

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee

June 26, 2007

Passenger Safety Task Force Report

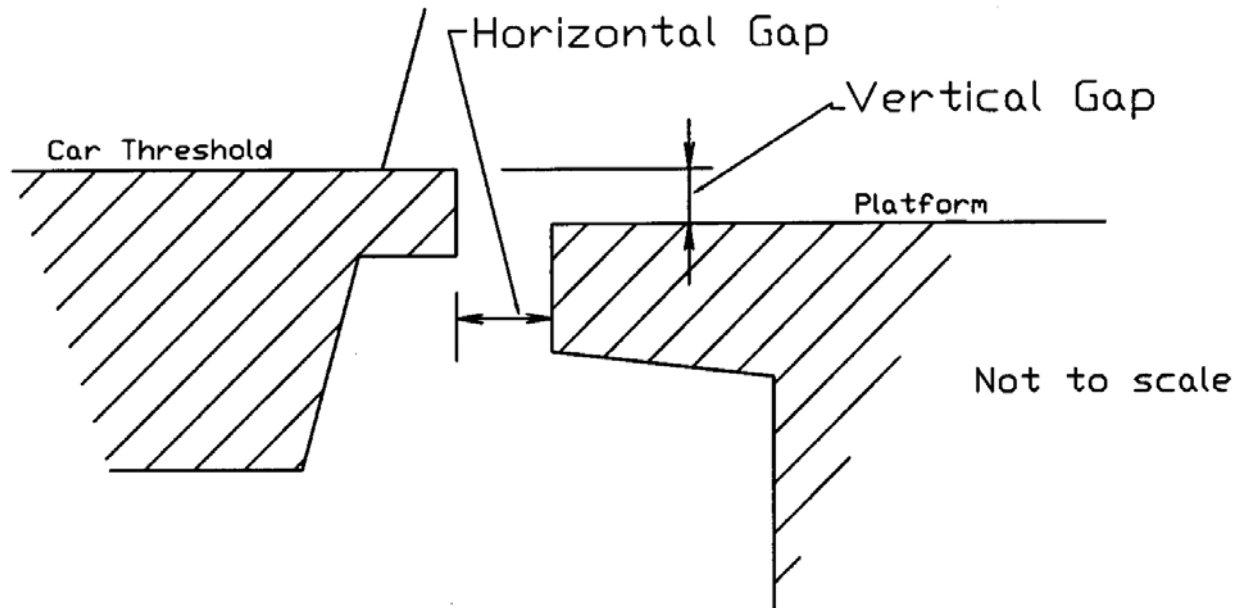
Passenger Safety Task Force Report

- Tasks Assigned:
 - High Level Platform GAP
 - Second Train/ Express Train accidents
 - EO-20 disposition
- Task Force Meetings:
 - Kickoff, Feb. 13, 2007, Cambridge
 - Second meeting, April 18, 2007, Orlando
 - Next meeting, July 18, 2007, Chicago

Passenger Safety Task Force Report

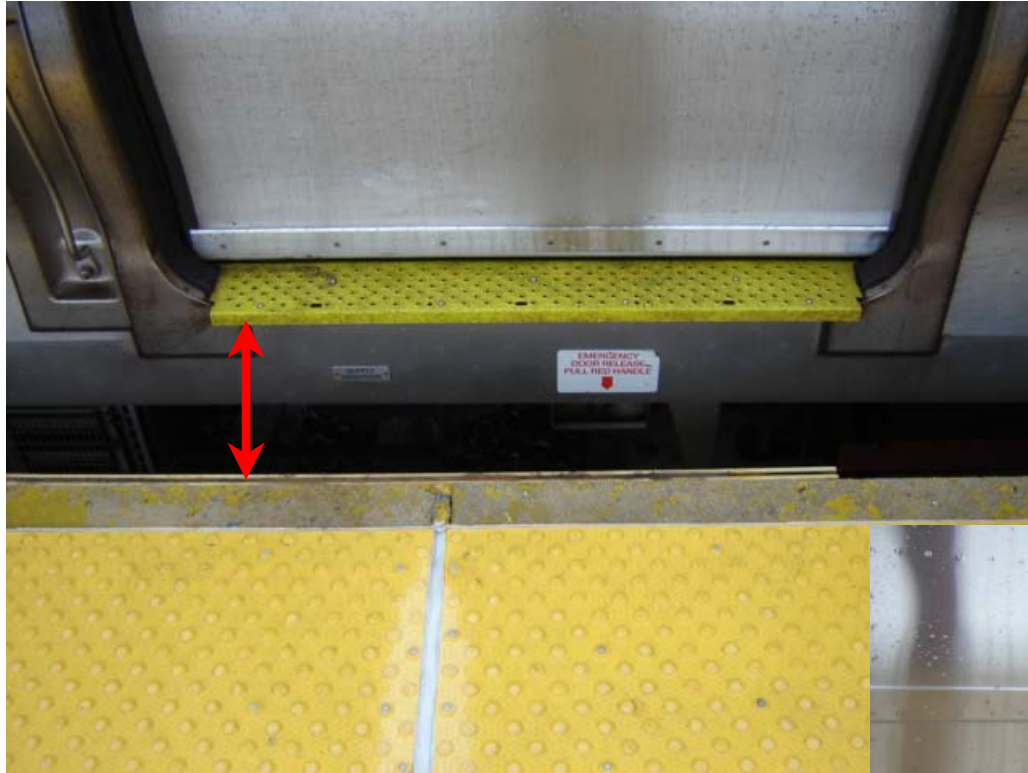
- Initial Focus, Station GAP:
- Definition of GAP:
 - A high level station platform GAP is the horizontal space between the edge of the platform and the edge of the rail car door threshold plate, and the vertical difference from the top of the platform and the top of the rail car threshold.

