



Bowtie Analysis

Theory and Fundamentals

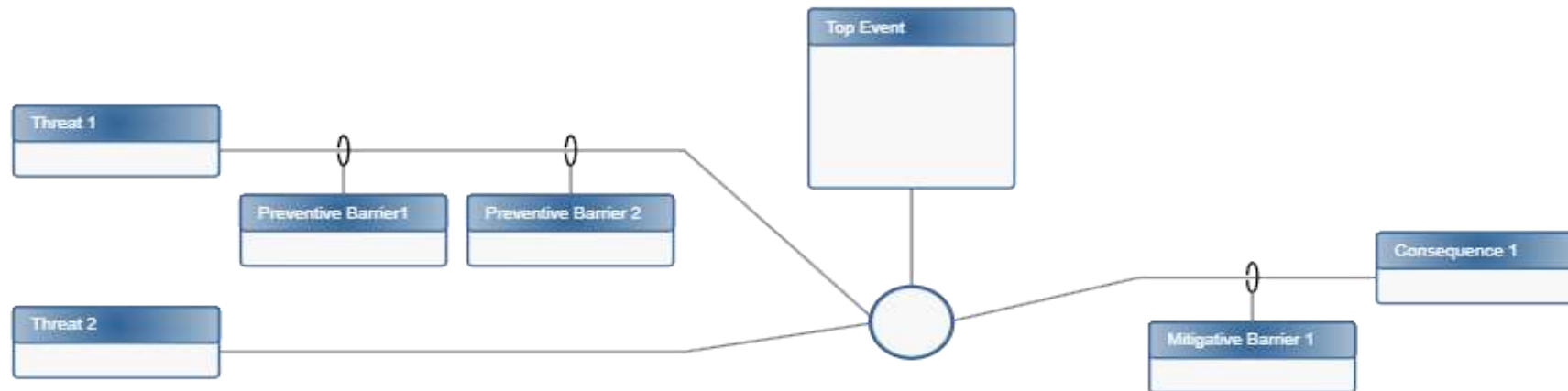
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Agenda

- Introduction
- Overview of Bowtie Diagram Components
- Key Terminology for Hazards, Threats, Top Events, Consequences, and Barriers
- Understanding Preventive and Mitigative Barriers
- Data Center Example

