

Safety & Enforcement Division Pipeline Safety Program



Overview of the Transmission Integrity Management Process

August 19, 2025

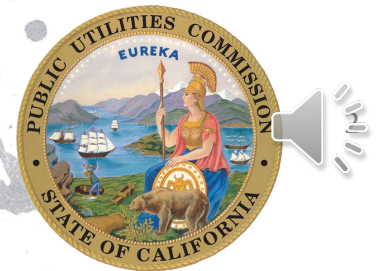
Paul Penney

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Gas Safety and Reliability Branch



What this Presentation Covers

- The Transmission Integrity Management Process
- High Consequence Areas (HCAs)
- Threats to Gas Transmission Pipeline Integrity
- How Risk is Calculated
- Tools currently used for “Integrity Assessments”
- Limitations of these “Integrity Assessment” tools
- Using Preventative/Mitigative measures to lower risk and remediating the pipeline(repairing the pipeline)



Integrity Management Process Flow Chart

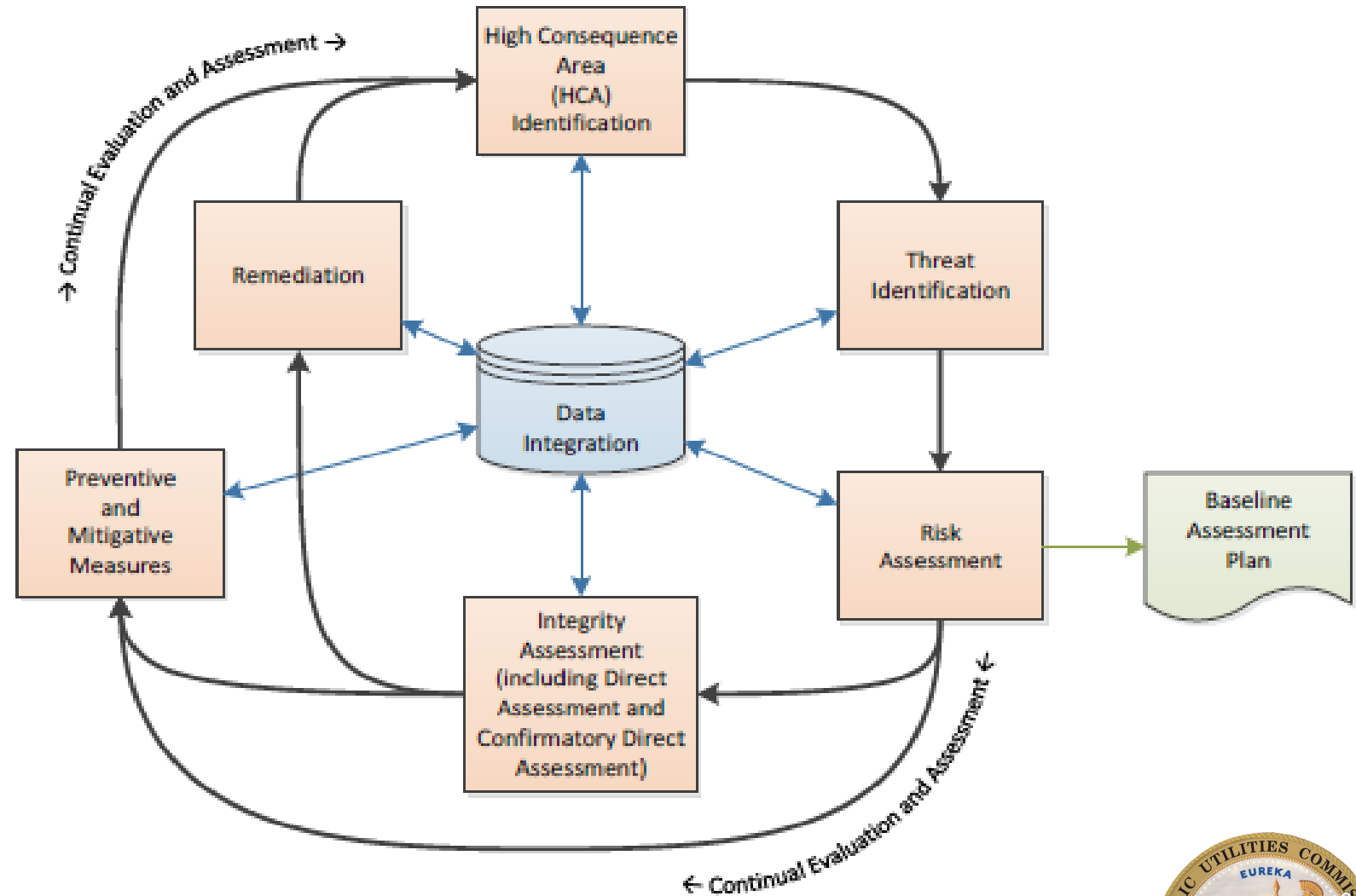
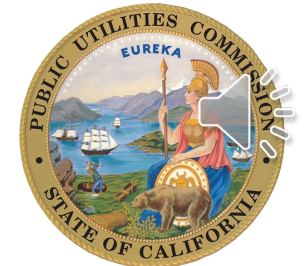


