

Had the explosive detonated, it may have caused the loss of the plane, resulting in the deaths of all on the plane. Even though the loss of the lives and plane did not occur, the potential for it to happen is an impact to the safety goals.

**Attempted Bombing of Flight 253
December 25, 2009**



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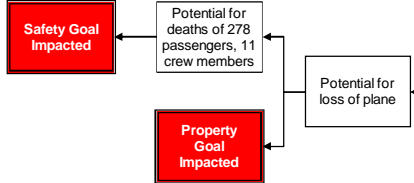
Step 1. Outline the Problem

What	Problem(s)	Attempted bombing
When	Date	December 25, 2009
Where	Different, unusual, unique	Suspect allowed to board with explosives
	State, city	Detroit, MI
	Unit, area, equipment	Northwest Airlines Flight 253
		Airbus 330
	Task being performed	Final approach from Amsterdam

Impact to the Goals

Safety	Potential for deaths of 278 passengers, 11 crew members Passenger burned Suspect burned
Environmental	N/A
Cust. Service	Failure of safety procedures
Production-Schedule	?
Property, Equip, Mtls	Potential for loss of plane
Labor, Time	?

**Step 2. Cause Map
Detail Level**



The suspect was able to board the plane because despite warnings from his father, there was insufficient information to add him to the no-fly list (see process map) and his visa was not revoked.

Officials in the U.S. were unaware a visa had been issued by the U.S. embassy in London. Additionally, while the information from the suspect's father was entered into TIDE (a terrorist intelligence database), there was no follow-up on the information. It's unclear if there was no follow-up required, or if the follow-up was just not performed.

In an admitted failure of safety procedures, the explosives were not detected by airport security. The information about the suspect was considered not specific enough for the suspect to be put on the "selectee list" which would have led to additional screening. The suspect was not passed through a body scan, which may have detected the explosives, because they are not used on passengers traveling to the U.S. because of the privacy issues. The ingredients were hidden in the suspect's undergarments and so were not detected by security.