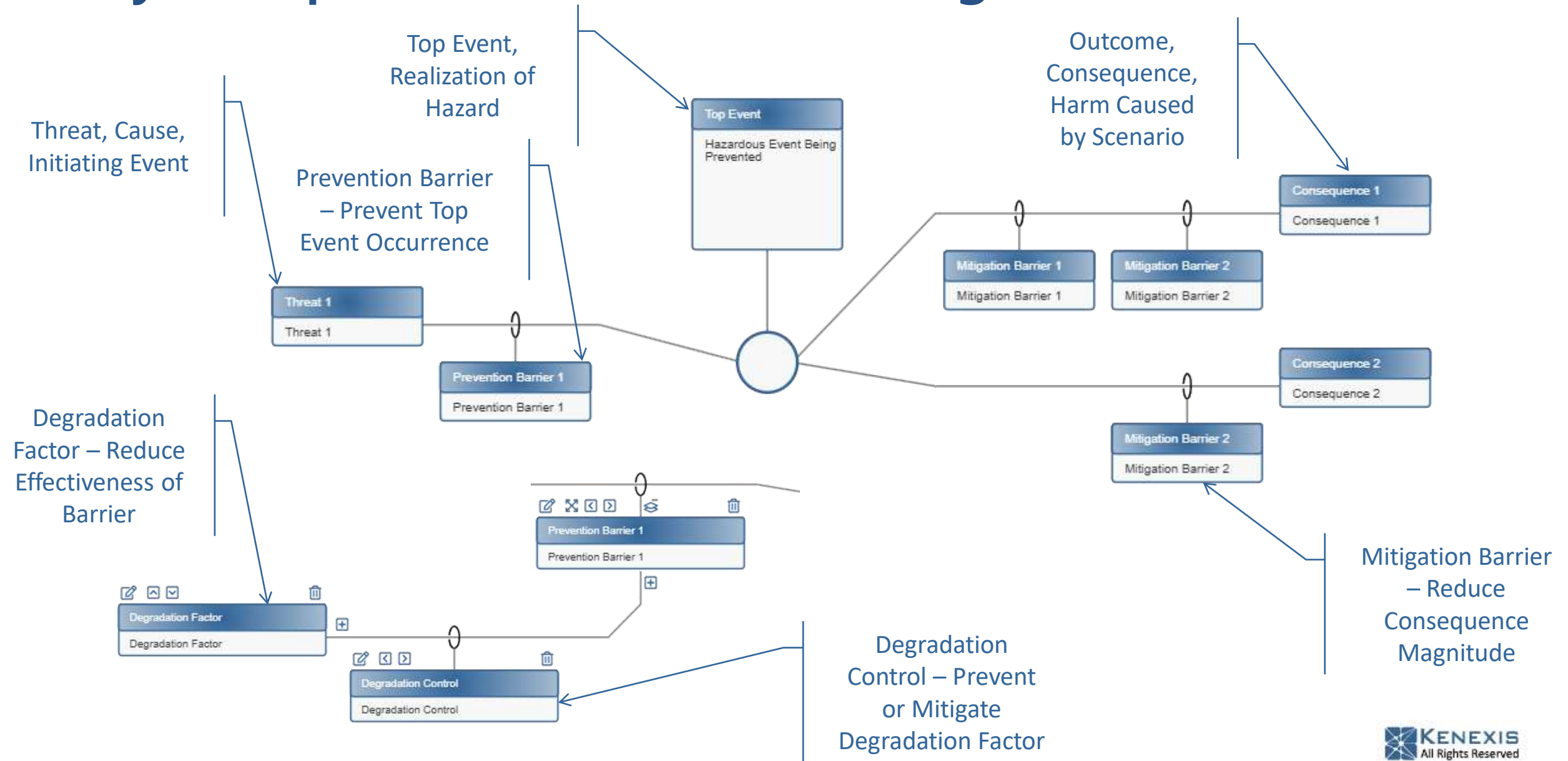


Bowtie Diagrams – Visualizing Risk

- Visualizing Risk Pathways:
 - Bowtie diagrams provide a clear, visual representation of the relationship between causes (threats) and effects (consequences) of hazardous events
 - Bridging the Gap Between Qualitative Visualization and Quantitative Analysis
 - Industry Applications: Used across various sectors (e.g., Chemical, Oil & Gas, Aerospace, Pharmaceuticals) to identify gaps in risk controls and improve safety management

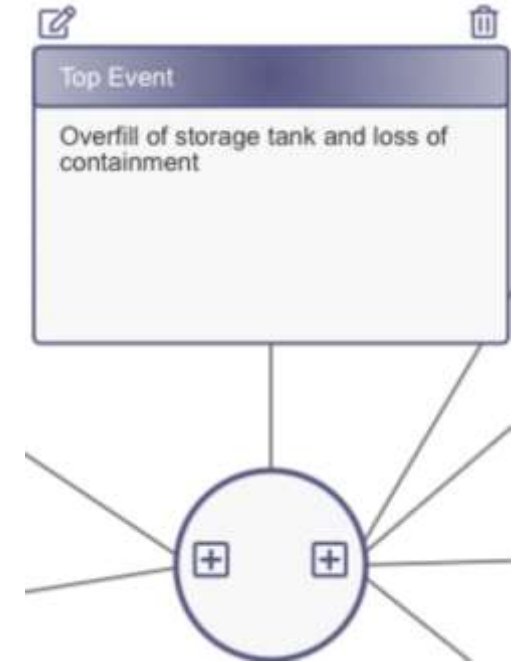


Key Components of a Bowtie Diagram



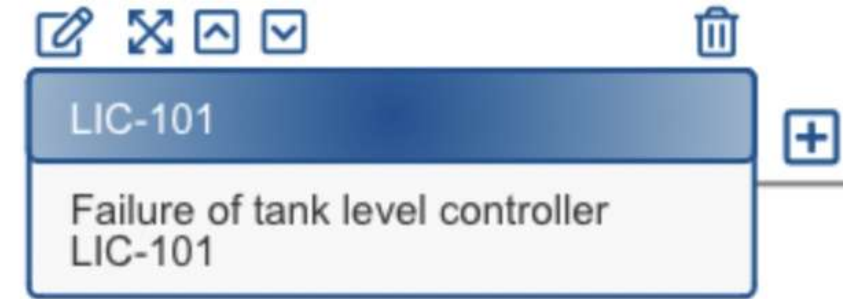
Understanding Hazards and Top Events

- Hazards
 - The source of potential harm or risk
 - Can be physical, chemical, environmental, operational, or human-related
- Top Events
 - The critical point where control over the hazard is lost
 - The incident that occurs when threats materialize and barriers fail
 - Represents the moment when control over hazard is lost
- Relationship Between Hazards and Top Events
 - Hazards always exist
 - Top event marks the transition to potential consequences
 - Top event connects the threats and consequences