Figure 3. Gas transmission IM program flowchart



Transmission Integrity Management Program Requirements

There are two methods defined in Part 192,
Subpart “O” for determining HCAs:

- Method 1 (Class 3 and Class 4 locations)
- Method 2 (Potential Impact Radius)

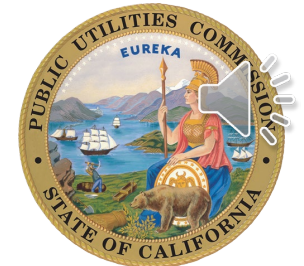
Both methods identify areas of high
population density.



Transmission Integrity Management Program Requirements

Identified site means each of the following areas:

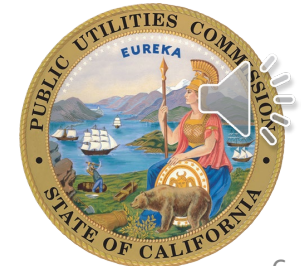
- (a) An outside area or open structure that is occupied by twenty (20) or more persons on at least 50 days in any twelve (12)-month period. (The days need not be consecutive.) Examples include but are not limited to, beaches, playgrounds, recreational facilities, camping grounds, outdoor theaters, stadiums, recreational areas near a body of water, or areas outside a rural building such as a religious facility; or
- (b) A building that is occupied by twenty (20) or more persons on at least five (5) days a week for ten (10) weeks in any twelve (12)-month period. (The days and weeks need not be consecutive.) Examples include, but are not limited to, religious facilities, office buildings, community centers, general stores, 4-H facilities, or roller skating rinks; or
- (c) A facility occupied by persons who are confined, are of impaired mobility, or would be difficult to evacuate. Examples include but are not limited to hospitals, prisons, schools, day-care facilities, retirement facilities or assisted-living facilities.



Transmission Integrity Management Program Requirements

GO112F modifies these two methods according to the diameter of the pipeline:

- Method 1 (Class 3 and 4 locations) must be used for pipelines greater than 12 inches in diameter
- Method 2 (Potential Impact Radius) can be used for pipelines less than 12 inches in diameter.



Integrity Management Process Flow Chart

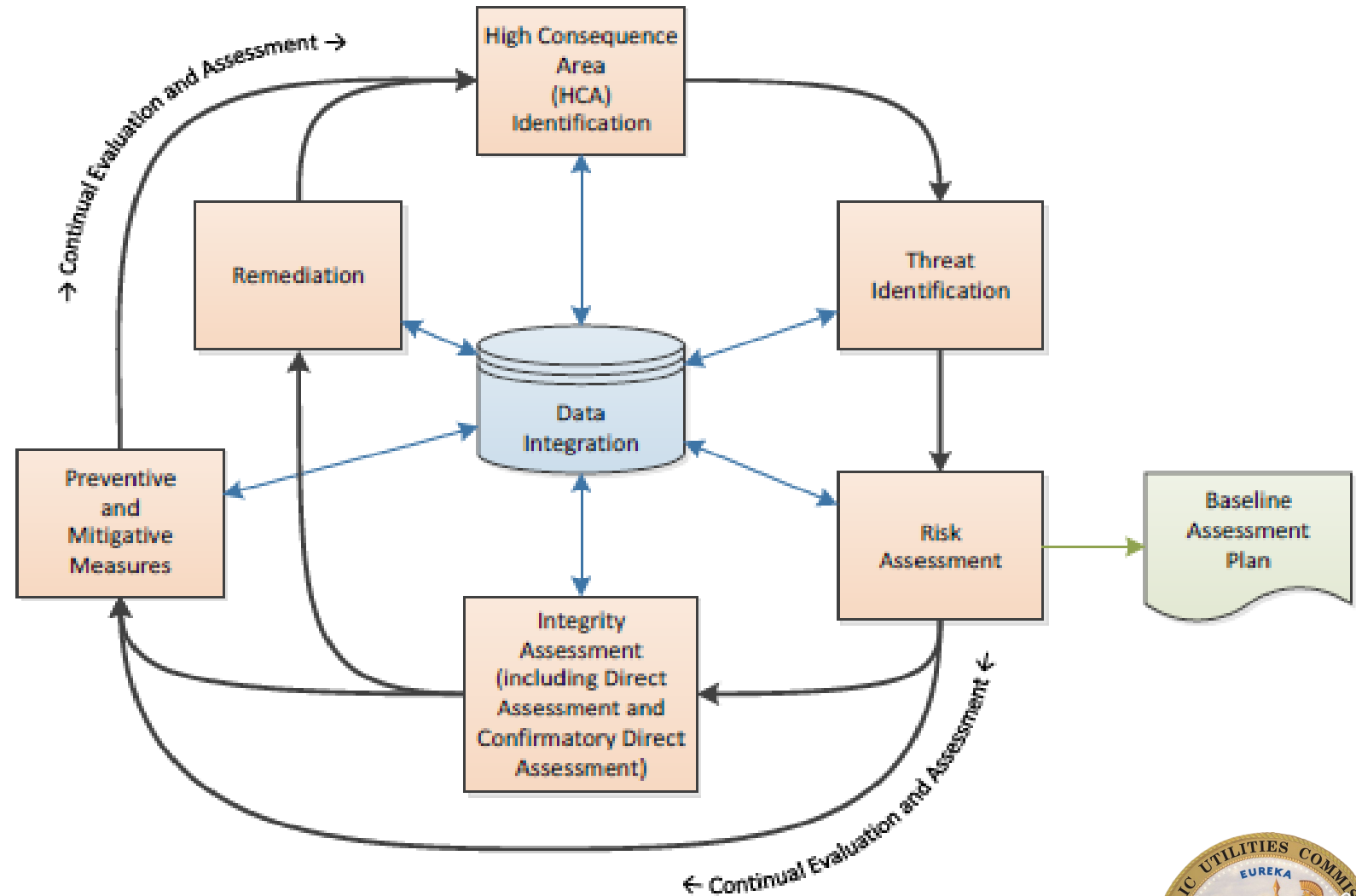
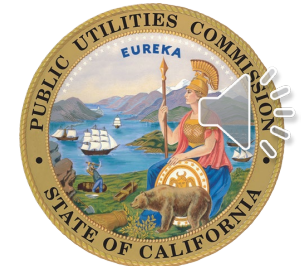


