

About the Safety-Critical Systems eJournal

Purpose and Scope

This is the Journal of the [Safety-Critical Systems Club](#) CIC (SCSC), ISSN 2754-1118 (Online), ISSN 2753-6599 (Print). Its mission is to publish high-quality, peer-reviewed articles on the subject of systems safety.

When we talk of systems, we mean not only the platforms, but also the people and their procedures that make up the whole. Systems Safety addresses those systems, their components, and the services they are used to provide. This is not a narrow view of system safety, our scope is wide and also includes safety-related topics such as resilience, security, public health and environmental impact.

Background

When the Safety-Critical Systems Club (SCSC) was set up over thirty years ago, its objectives were to raise awareness of safety issues and to facilitate safety technology transfer. To achieve these objectives, the club organised events, such as Seminars and an annual Symposium, and published a newsletter, Safety Systems, three times a year.

The Newsletter has, in addition to news, opinion, correspondence, book reviews, and the like, also carried articles discussing current and emerging practices and standards. The length of such articles is limited to about two and a half thousand words, which does not allow an in-depth treatment. It was therefore decided to add a third string to our bow and supplement the events and newsletter with a journal containing longer papers. The journal is now published here, as the Safety-Critical Systems eJournal, and comprises at least two issues a year.

Content Sources

Sources include the outputs of [SCSC working groups](#); solicited technical articles and topic reviews; submitted articles on new analysis techniques, discussion of standards, and industrial practice; and guidelines and lessons learned. If you wish to contribute, please see, "[Information for Authors](#)".

Types of paper include, but are not limited to:

Technical Articles: Written by practitioners and describing practical safety assurance techniques and their industrial applications.

Integration Studies: Written by practitioners reporting upon successful (or otherwise) synergies achieved in practice with other assurance domains, e.g. systems engineering, reliability/availability/maintainability engineering, resilience, human factors, security, and environment.

Position Papers: Written by, or on behalf of, Regulators, Standardisation Organisations, or other official bodies, setting out their position on a topic, e.g. the interpretation of a particular standard or regulation.

Review Articles: Papers highlighting recent developments and trends in some aspect of safety-critical systems or of their use in a particular industrial sector.

Historical Articles: Papers describing the development of safety assurance in an industrial sector; how we got to where we are today.

Perspectives: The authors' personal opinions on a subject, e.g. whether to use statistical methods in particular scenarios.

Reports: The lessons learned from incidents or the outcomes of trials with a description of scenarios, or methods, and a discussion of the results obtained.

Working Group Outputs: Written by Safety-Critical Systems Club Working Groups to include discussions, underpinning theory, or guidelines.

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Letters to the Editor

The editorial to the first issue of this journal said, "*You may find some of this material controversial, or you may think that it does not go far enough. Subsequent issues of this journal will have provision for readers' letters to the Editor responding to individual papers.*" Such a letter should be no more than 1000 words in length (not counting title, attribution, or references). That would take up no more than two pages of the journal. Note that a letter should ideally address a single concern with few, if any, external references.