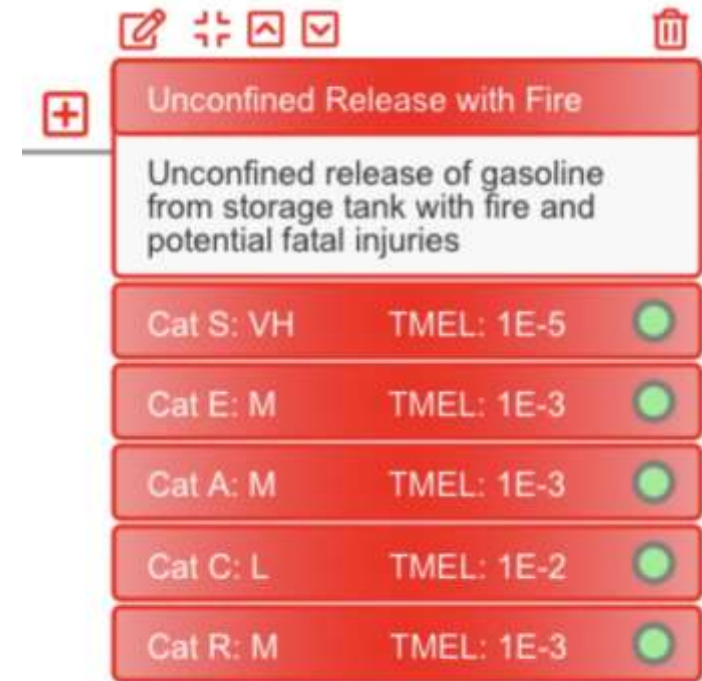
Understanding Threats (Causes)

- Definition of Threats
 - Events, actions, or conditions that could cause the top event
 - Direct causes that initiate the loss of control over a hazard
- Types of Threats
 - Operational (e.g., equipment failure, human error)
 - Environmental (e.g., extreme weather conditions, earthquakes)
 - Procedural (e.g., poor maintenance, inadequate safety protocols)
- Role of Threats in a Bowtie Diagram
 - Identified on the left side, connected to the top event
 - Threats are the factors that barriers aim to prevent or control



Understanding Consequences

- Definition of Consequences
 - The outcomes or impacts if the top event occurs
 - Potential damage to people, property, environment, or business operations
 - Degree of harm from loss of control of hazard
- Types of Consequences
 - Safety, Environmental, Asset (Financial), Reputation, Community
 - Other – based on application
- Role of Consequences in a Bowtie Diagram
 - Located on the right side, stemming from the top event
 - Loss of control can result in many different consequences
 - Help prioritize risk mitigation strategies based on severity



Unconfined Release with Fire		
Unconfined release of gasoline from storage tank with fire and potential fatal injuries		
Cat S: VH	TMEL: 1E-5	●
Cat E: M	TMEL: 1E-3	●
Cat A: M	TMEL: 1E-3	●
Cat C: L	TMEL: 1E-2	●
Cat R: M	TMEL: 1E-3	●

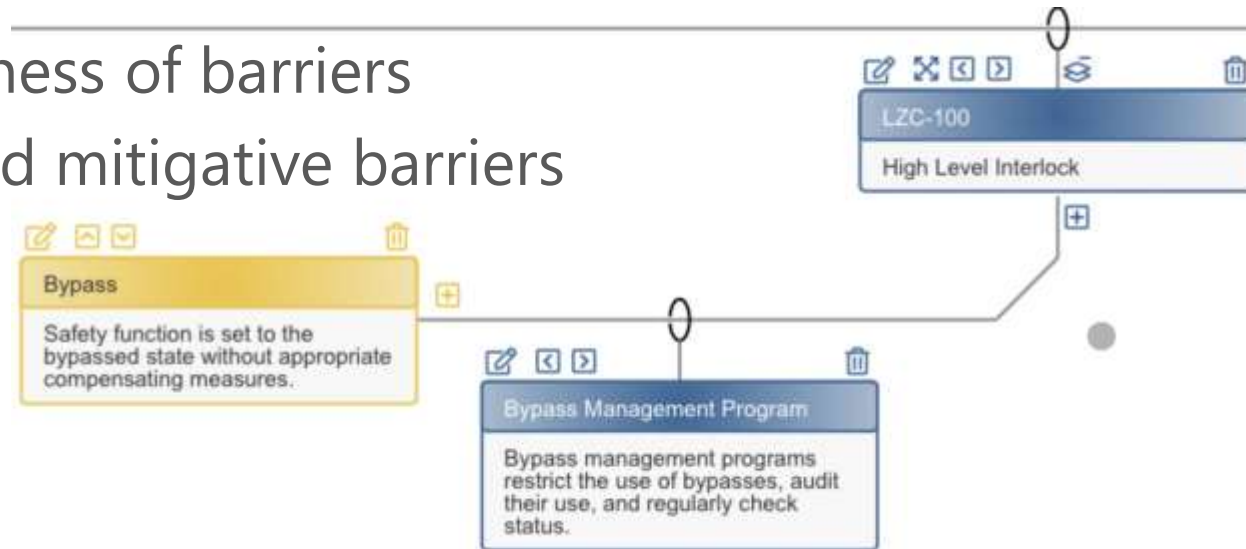
Understanding Barriers – Preventive and Mitigative