Passenger Safety Task Force Report



Coordination of Vehicle Floor with Boarding
Platform





Gap is 14" Between
Threshold and Platform

Threshold is 8" Higher
Than Top of Platform





23.5" Gap

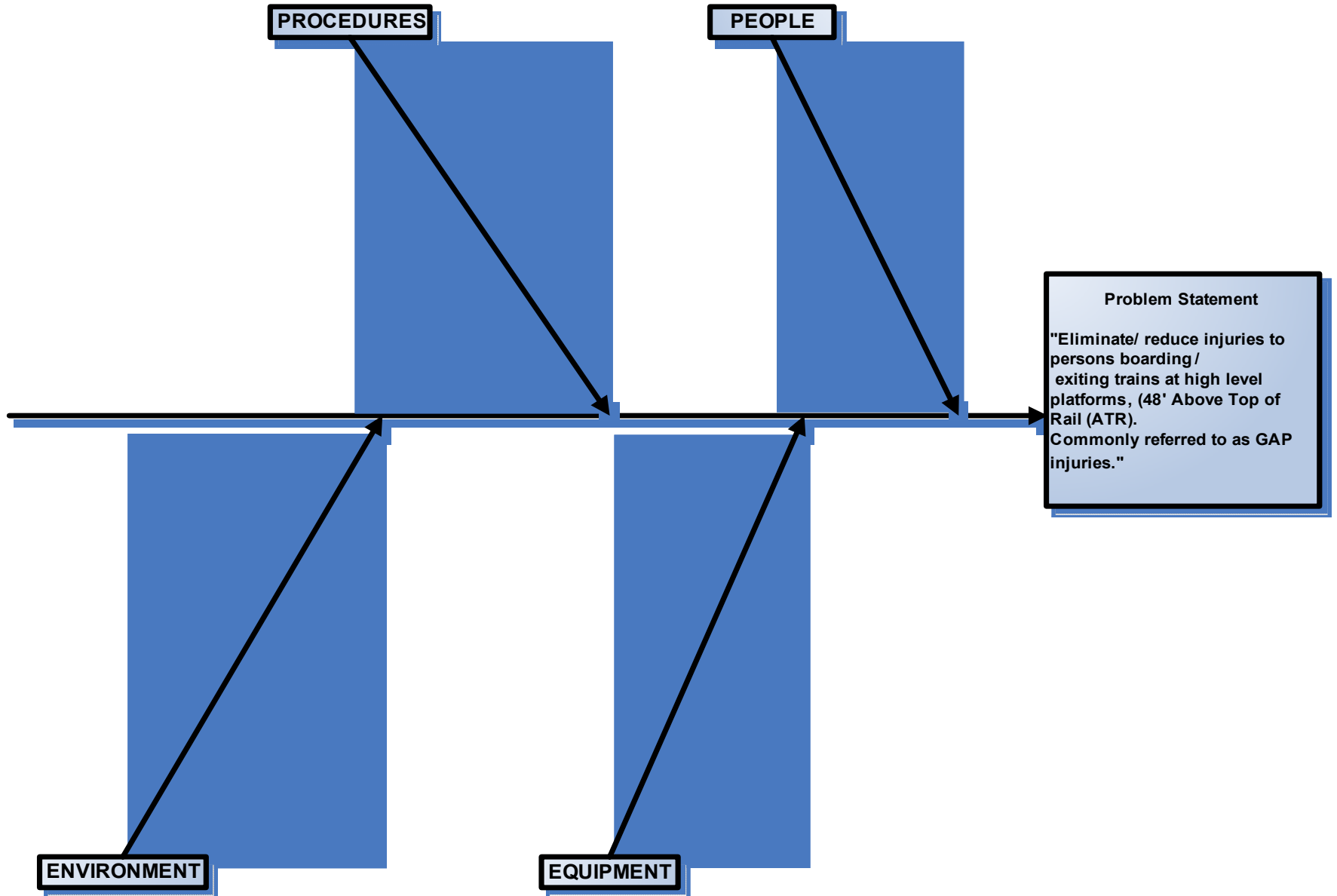
Threshold is 7" Higher
Than Top of Platform