Figure 3. Gas transmission IM program flowchart



Part 192.917 Additional Threats

Part 192 is the PHMSA code that the GSRB enforces.

Part 192.917 of that code states:

(a) *Threat identification. An operator must identify and evaluate all potential threats to each covered pipeline segment. Potential threats that an operator **must consider include**, but are not limited to, the threats listed in ASME/ANSI B31.8S (incorporated by reference, see §192.7), section 2...*



Threats
Defined by
B31.8S-2004

Time
Dependent

External Corrosion

Internal Corrosion

Stress Corrosion Cracking



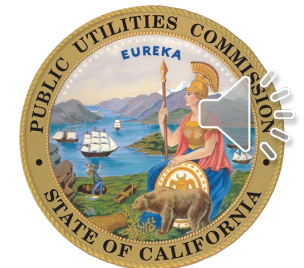
Threats
Defined by
B31.8S-2004

Stable

Manufacturing Defects

Construction Defects

Equipment
(i.e., Pressure Regulation)



Each Threat is defined in B31.8S-2004

Example:

The construction threat is defined in B31.8S-2004, Appendix A.5.1 as:

pipe girth weld, fabrication weld, wrinkle bend or buckle, stripped threads, broken pipe, or coupling...



Threats
Defined by
B31.8S-2004

Time
Independent

Third Party Damage

Incorrect Operations

Weather Related and
Outside Force

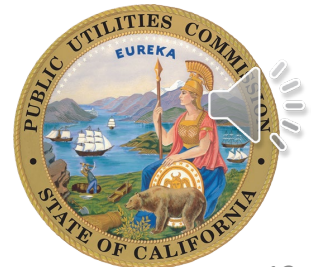


Data Gathering and Integration is also Defined in B31.8S-2004

Example:

For the construction threat, the following data must be gathered:

- (a) *pipe material*
- (b) *wrinkle bend identification*
- (c) *coupling identification*
- (d) *post-construction coupling reinforcement*
- (e) *welding procedures*
- (f) *post-construction girth weld reinforcement*
- (g) *NDT information on welds*