- Definition of Barriers
 - Controls implemented to either prevent the top event or reduce the impact of its consequences
- Preventive Barriers
 - Designed to stop the top event from occurring
 - Positioned between threats and the top event
 - Examples: Alarm systems, maintenance, emergency shutdown
- Mitigative Barriers
 - Minimize the consequences if the top event occurs
 - Positioned between the top event and consequences
 - Examples: Fire suppression systems, evacuation procedures
- Role of Barriers in Risk Management
 - Barriers act as safeguards to protect against risks
 - Effectiveness of barriers depends on their design, implementation, and maintenance



Understanding Degradation Factors and Controls

- Definition of Degradation Factors
 - Conditions that reduce the effectiveness of barriers
 - Can compromise both preventive and mitigative barriers
- Types of Degradation Factors
 - Human Factors
 - Environmental Factors
 - Operational Factors
- Degradation Controls
 - Measures put in place to maintain the effectiveness of barriers despite degradation factors
 - Regular inspections, maintenance, training, and testing of equipment or processes



Common Pitfalls in Bowtie Diagram Construction

- Incomplete Threat or Consequence Identification
- Over-Simplification of Barriers
- Failure to Account for Degradation Factors
- Misplacing or Mislabeling Barriers
- Lack of Quantification
- Failure to Validate Bowtie Diagrams



Step-By-Step Guide to Building a Bowtie Diagram

- 1 • Identify the hazard
- 2 • Determine the top event
- 3 • Identify threats
- 4 • Identify consequences
- 5 • Add preventive barriers
- 6 • Add mitigative barriers
- 7 • Incorporate degradation factors
- 8 • Assign degradation controls
- 9 • Validate the diagram

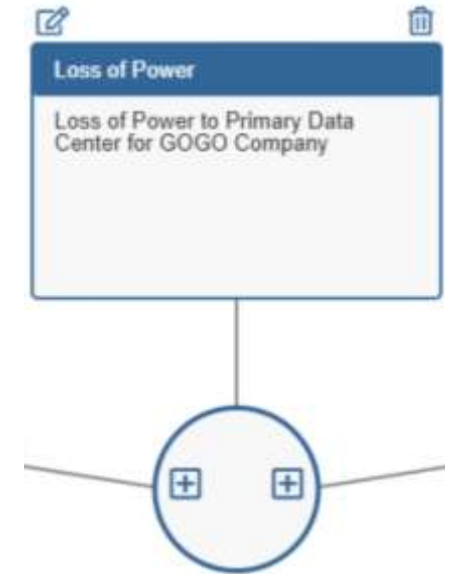
Practical Example – Building Loss of Power

- Consider a data center building that is used to house your company's databases and cloud computing infrastructure



Data Center Example – Hazard and Top Event

- **Hazard:**
 - Electrical power supply to a critical building or facility (e.g., hospital, data center, office building).
- **Top Event:**
 - Complete loss of electrical supply to the building.