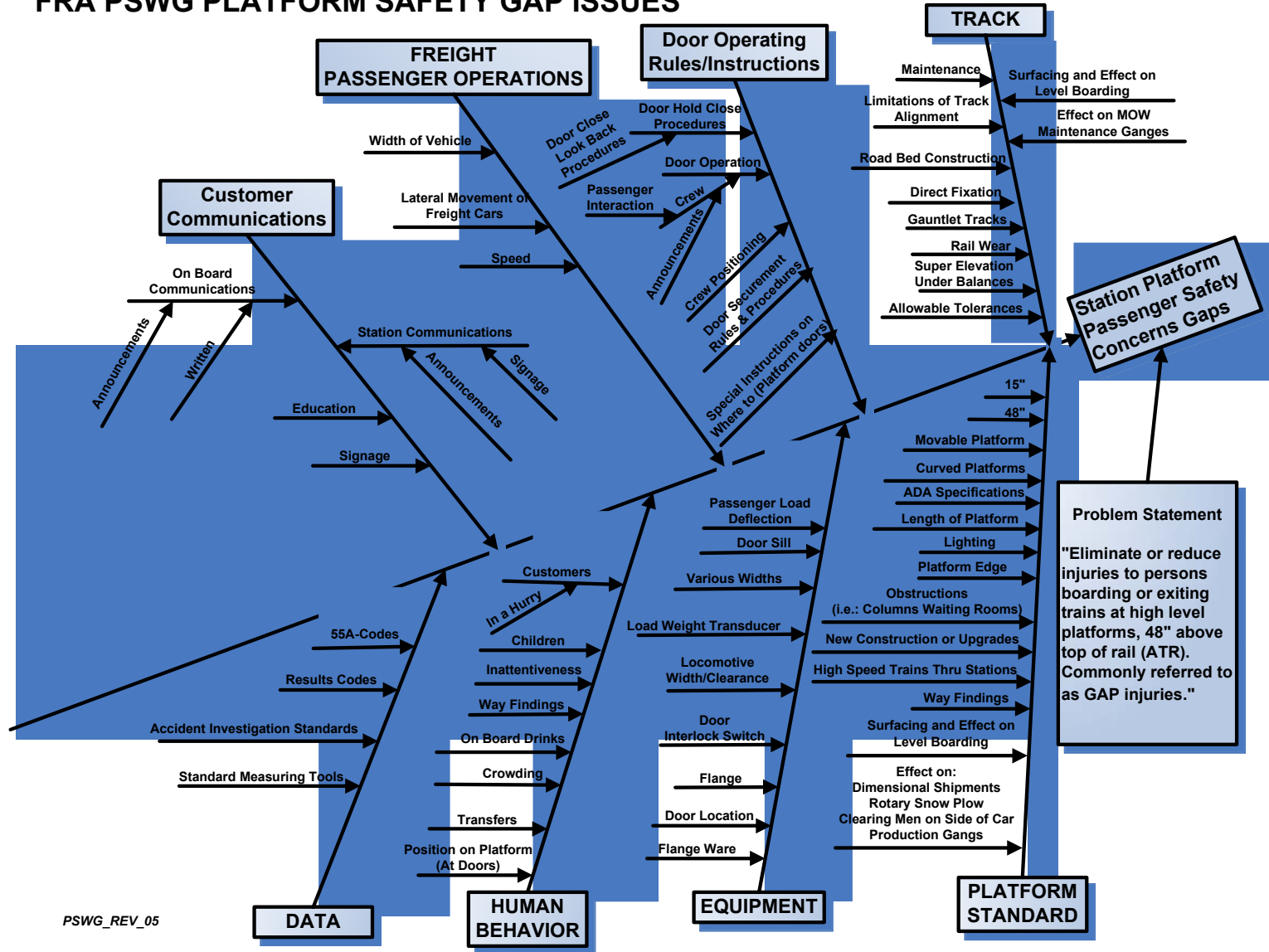
Passenger Safety Task Force Report

- What is a GAP Incident?
 - An event involving a person who in the process of boarding or alighting a passenger train, at a rail car door threshold, at a high level platform, has one or more body parts enter the area between the car body and the platform envelope.

