Relationship Between FMEA and RCA

FMEA is a Pre-Problem Solving Methodology

- Opportunity to record what could go wrong before it does
- Take actions to prevent failures
- Both Predictive and Preventative

Root Cause Analysis (RCA) or Failure Analysis (FA) is a Post-Problem Solving Methodology

- Failure has already occurred and must be analyzed to prevent recurrence

\[
\text{RCA} = \text{Detection Cycle (Failure)} \quad \text{FMEA} = \text{Prevention Cycle (Failure)}
\]

Risk (FMEA) is used as the substitute for Failure (RCA)