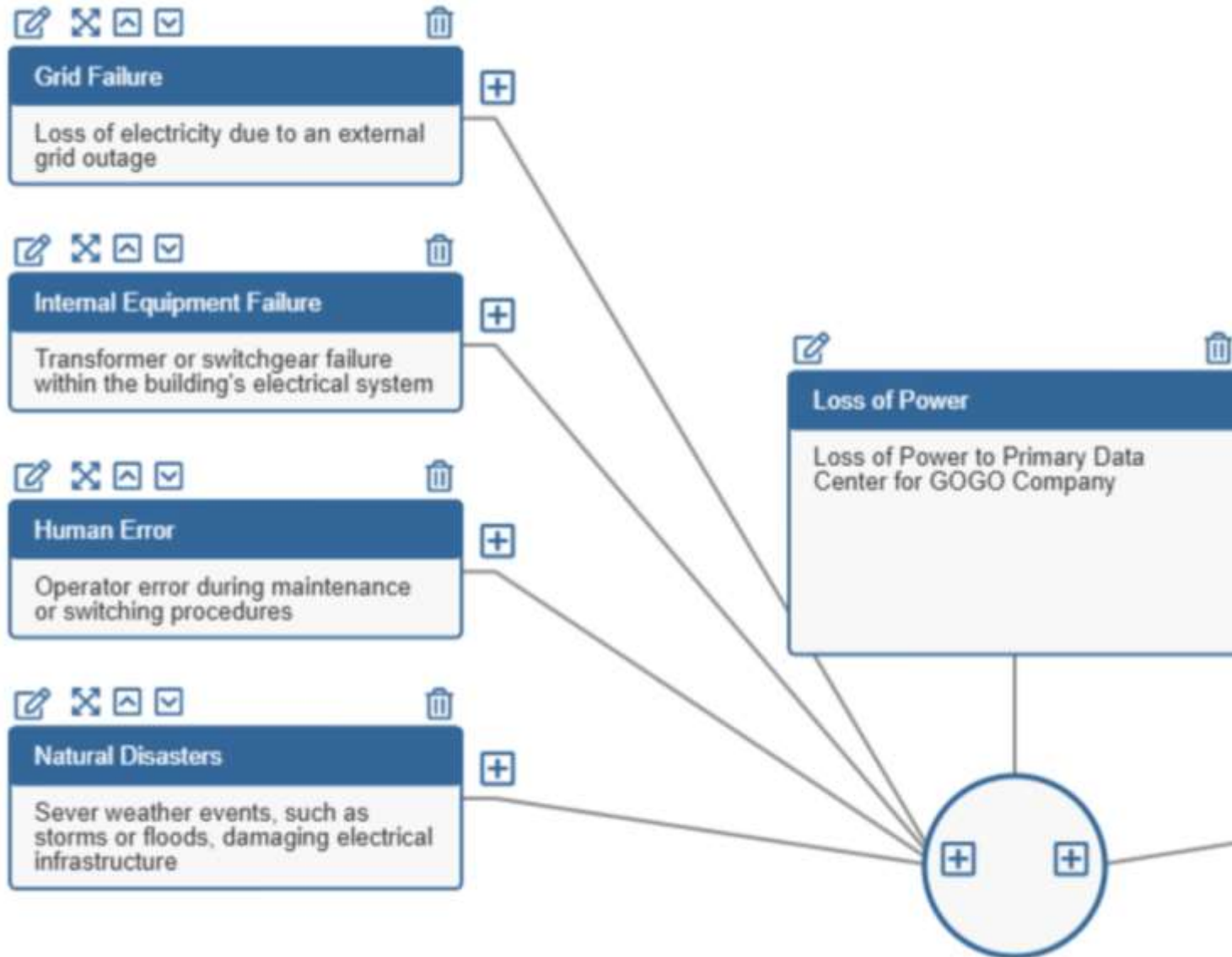


The screenshot shows a software window titled "Top Event Details". It contains the following fields:

