

Three contrasting approaches to safety

ULTRA ADAPTIVE Embracing risk

Context: Taking risks is the essence of the profession:
Deep sea fishing, military in war time, drilling industry, rare cancer, treatment of trauma.

Safety model: Power to experts to rely on personal resilience, expertise and technology to survive and prosper in adverse conditions.

Training: through peer-to-peer learning shadowing, acquiring professional experience, knowing one's own limitations.

Priority to adaptation and recovery strategies

HIGH RELIABILITY Managing risk

Context: Risk is not sought out but is inherent in the profession:
Marine, shipping, oil industry, fire-fighters, elective surgery.

Safety model: Power to the group to organise itself, provide mutual protection, apply procedures, adapt, and make sense of the environment.

Training: in teams to prepare and rehearse flexible routines for the management of hazards.

Priority to procedures and adaptation strategies

ULTRA SAFE Avoiding risk

Context: Risk is excluded as far as possible: Civil aviation, nuclear industry, public transport, food industry, medical laboratory, blood transfusion.

Safety model: Power to regulators and supervision of the system to avoid exposing front-line actors to unnecessary risks.

Training: in teams to apply procedures for both routine operations and emergencies.

Priority to prevention strategies

