

# Severity, Occurrence, and Detection Criteria for Design FMEA

## SEVERITY EVALUATION CRITERIA

EFFECT	CRITERIA: Severity of Effect	RNK.
<b>Hazardous - without warning</b>	Very high severity ranking when a potential failure mode affects safe vehicle operation and/or involves noncompliance with government regulation without warning	10
<b>Hazardous - with warning</b>	Very high severity ranking when a potential failure mode affects safe vehicle operation and/or involves noncompliance with government regulation with warning	9
<b>Very High</b>	Vehicle/item inoperable (loss of primary function).	8
<b>High</b>	Vehicle/item operable but at a reduced level of performance. Customer very dissatisfied.	7
<b>Moderate</b>	Vehicle/item operable but Comfort/Convenience item(s) inoperable. Customer dissatisfied.	6
<b>Low</b>	Vehicle/item operable but Comfort/Convenience item(s) operable at a reduced level of performance. Customer somewhat dissatisfied.	5
<b>Very Low</b>	Fit & Finish/Squeak & Rattle item does not conform. Defect noticed by most customers (greater than 75%).	4
<b>Minor</b>	Fit & Finish/Squeak & Rattle item does not conform. Defect noticed by 50% of customers.	3
<b>Very Minor</b>	Fit & Finish/Squeak & Rattle item does not conform. Defect noticed by discriminating customers (less than 25%).	2
<b>None</b>	No discernable effect.	1

## SUGGESTED DETECTION EVALUATION CRITERIA

DETECTION	CRITERIA	RNK.
<b>Absolute Uncertainty</b>	Design Control will not and/or cannot detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode; or there is no Design Control.	10
<b>Very Remote</b>	Very Remote chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	9
<b>Remote</b>	Remote chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	8
<b>Very Low</b>	Very Low chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	7
<b>Low</b>	Low chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	6
<b>Moderate</b>	Moderate chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	5
<b>Moderately High</b>	Moderately High chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	4
<b>High</b>	High chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	3
<b>Very High</b>	Very High chance the Design Control will detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	2
<b>Almost Certain</b>	Design Controls will almost certainly detect a potential cause/mechanism and subsequent failure mode.	1

## SUGGESTED OCCURRENCE EVALUATION CRITERIA

Probability of Failure	Likely Failure Rates Over Design Life	Ranking
<b>Very High: Persistent failures</b>	≥ 100 per thousand vehicles/items	10
	50 per thousand vehicles/items	9
<b>High: Frequent failures</b>	20 per thousand vehicles/items	8
	10 per thousand vehicles/items	7
<b>Moderate: Occasional failures</b>	5 per thousand vehicles/items	6
	2 per thousand vehicles/items	5
	1 per thousand vehicles/items	4
<b>Low: Relatively few failures</b>	0.5 per thousand vehicles/items	3
	0.1 per thousand vehicles/items	2
<b>Remote: Failure is unlikely</b>	≤ 0.01 per thousand vehicles/items	1

## RPN THRESHOLD

There is no threshold value for RPNs. In other words, there is no value above which it is mandatory to take a Recommended Action or below which the team is automatically excused from an action.

**\*Note:** Zero (0) rankings for Severity, Occurrence or Detection are not allowed



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# FMEA - Quick Reference Guide

## Potential Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (Design FMEA)

FMEA Number:  
Page 1 of 1  
Prepared by: Lee Dawson  
FMEA Date (orig.):

\_\_\_ System  
\_\_\_ Sub System  
x Component: Generic Decision  
Model Year/Vehicle (s): 98.5  
Core Team: M. Moore, M. Weber, D. Wojcik, L. Dawson  
Design Responsibility: QAI, Inc.  
Key Date: Engineering Rel. 2/3/98

