

TOO COMPLEX NOT TO FAIL: “NORMAL ACCIDENTS” AND SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

This paper will examine at risk in systems from the point of view of the so called “Normal Accidents”. We present a case study of a real world system and show how complexity and coupling have direct impact on accidental failure in the system. In effect, in a more complex system accidents and failures must be taken as given starting parameter. We will also consider a “competing” theory called high reliability and show how we can use both theories to develop a more robust system.