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Future challenges of accident investigation — Some insights from the 33rd ESReDA
Seminar

Modern accident investigation — Four major challenges

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Abstract

Nowadays, ‘ investigation’ is a very commonly advocated approach and consequently is becoming an umbrella concept. ‘ Investigation’ includes many types of approaches on different system levels. Originating from transport accidents and crime scenes, ‘ investigation’ ranges from genocide, natural disasters, via discrimination, health care to crime fighting, economic fraud and ethical questions in engineering and management. In such a changing operating environment and widespread applications, accident investigation must reassess its distinctive role, purposes and operating conditions. It must clarify and communicate its specific aims and functions and performance to such an extent that it maintains its credibility, capability and quality in the eye of professionals, politicians as well as the public. Based on an assessment of the past performance of leading investigation agencies, practical experiences during major *ad hoc* accident investigations and changes in the operating environment, a SWOT analysis identified several issues as internal and external challenges in the future conduct of major investigations. Finally, the article proposes several priorities, challenging each stakeholder and expert in the investigation community to contribute from its own perspective to improve accident investigation theory and practices.

Highlights

► Major challenges in accident investigation practices. ► Developments in operational practices within the safety board community which have remained unnoticed by the scientific literature. ► The need to initiate a working relation between the academic community and investigation community.

Keywords

Investigation; Safety; Risk; Prevention; Accident; Disaster; Commission

There are no figures or tables for this document.



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