SMS

What's in it for me?

A Heresy

A Safety Management System will NOT by itself make you safer!

Safety is determined by:

Smart, well trained operators...

Making smart decisions... and

Sticking within the Rules and their own limits

All the Rules, paperwork and systems in the world are of no use to you when you are out on a job unless you actually use them.

However, a SMS can make it easier for you to make those smart decisions.

An example:

- How do you brief a new pilot coming in to help you out in an area he is unfamiliar with?
- Alternatively, what info do you need when you go out to do a job in an unfamiliar place for a different operator?

How do you ensure that the information provided is:

Accurate?

Up to date?

A good SMS will ensure that all relevant info is always correct, and pilots don't get nasty surprises

The SMS you are already using

- Your aircraft maintenance is already a form of SMS!
- The engineers have a well documented set of procedures and processes that (should) ensure that nothing critical on your aircraft breaks before they have a chance to find it or replace it.
- They are constantly updating those processes in light of new info, and ensure everyone knows.

Again, that SMS is only as good as how the operators apply it!

Key messages:

■ Don't stop doing what you are doing — fly smart

A good SMS can however make it easier for you to do that.

An SMS is only as good as how you actually apply it.