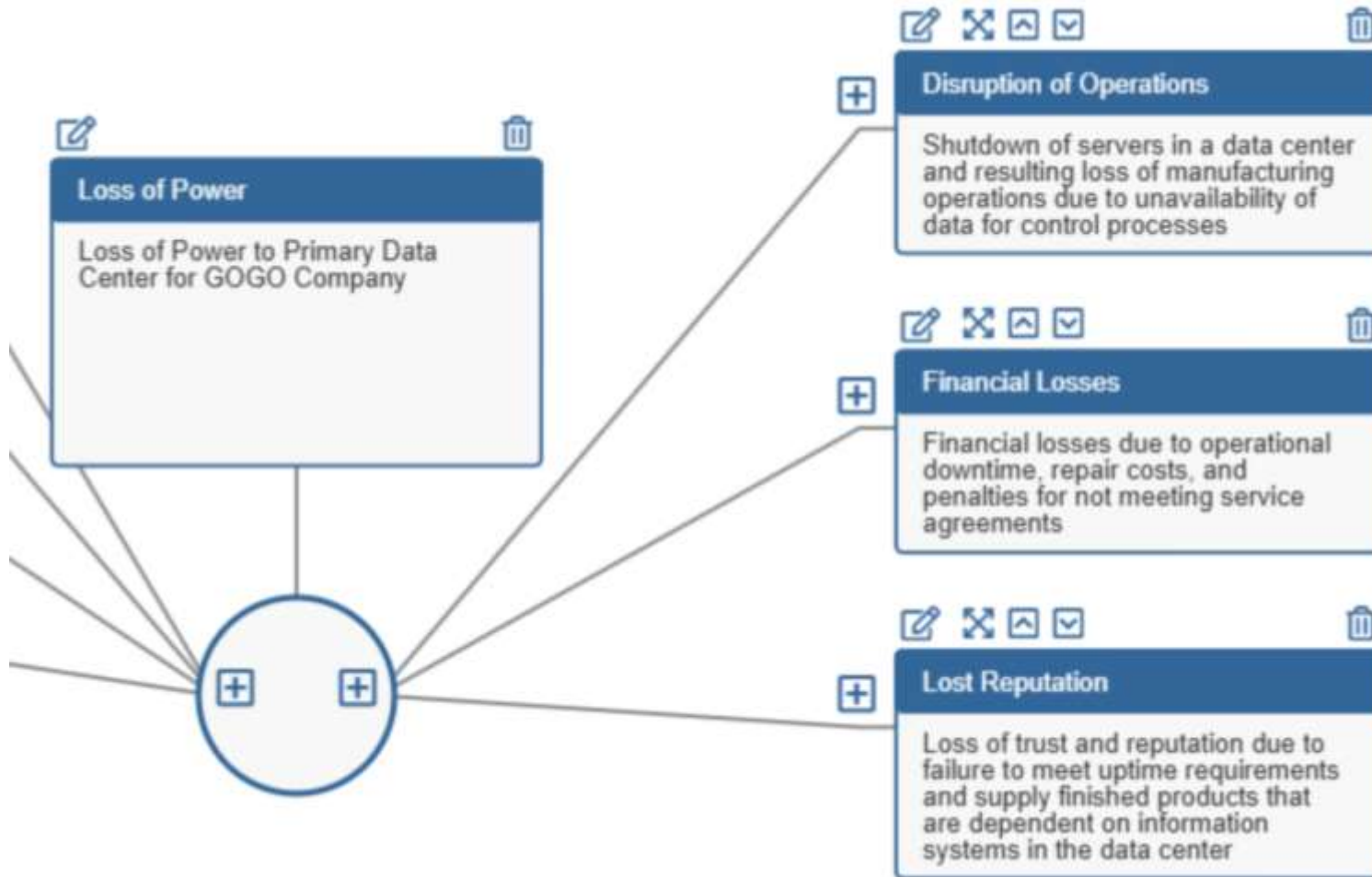
- Hazard Title:** A text field containing "Loss of Power".
- Hazard Description:** A text area containing "Loss of Power to Primary Data Center for GOGO Company".
- Color:** A dropdown menu showing a blue color swatch.
- Notes:** A text area containing "This data center provides database services and web applications for all GOGO operating facilities worldwide."

At the bottom right of the window are two buttons: "Update" and "Cancel".