System Safety Elements (Station Platforms)



FRA PSWG PLATFORM SAFETY GAP ISSUES



Internal Gap Incident Data by Select Railroads

RR #1	118	
RR #2	219	
RR #3	309	

* 2002 – 2006 Data

Passenger Safety Task Force Report

- GAP incident/ accident data:
 - Inconsistent reporting of GAP incidents.
 - 49CFR225, Accident Reporting Cause Codes not available or not clear.
- Task Force Action:
 - Sub Committee developed recommendations for adding new codes & clarifying existing codes. Approved by Full Task Force, at the April 2007 meeting.
 - This recommendation, once approved by Full RSAC, will be included in the 49CFR225, NPRM that is under development.

Passenger Safety Task Force Report

- What should the GAP size be?
 - One size fits all?
 - Different GAP based on operation?
- How do you measure the GAP?
 - Centerline of track to platform?
 - Simple measurement, with train in station, from threshold to platform edge?

Passenger Safety Task Force Report

- What are the system elements for a GAP Management Program?
 - Track considerations.
 - Equipment considerations.
 - Operational considerations:
 - Passenger only operation.
 - Passenger & freight operation.
 - Train door operation/ securement.
 - Customer communications/ education.

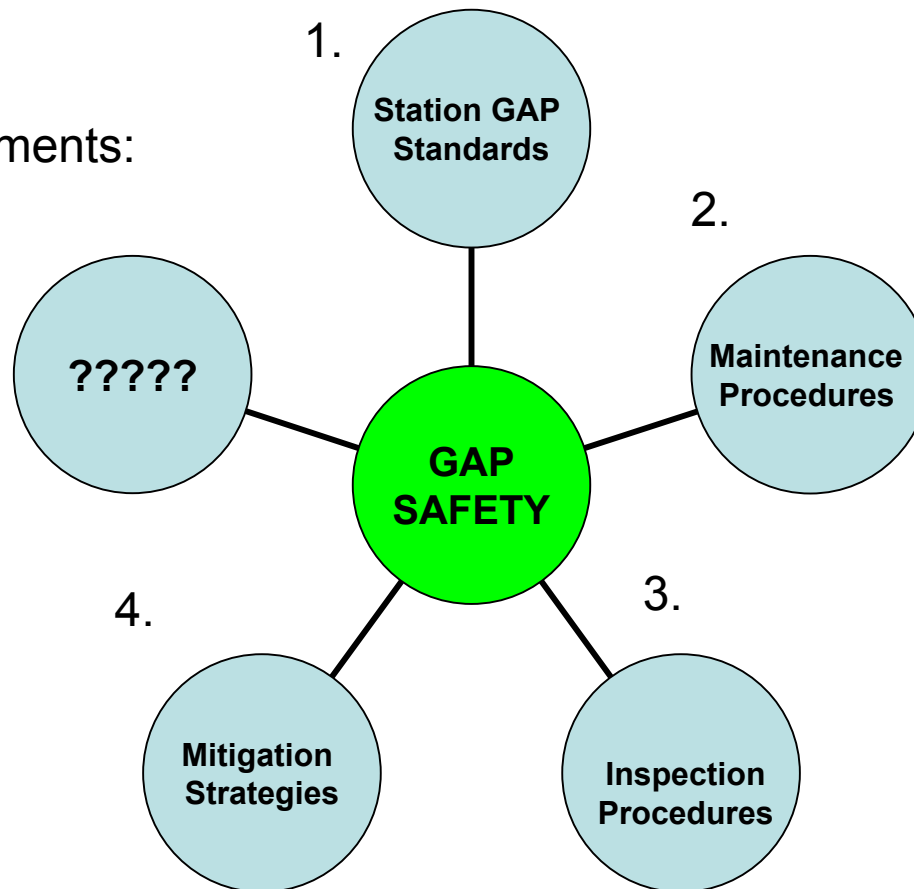
Passenger Safety Task Force Report

- Current Status of GAP Management recommendations:
 - Agreement, at TF level, that there is NO one GAP Size.
 - Agreement, at TF level, on the requirements for a GAP management program that includes:
 - Track, equipment, operational, customer communications, and training requirements.
 - FRA, with Vople Center Support drafting a “Guide to GAP Management”.
 - Guide to be reviewed by TF, July 18, 2007.
 - Guide to be recommended to Working Group and given to APTA for Standard Development.

