



# ASQ CRE Prep course

Lesson III. A. 3.

FMEA and FMECA



A common risk assessment tool

**FMEA / FMECA**

A faint, light green world map serves as the background for the slide. It shows the outlines of continents and major bodies of water, with some labels like 'NORTH AMERICA', 'SOUTH AMERICA', 'AFRICA', 'ASIA', and 'EUROPE' visible.

# Concept

**Effects – severity rating**

**Occurrence – probability rating**

**Controls – detection rating**

**$RPN = Severity \times Probability \times Detection$**



# **Projector Lamp Design FMEA** (with missing or incorrect elements for teaching purposes)

Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect(s) of Failure	S E V	Class	Potential Cause(s)	O C C	Current Design Controls (Prevention)	Current Design Controls (Detection)	D E T	R P N	Recommended Action(s)
Provide reliable light for image transfer at a minimum of 1000 lumens for 2000 hours of operation	lamp burns out prematurely	no light on image, customer dissatisfied	8		hot spots on glass due to over touching	5	ANSI Guideline for incandescent bulbs	Lamp environmental test #123	3	120	Implement new glass coating to minimize impact of touching on bulb durability
					gas leak at base of glass due to overheating	2		Lamp environmental test #123	1	16	Revise Lamp environmental test #123 to include periodic touching of glass
					inadequate voltage to lamp due to corrosion of base	8	Sneak circuit analysis on projector system	Lamp durability test #456	7	448	Change lamp base to material ABC in order to be less corrosive.
	lamp shatters	no light, potential for injury to user	10		over pressure in lamp due to wrong gas	2	Projector lamp Design Guide #ABC	Lamp durability test #456	8	160	Install additional plastic shield on projector to ensure no injury to user if glass shatters.
											Modify projector lamp Design Guide #ABC to include correct bulb gas.
											Conduct Design of Experiments on projector bulb gas to determine the optimum gas specification to desensitize bulb pressure to gas variation.
	low light output	user may have difficulty viewing image	6		lamp filament has low resistance due to wrong filament material	3	Projector lamp design guide #ABC		2	36	Modify Lamp durability test #456 to include induced gas pressure build up.
					slow gas leak due to customer abuse during installation	6		Lamp durability test #456	8	288	Modify lamp durability test #456 to include moderate customer abuse during installation process.

Example courtesy of Carlson, Carl. *Effective FMEAs Achieving Safe, Reliable, and Economical Products and Processes Using Failure Mode and Effects Analysis*. Hoboken, N.J.: John Wiley & Sons, 2012

# Basic Steps to Accomplish

- **Review the process**
- **Brainstorm potential failure modes**
- **List potential effects of each failure mode**
- **Assign a severity rating for each effect**
- **Assign an occurrence rating for each failure mode**
- **Assign a detection rating for each failure mode and/or effect**
- **Calculate the risk priority number for each effect**
- **Prioritize the failure modes for action**
- **Take action to eliminate or reduce the high risk failure modes**
- **Calculate the resulting RPN after changes occur**

# **Failure Mechanism v Failure Modes**

**Failure mode is what the customer experiences – the symptom of a problem**

**Failure mechanism is the physics or chemistry – the cause of a problem**

**Sometimes the causal chain is long**

Is it useful to  
outsource an  
FMEA?



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Lesson III. A. 4.

Common Mode Failure  
Analysis