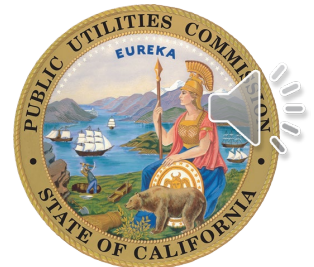


Data Gathering and Integration is also Defined in B31.8S-2004

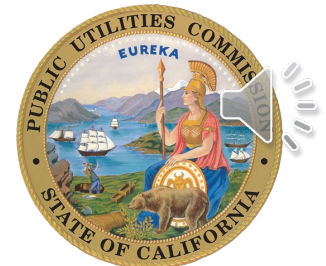
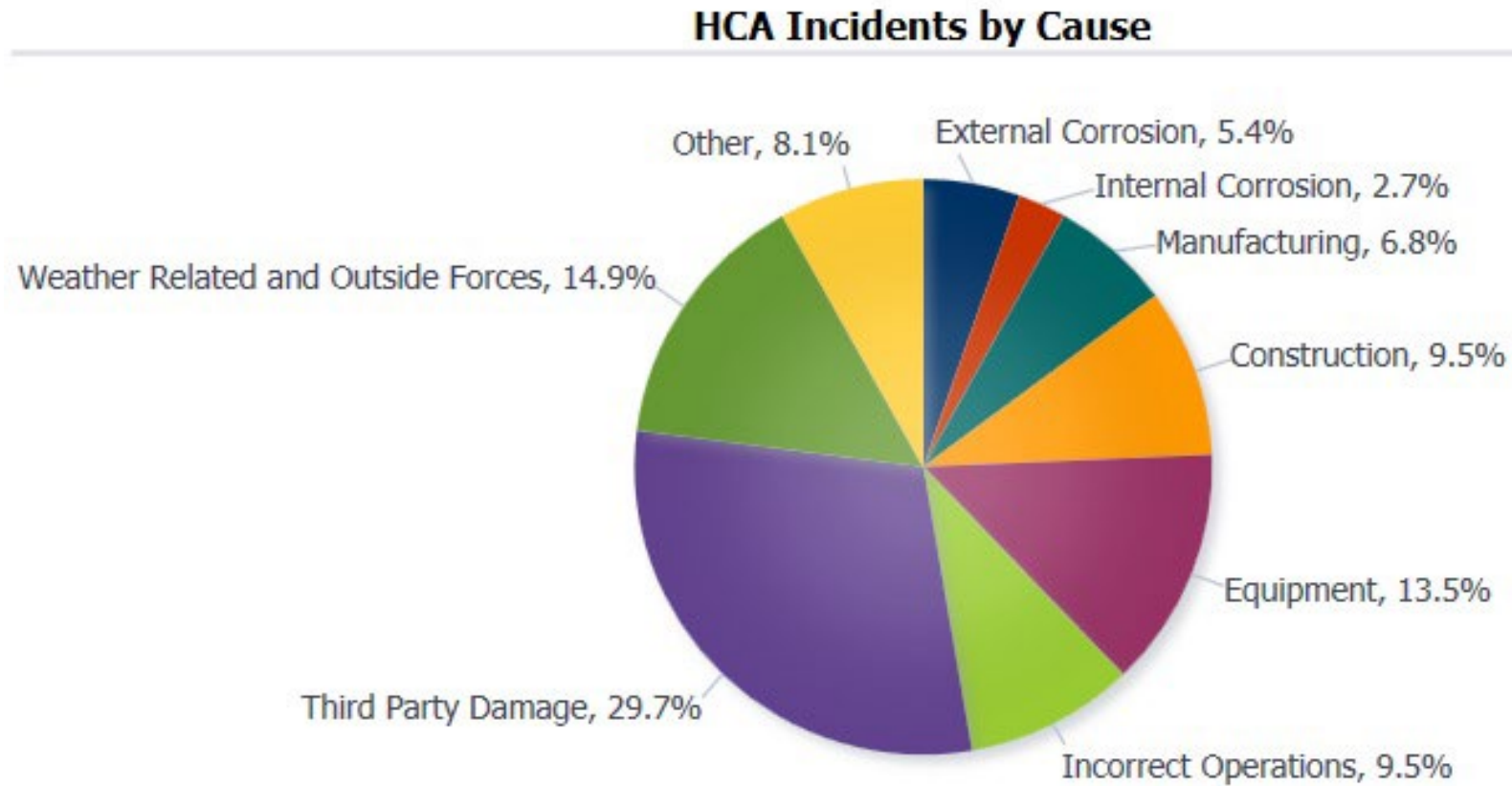
Example:

For the construction threat, the following data must be gathered:

- (h) hydrostatic test information*
- (i) pipe inspection reports (bell hole)*
- (j) potential for outside forces (see para. A9)*
- (k) soil properties and depth of cover for wrinkle bends*
- (l) maximum temperature ranges for wrinkle bends*
- (m) bend radii and degrees of angle change for wrinkle bends*
- (n) operating pressure history and expected operation, including significant pressure cycling and fatigue mechanism*



National Gas Transmission HCA Significant Incidents by Cause (2004-2018)



