

Re: after the next accident...

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- *From:* Fred J. McCall <[fmccall@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:fmccall@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 04 Jul 2006 07:05:23 GMT
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George Evans <[georgee3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:georgee3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

:in article 1151760091.723824.195300@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, Bob Haller  
:at hallerb@xxxxxxx wrote on 7/1/06 6:21 AM:

:  
:> Griffin is the first admin to over rule the experts and say  
:> launch anyway lets play the odds.....  
:  
:Why are the engineers the experts? They are not any more educated.

But they are \*differently\* educated. Who are you going to believe about the risks of a complex system; folks whose training and expertise is in building and analyzing complex systems or folks whose training and expertise is in managing large organizations?

Having said that, the final call belongs to the manager because he's the one who's going to have to go to that uncomfortable meeting to explain any incorrect decision, whether it is a decision to delay or a decision to launch. The job of the engineers is to make sure the manager understands both the upside and downside risks.

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"Insisting on perfect safety is for people who don't have the balls to live in the real world." — Mary Shafer, NASA Dryden

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