

Case Study «Human and Organisational Factors within Swiss rail sector programme smartrail 4.0»

Franco Ehrat, Swiss Federal Railways SBB



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Integration of Human and Organisational Factors in Railway Automation



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Franco Ehrat (36), Swiss Federal Railways SBB

- Studied «Electrical Engineering and Information- & Communication Technologies»
- Worked as a Software Engineer (seven years)
- Studied «Human Computer Interaction Design»
- Works as a Senior User Experience (UX) Architect (since seven years)
- Lead UX Architect and HOF responsible for smartrail 4.0 (the last three years)

#### Integration of Human and Organisational Factors in Railway Automation





## Human and Organisational Factors within Swiss rail sector programme smartrail 4.0

3 December 2020 / Franco Ehrat

- 1. Smartrail 4.0: A modernisation programme for the Swiss rail sector
- 2. Why «HOF»: challenges and objectives
- 3. How «HOF»: solution approach at smartrail 4.0
- 4. What «HOF»: methods for design and evaluation
- 5. Take-outs







## Objectives of smartrail 4.0



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### WHY are HOF important for smartrail 4.0?









#### Objectives for «HOF» at smartrail 4.0

Increase safety, enhance performance (effectiveness, efficiency), increase user satisfaction and preserve longterm health

- Holistic design of socio-technical systems with Human-Maschine-Teaming
- Simplification of work processes and workplaces: eliminate duplication and media breaks, using the opportunity for more consistency with integrated ergonomic workplaces
- Tool support for safety processes
- Attractive jobs with meaningful tasks

We design safe, effective, efficient and attractive working environments for the railway operation of the future.



Objective «integrated ergonomic workplaces»

Example for railway operation



FUTURE



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### HOW are HOF adressed at smartrail 4.0?



#### Demand of the regulator

Federal Office of Transport (FOT)

«The FOT expects that the interaction between people, technology and organisation is treated as a whole. To fulfil the requirements, a superordinate (verification) concept must be drawn up.»



#### Setup HOF@smartrail 4.0





#### Fields of action

- Human Centered Design Approach (EN ISO 9241-210)
- People:
  - Strategic planning of occupations and ressources
  - Further development of basic education for future challenges
- Technology:
  - Reduce system variety / create integrated ergonomic workplaces
  - afasf
- Organisation:
  - Participation of employees
  - Involve business units, e.g. for change management
  - Continuous exchange with social partners
  - Enable programme organisation about HOF (short trainings for project staff)







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## WHAT HOF methods we used?



#### Methods for design phase

- Design targets with holistic view on socio-technical systems
  - Personas & user journey maps for the holistic view (cross-application)
- HOF Checklist
  - Sensitisation to HOF risks
- ARBIG-MMS: a tool for the optimal design of future humanmachine-systems
  - Define concrete HOF requirements for applications



# Evaluation with socio-technical simulations

## Example «shunting assistant»

#### Idea of the shunting assistant





#### Setup of the socio-technical simulation









#### Methodical framework

- Real users
- Real test environment: real application context
- Realistic disturbances, demanding scenarios
- Planned technology is simulated by test manager (wizard of oz)



#### Facts and figures

- 12 test runs of 2h each
- 8 stations
- About 30 participants, 10 observing shunting experts
- In 3 languages (german, french, italian)







## Take-outs

#### What was good?

Increased HOF mindset in programme organisation

2 More weight for HOF issues caused by the demand of the regulator

#### The socio-technical simulations were very well received

- Fail and learn early
- Make affected users to participants
  - Show respect to field force and their knowledge
  - Early initiation of the change process

#### Potential for improvement

Number of HOF experts inside the programme organisation should be increased.



HOF experts outside the programme organisation should be used more often to scale the impact

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#### Better convincing with clear arguments

Conflict of objectives: although the mindset for HOF could be increased, only the argument of safety gets enough weight in comparison with arguments about user satisfaction and long-term health.





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## Q&A

In the next 20 minutes Mr. Ehrat will reply live to your questions.

- You may wish to write your question in the Teams Live chat, or
- Receive a detailed reply after this conference: use the link provided on the event webpage.

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