Making FMEAs Effective in Fast Environment

▸ Many companies have very fast product development timeframes

▸ FMEA must be implemented in a manner that supports fast development, without compromising FMEA fundamentals or results

▸ Preparation steps must be modified to ensure the FMEA team works on the highest priority areas

▸ FMEA meetings must be laser-focused on the most important issues

▸ FMEA procedure must support achievement of high-quality FMEAs in a fast environment

Making FMEAs Effective in Fast Environment
Preparation

Preparation steps must be modified to ensure FMEA team works on highest priority areas

- Clearly define scope
- FMEA Block Diagram clearly shows priorities
  - Color code priority interfaces
  - Color code priority blocks
  - Focus on areas with significant changes, field issues, new technology
- Prioritize functions – team works on highest priorities first
- Prioritize field issues
- Prioritize change points
- Prepopulate FMEA worksheet
  - Highest priority functions
  - Highest priority field issues aligned to corresponding functions

Making FMEAs Effective in Fast Environment *Meetings*

Meetings must be run with excellent leadership skills and focus on risk reduction

- Make sure the FMEA team fully understands the definitions and concepts of FMEAs
- Ensure team leaders continuously improve facilitation skills
- Use sticky notes when brainstorming for new ideas
- Limit in-meeting discussion to areas of concern
- Make good use of past FMEAs and field data
- Strictly control in-meeting discussion
- Stay within agreed-upon scope
- Maintain focus on priority issues and risk reduction
- Follow the "SWIM" steps in each meeting

Making FMEAs Effective in Fast Environment *Procedure*

FMEA procedure needs to support achievement of high-quality FMEAs in a fast environment

▸ Review FMEA procedures with this goal in mind

▸ Consider teaming up new facilitators with more experienced ones

▸ Consider use of "Generic" FMEAs.

▸ Implement an effective FMEA audit process

▸ Review FMEA high-risk issues with management

Carlson
Reliability
Consulting