Item Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect(s) of Failure	S e v	C l a s s	Potential Cause(s)/ Mechanism(s) Failure	O c c u r	Current Design Controls		D e t e c t	R. P. N.	Recommended Action(s)	Responsibility & Target Completion Date	Actions Taken	Action Results			
							Prevent	Detect						S e v	O c c u r	D e t e c t	R. P. N.
Must provide an FMEA which determines design risk and addresses potential significant and critical characteristic selection: Measurable: • Reduced RPN • Number of significant and critical characteristics. • Number of design actions.	FMEA not adequately performed; high risk remains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Product liability</li> <li>Customer dissatisfaction</li> <li>Reduced performance of system or component</li> <li>Potential risk of injury</li> </ul>	10	YC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate FMEA development</li> <li>Cross functional team not assembled</li> <li>Facilitation not used</li> <li>FMEA expertise is limited</li> </ul>	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mistake Proofing</li> <li>Design verification, planning and testing</li> <li>Training</li> </ul>	2	100	Call an FMEA facilitator to reduce time required and improve quality of the FMEA process	Design team leader or project manager; ASAP	FMEA performed under the supervision and leadership of an expert/certified FMEA facilitator	10	2	2	40	

• Verb-noun  
• measurable is desirable  
• objective  
• subjective

Anti function for functional approach  
• full  
• partial  
• intermittent  
• excess function

Customer focus/experience  
• end user  
• assembler  
• maker  
• regulatory body

See Severity Chart on opposite side

Brainstorm causes  
• man  
• material  
• method  
• machine  
• environment  
Determine Root cause if YC

See Occurrence Chart on opposite side

**Detect**  
Planned tests  
• Transfer to or from DV Plan  
• evaluations  
• builds  
• bucks  
Note: Must have written instructions.  
**Prevent**  
• Reduces Occurrence

See Detection Chart on opposite side

Actions should:  
• eliminate failure mode SEV=9/10  
• eliminate causes on YS  
• reduce occurrence  
• improve tests "detection reduction last option"

• Name of team member to carry issue.  
• Name of champion  
• Date action desired completion

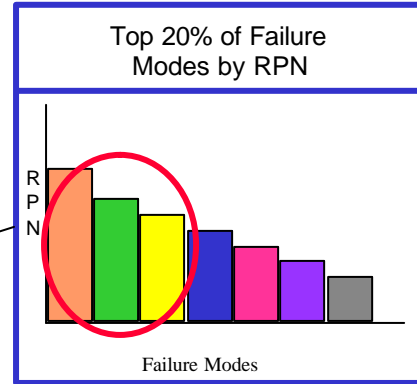
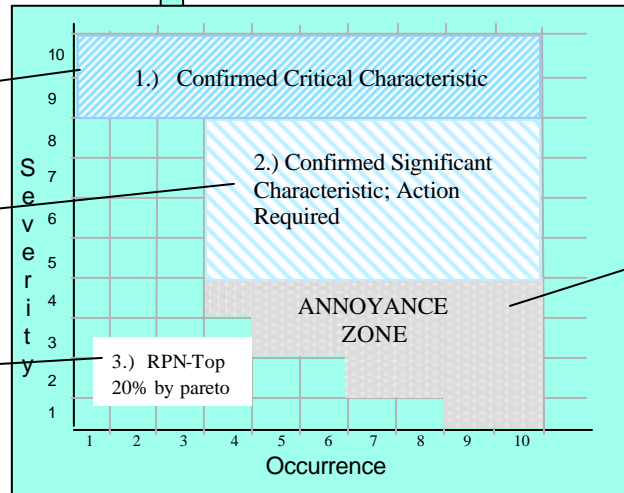
Brief action result description  
Date action taken

Recalculate RPN, after action has been taken  
• occurrence  
• detection  
Note: severity will likely stay the same unless failure mode is eliminated

### Actions are Required: (by Priority)

- 1.) When this exists (initiate Process FMEA to verify)
- 2.) When this exists (initiate Process FMEA to verify)
- 3.) For the top 20% Failure Modes / Causes (Pareto by RPN)

### Critical & Significant Characteristics Action Guidelines



**FMEA EXPRESS™**

- Complete FMEAs more quickly
- Address high-risk potential failure modes first
- Use a cross-functional FMEA team approach

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