of also determining "what went right" and encouraging that corrective measure.

#### Examples of Threats and Errors

##### Threats:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weather</li> <li>Distractions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missed Approaches</li> <li>Flight Diversions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Traffic</li> <li>Similar call signs</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

### Threat and Error Management (TEM)



Title  
Presented at

# IATA Safety Advisory Committee

## Incident & Accident analysis

### THREAT AND ERROR MANAGEMENT (TEM): ANALYTICAL TOOLKIT

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# Threat and Error Management (TEM)



# Threats

1. List of the Threats
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

# Threat Management

1. Identify the Threat

2.

3.

4.

1. Was the threat managed or mismanaged? How?

2.

3.

4.

# Errors

1. List of the Errors
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

# Error Management

1. Identify the Error

2.

3.

4.

1. Was the error managed or mismanaged? How?

2.

3.

4.

# Undesired State Management

- List how the Undesired State was managed or mismanaged.





# Prevention Strategies

- List initial corrective actions at the present time and any proposed actions.

# TEM as an Integral part of a Safety Management System (SMS)



# Goal

-  Become a better Threat Manager – actively identify threats in your operation
-  “Threat Management is managing your future.”
-  “Error Management is managing your past”
-  Continue building a Safety Culture by encouraging open, honest communications

# Threat and Error Management