Integrity Management Process Flow Chart

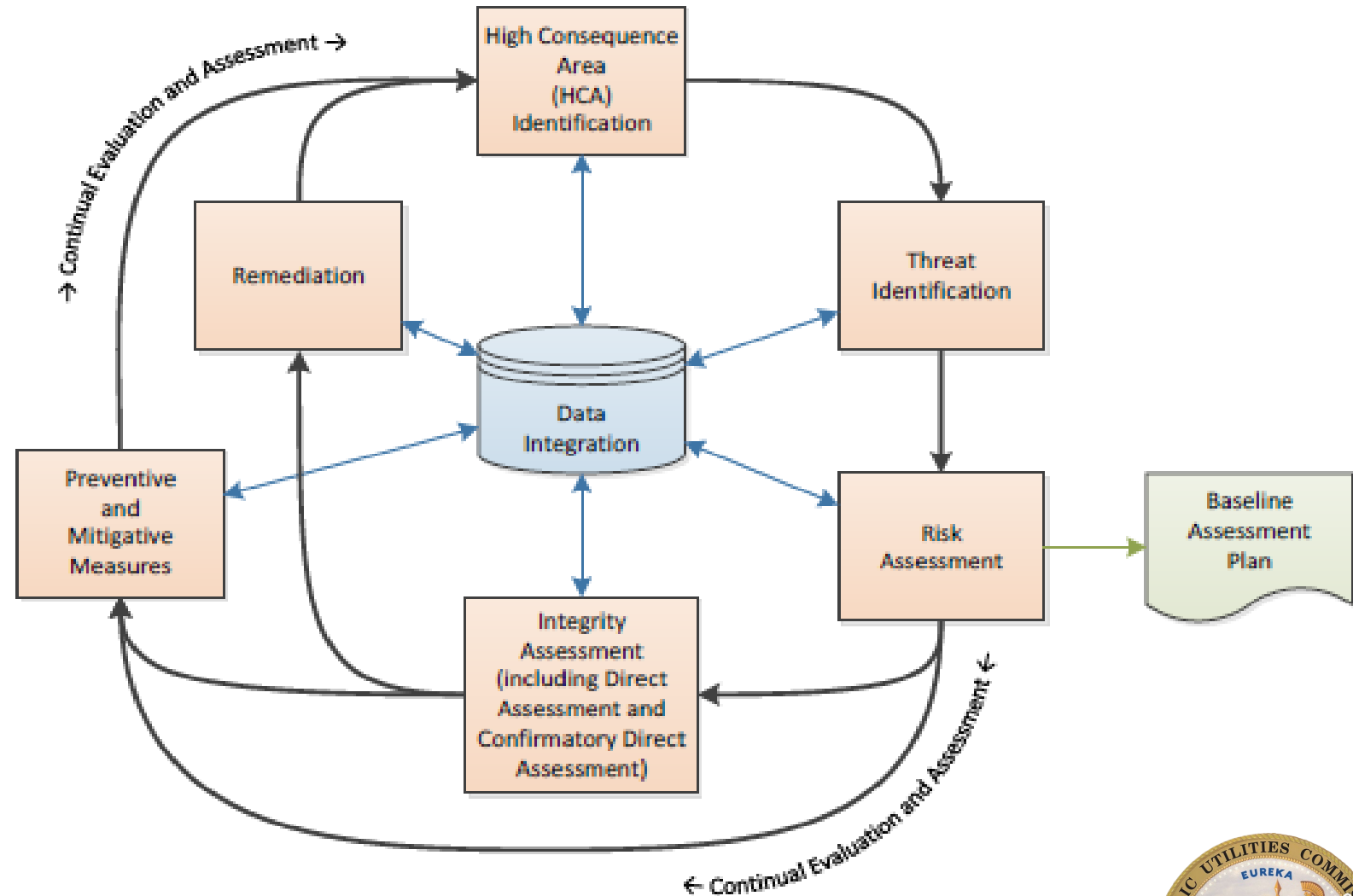
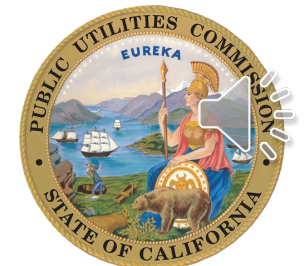


Figure 3. Gas transmission IM program flowchart



Definition of Risk from B31.8S-2004, Section 5.2

$\text{Risk}_i = P_i \times C_i$ for a single threat

$\text{Risk} = \sum_{i=1}^9 (P_i \times C_i)$ for threat categories 1 to 9

Total segment risk

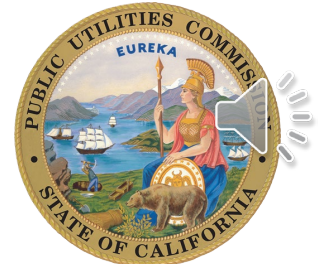
$= P_1 \times C_1 + P_2 \times C_2 + \dots + P_9 \times C_9$

where

C = failure consequence

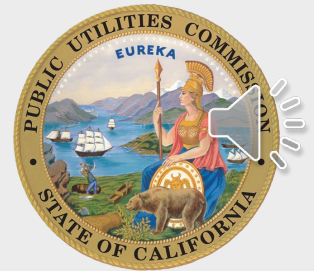
P = failure likelihood

1 to 9 = failure threat category (see para. 2.2)



Risk Assessment Methods Defined by B31.8S- 2004, Section 5.5

- Subject Matter Expert (SME) Approach
- Relative Risk Model
- Scenario Based Model
- Probabilistic Risk Model