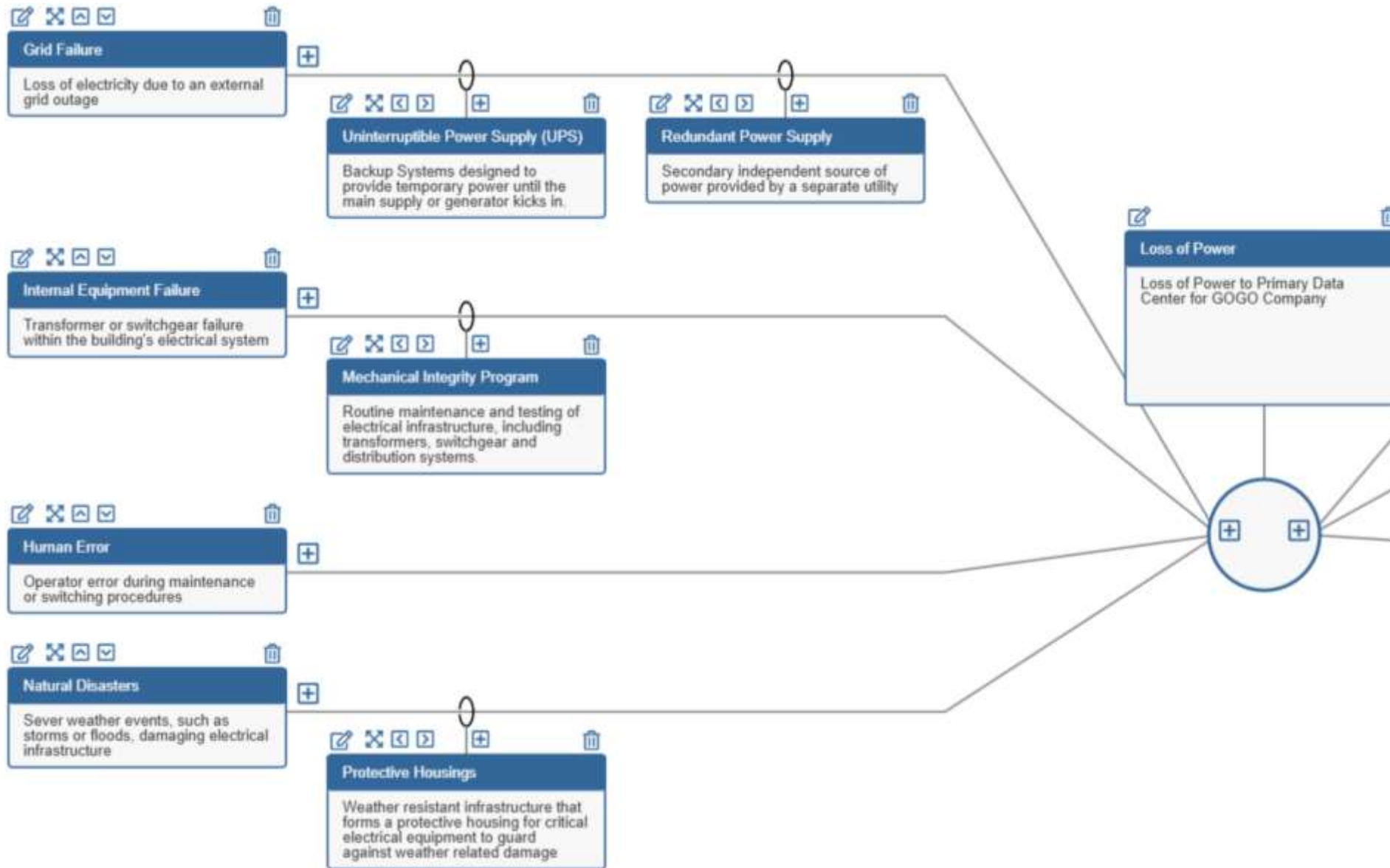
Data Center Example - Threats



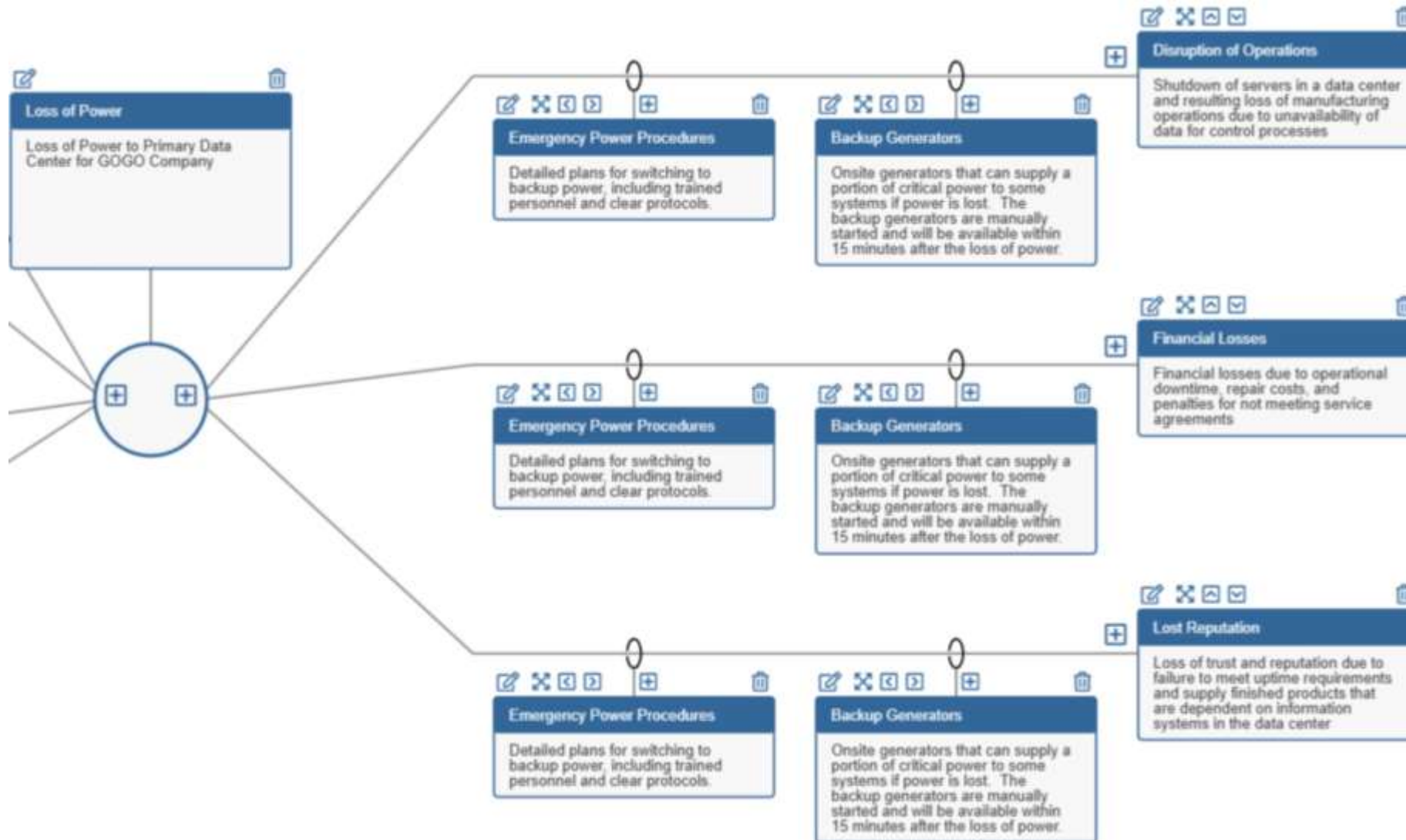
Data Center Example - Consequences



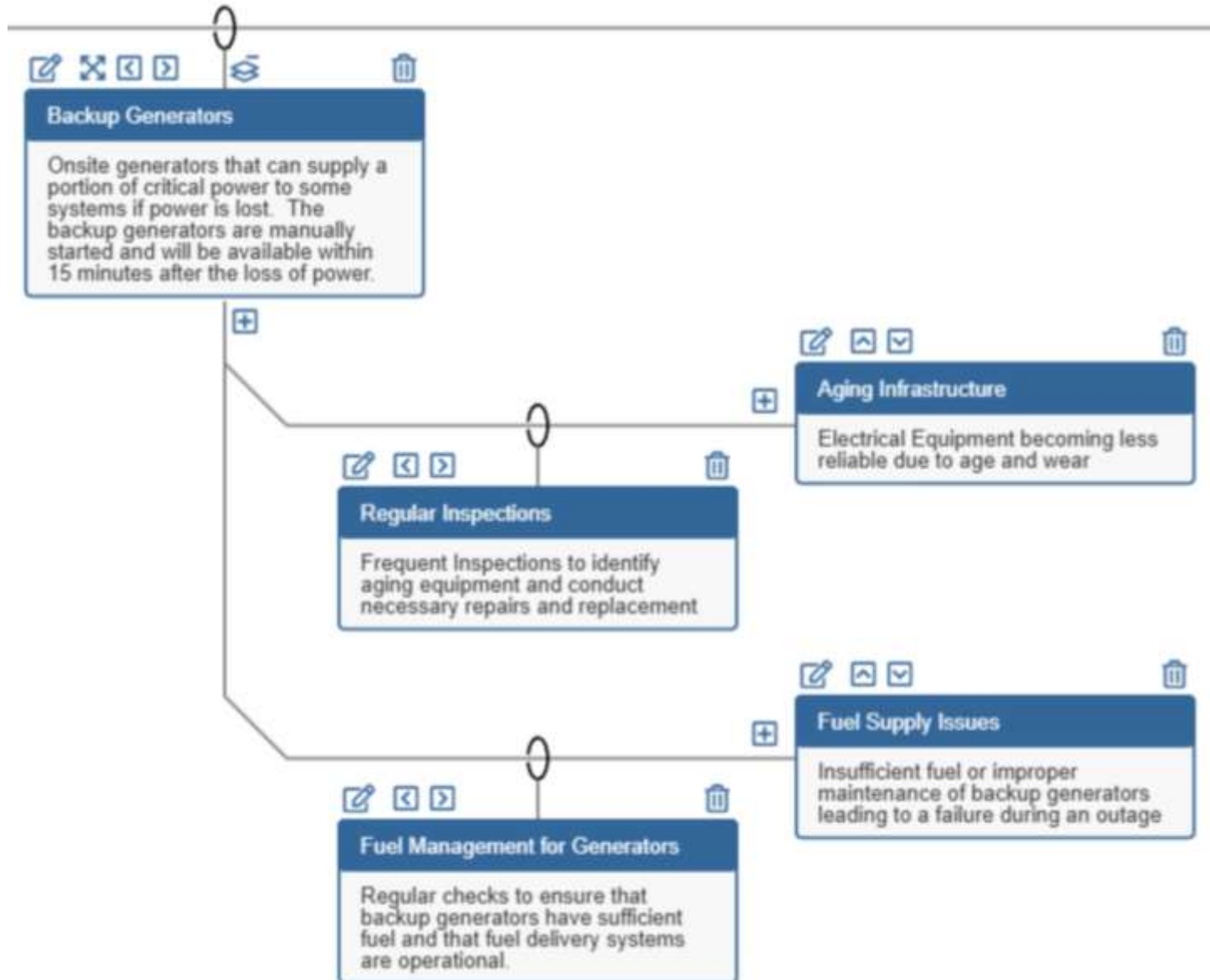
Data Center Example – Barriers (Preventive)



Data Center Example – Barriers (Mitigative)



Data Center – Degradation Factors and Controls



Summary

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