

Title: **Simulation Based After Action Review**

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Abstract

Every incident and operation presents an opportunity for learning and improvement. Translating these opportunities into organizational knowledge is a critical practice for any Dynamic Positioning vessel owner who aspires to high reliability operations. The authors present a methodology combining traditional after action review techniques with simulation to maximize the benefits of each learning opportunity.

The authors have observed that bridge resource management plays a significant role in many incidents, but that traditional after action reviews often struggle to highlight this. Simulator time enhances the after action review by allowing the participants and organization to probe human factors at the same time as technical areas. Initially defensive crews who are unused to close scrutiny of their actions are placed at ease by bringing them to a safe learning environment in the simulator environment.

This paper will provide insight into the process by discussing in detail each part of the simulation based after action review: preparation, initial framing and review of event, open discussion, simulator exercises, closing comments and organizational learning. The paper provides examples and feedback gleaned from the application of this process to our operations. Using this framework we have been able to create sustainable improvements in our crew competence across the fleet by allowing crews to learn from “real world” events on their sister vessels.