The Output of the risk assessment process

The pipeline system is segmented

The risk is determined based on the threats each HCA segment is subject to

The output is typically in the form of a spreadsheet showing a prioritized list of Segments needing integrity assessment

The “Assessment Techniques” are selected to address the threats for each segment



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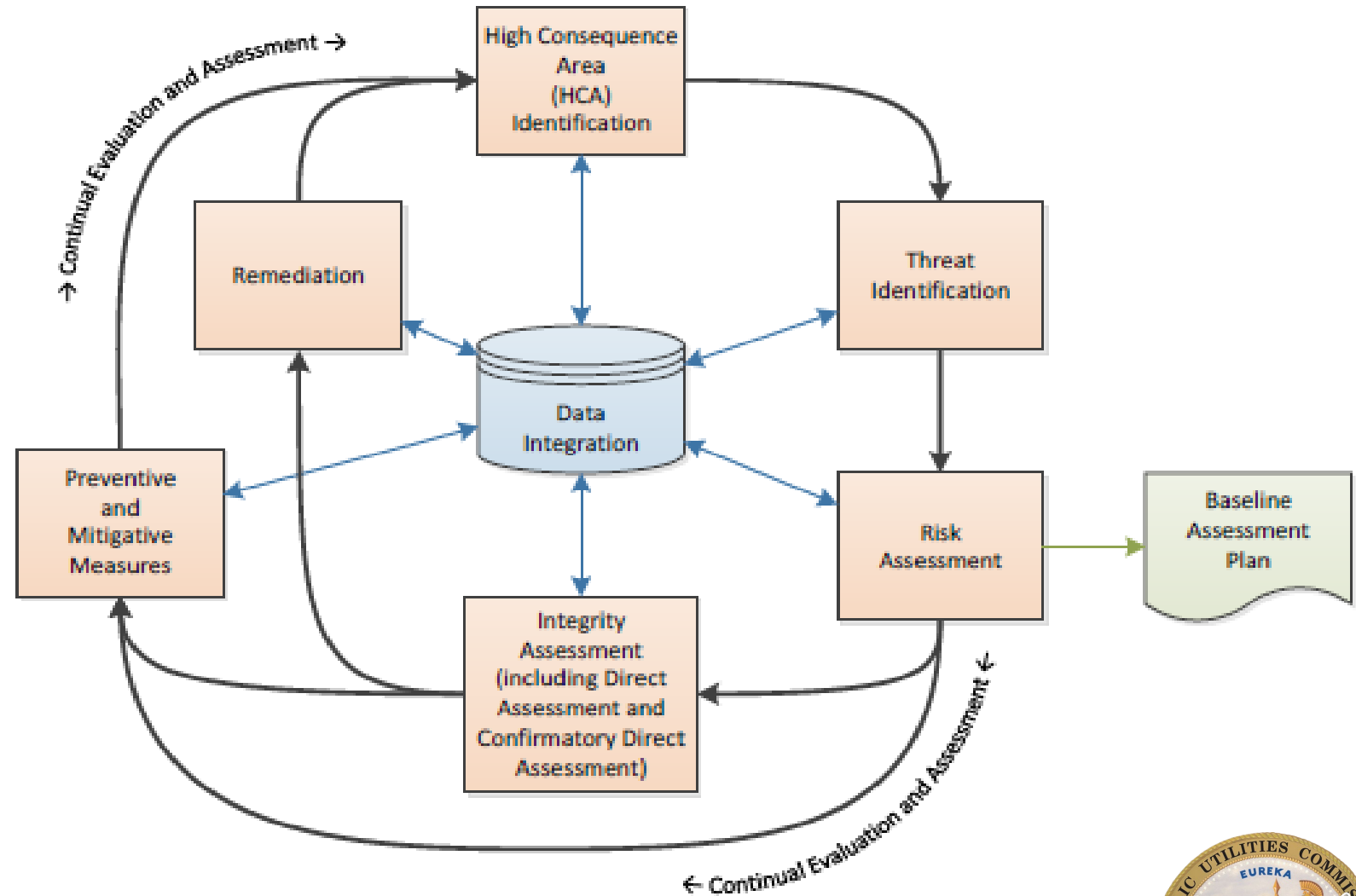
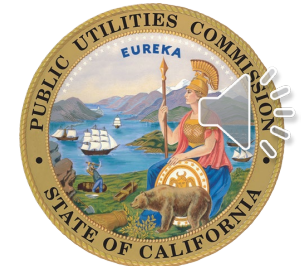


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Integrity Assessment Techniques Allowed by Part 192.937(c)

There are advantages and disadvantages to each of the four integrity assessment technique from the previous page.



Integrity Assessment Techniques Allowed by Part 192.937(c)

- In-Line-Inspection Tools (a.k.a., Smart PIGs)
- Pressure Testing per Part 192, Subpart J
- Direct Assessment for the threats of External Corrosion, Internal Corrosion and Stress Corrosion Cracking
- Other Technology (i.e., Guided Wave Ultrasonic Technology, etc.)



