

# **Measuring Safety Performance**

# Guideline



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# About this document

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This guideline has been produced under licence to the Rail Safety and Standards Board (UK) (RSSB) to help rail transport operators identify the Safety Performance Indicators (SPIs) (also known as Key Performance Indicators) that are most appropriate to their operations and to ensure their continued effectiveness. It is based on research undertaken by the United Kingdom rail industry and established good practice detailed in HSG254<sup>1</sup> (Health and Safety Executive UK) and by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)<sup>2</sup>.

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It provides a good practice approach to:

- establishing an SPI program
- identifying SPIs
- evaluating SPIs
- using SPIs to support decisions
- reviewing SPIs

# Who is this guideline for?

Rail organisations developing their first Safety Management System (SMS) will find this guideline helpful to determine their first set of SPIs. Organisations with a well-developed SMS may still find this document useful as they review and revise their SPIs.

Part 1 provides an overview and background to SPIs relevant to managers, supervisors and directors.

Part 2 gives detailed step-by-step guidance on how to develop and manage SPIs. This section is relevant to those leading an SPI program.

# How to use this guideline

This guideline can be used to shape any review of the monitoring arrangements your organisation has in place. Research has been undertaken in the United Kingdom to establish good practice in developing and managing SPIs. This includes processes for establishing and maintaining an SPI program.

# **Specifying Indicators**

This document does not set out to prescribe SPIs for an organisation to apply but it does suggest a process for selecting those that are appropriate for an organisation, based on an understanding of the risk and associated control arrangements.

The SPIs included in this document are examples and the list is not exhaustive. No two organisations are the same and therefore the most effective SPIs may differ from company to company.

# The SPI toolkit

Further guidance and supporting resources can be downloaded from the SPI toolkit, which can be accessed from hyperlinks in the SPI Toolkit images:



Any associated queries can be emailed to rissb@rissb.com.au.

<sup>1</sup> HSE. Developing process safety indicators: A step by step guide for chemical and major hazard industries, 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> **OECD**. Guidance on developing safety performance indicators related to Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response for Industry, 2008.