Understanding GAP System Safety

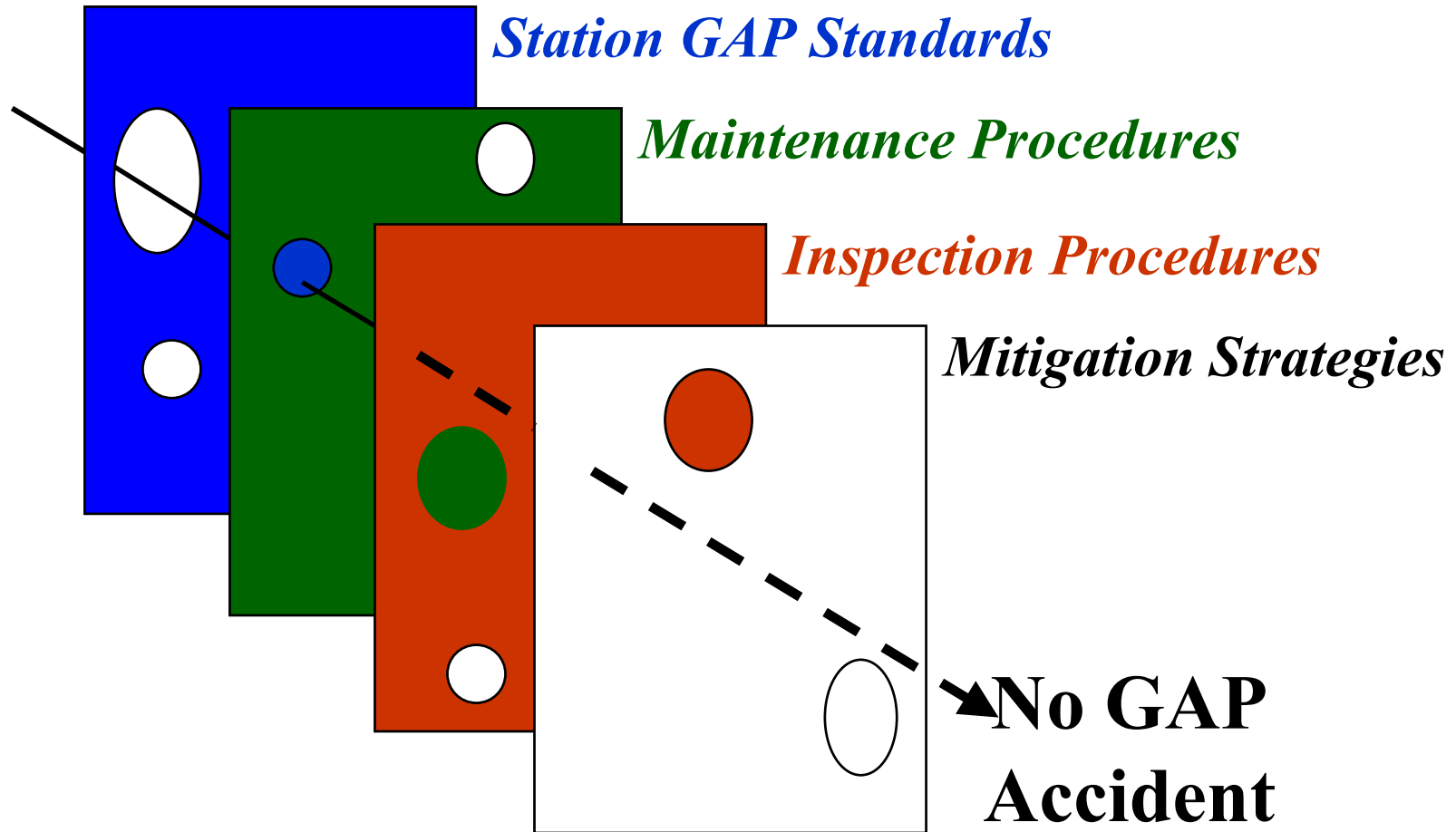
- Maybe not the only Approach -

Four Elements:



Effective Defensive Barriers

Initiating
Action



Holes in Defensive Barriers

