

**Title:** Use of the Marine Technology Society Gap Analysis TECHOPS

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**Abstract**

There are many elements relating to design, operations and people that contribute to incident free DP operations. At the design phase of a DP vessel's life, the FMEA and the associated proving trials are key to establishing that the design of the DP system fully supports the redundancy concept.

During the operational phase, annual DP trials should confirm that the redundancy concept remains intact, that the DP system is performing as designed, that protective functions that are critical to supporting the redundancy concept are working as intended and that all alarms and other indicators that warn that the redundancy concept may be compromised are fully functional. The DP Operations Manual should provide key DP personnel with the necessary information to configure the DP system in the appropriate manner that supports the redundancy concept for each phase of the industrial mission, clearly detail the routine operational procedures for the DP operation and indicate the management of change necessary when the operational or technical situation changes, perhaps unexpectedly.

It is a fact that there is a wide variation in the quality and scope of the four documents mentioned above. There is a significant amount of guidance available on the relevant topics and the industry is starting to see a welcome convergence in guidelines emanating from the relevant industry bodies.

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