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Direct Assessment for three threats

External Corrosion Direct Assessment (ECDA) is defined as:

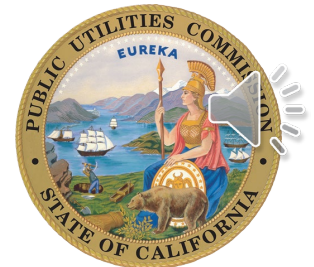
ECDA is a four-step process that combines preassessment, indirect inspection, direct examination, and post assessment to evaluate the threat of external corrosion to the integrity of a pipeline.

Internal Corrosion Direct Assessment (ICDA) is defined as:

A process an operator uses to identify areas along the pipeline where fluid or other electrolyte introduced during normal operation or by an upset condition **may reside**, and then focuses direct examination on the locations in covered segments where internal corrosion is most likely to exist...

Stress Corrosion Cracking Direct Assessment (SCCDA) is defined as:

A process to assess a covered pipe segment for the presence of SCC primarily by systematically gathering and analyzing excavation data for pipe having similar operational characteristics and residing in a similar physical environment.



Integrity Assessment Techniques Allowed by Part 192.937(c)

- In-Line-Inspection Tools (a.k.a., Smart PIGs)
- Pressure Testing per Part 192, Subpart J
- Direct Assessment for the threats of External Corrosion, Internal Corrosion and Stress Corrosion Cracking
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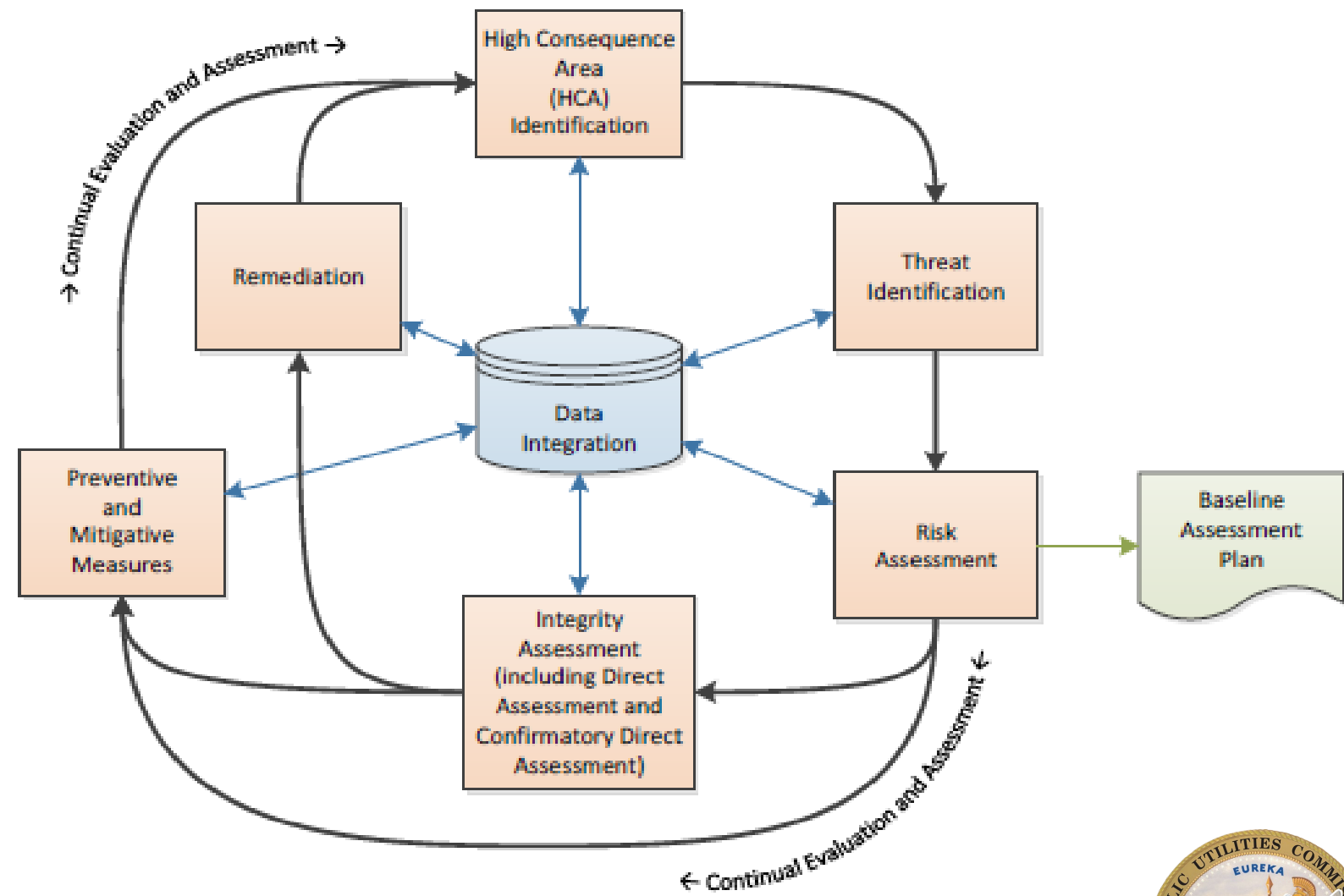
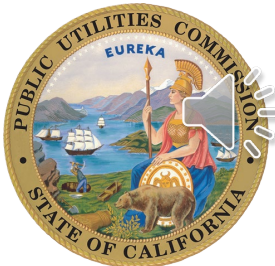


