

Alarm Rationalisation is the key activity in improved Alarm Handling - *Peter Andow*

- **Agree**

Alarm rationalisation is thing to start with

Yes, but suppression only is not enough

Define what alarms are

Definition problem

Operator should be involved in the process of
alarm rationalisation

Alarm reduction is often not done properly, just to
stop complaints

Alarm rationalisation is a iterative process

Operators all want their own alarms

- **Disagree**

Not the key activity. More important to define
alarm philosophy

Alarm rationalisation is a tool, not explicit goal

Alarm in one state may important, not in another

Alarms are state dependent.

Implementation and participation are key areas for improvement in alarm management - *John Wilkinson*

- **Agree**

Yes, but costs can be high to achieve it

System improvement is needed before commitment

Yes, but there should be a reality check

Lack of participation executive management.
Responsibility involvement. Support from management

Yes, but still should be based on a good design / philosophy

Safety alarms should be based on risk analysis, information process on operators experience

Yes, but there should be a champion to keep the process going

Knowledge of the operators is important

- **Disagree**

Interpretation of demands of operators

Key area is monitoring progress in the rationalisation process and reporting the success widely

In undertaking an alarm improvement project do not always aim for the top level of performance - *Bijan Habibi / Mark Isaacs*

- **Agree**

Things must be achievable

Different stages, evolutionary process

Top level performance evolves

Involvement from management is often reactive

Maintenance of normal situation

With existing systems top level is impossible
(constraints)

Convince management that top level is not
realistic

80% is often good enough

Realistic targets are more likely to be supported
than unreal ambitions

- **Disagree**

In the navy domain you always have to look at the
top level of performance

If you can begin from scratch, go for top level
performance

A high target might be a good start

Wider control & environment/interface issues also need to be considered when improving alarm management

- *John Wilkinson*

- **Agree**

Alarm handling needs to be considered as part of a wider safety programme

Yes, this might reduce the need for alarm management

Alarm problems can be more of a symptom than a cause

Yes, but the question is how - lot of work

Especially operator loading

Difficult to benchmark

The operator should be able to take the right actions, have the right system support

- **Disagree**

Environmental / interface aspects may fall outside the scope, although they are very important