

Error Precursors (short list)

Task Demands

- Time pressure (in a hurry)
- High workload (memory requirements)
- Simultaneous, multiple tasks
- Repetitive actions / Monotony
- Irrecoverable actions
- Interpretation requirements
- Unclear goals, roles, or responsibilities
- Lack of or unclear standards

Individual Capabilities

- Unfamiliarity with task / First time
- Lack of knowledge (mental model)
- New technique not used before
- Imprecise communication habits
- Lack of proficiency / Inexperience
- Unsystematic problem-solving skills
- “Can do” attitude for crucial task
- Illness or Fatigue

Work Environment

- Distractions / Interruptions
- Changes / Departure from routine
- Confusing procedure / Vague guidance
- Confusing displays / controls
- Work-arounds / OOS instrumentation
- Hidden system response
- Unexpected equipment conditions
- Lack of alternative indication

Human Nature

- Stress
- Habit patterns
- Assumptions
- Complacency / Overconfidence
- Mind set (intention)
- Inaccurate risk perception
- Mental shortcuts (biases)
- Limited short-term memory