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Remediation (i.e., Repair) and/or Preventative/ Mitigative Measures

- The output of the integrity assessments are locations along the pipeline that need further investigation (i.e., direct examinations) or repair
- Depending on the root cause(s) of the pipeline issues that need repair, additional preventative or mitigative measure may be chosen to reduce risk.



Integrity Management Process Flow Chart

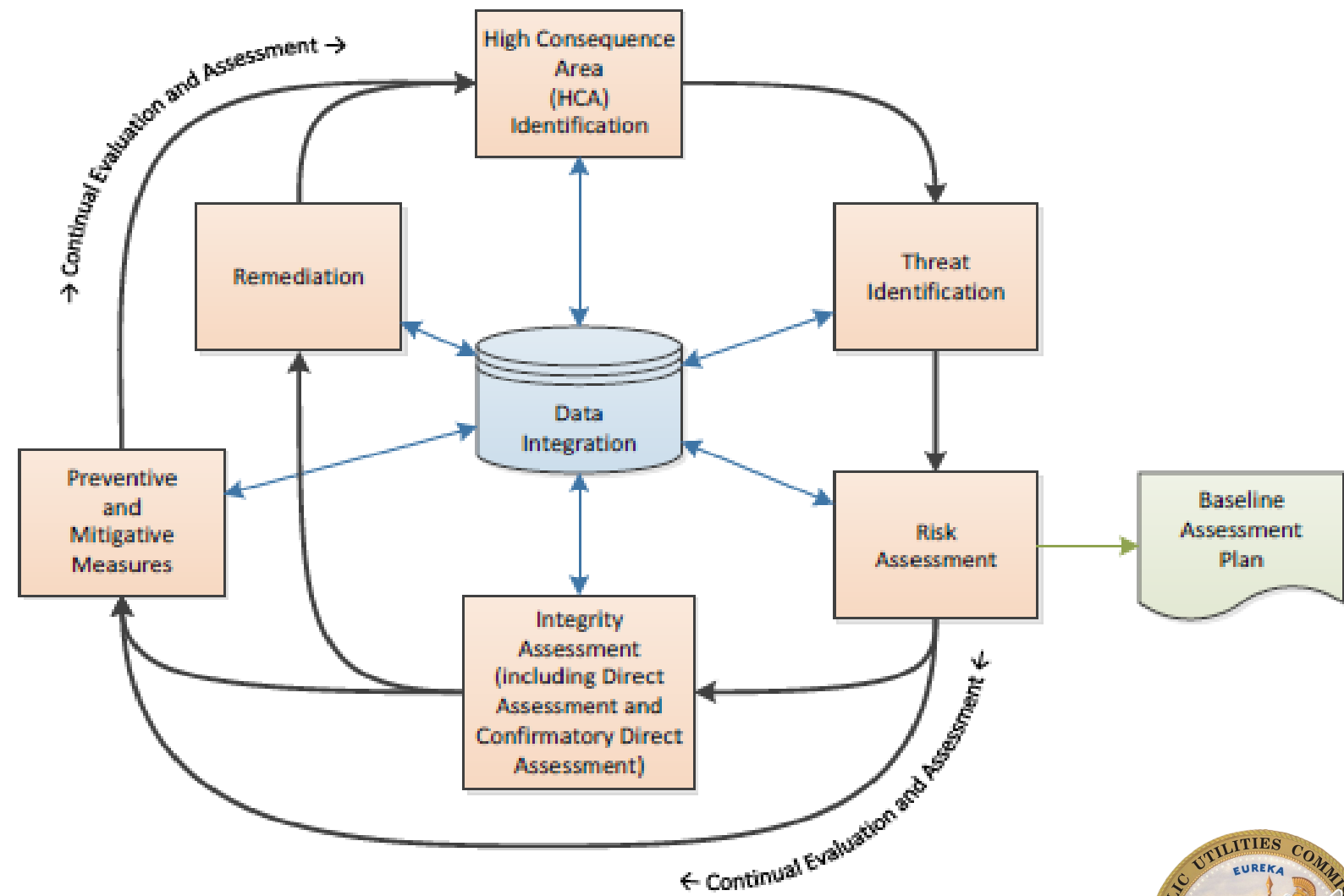


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Questions

