

# Why Configuration Standards Fail During Emergency Changes

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*The bypass isn't the problem.*



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THE ASSUMPTION

# Most Configuration Standards Assume Calm Conditions



Incidents don't follow that path.

# Emergency Changes Are Authority Transfers

The on-call engineer is temporarily granted authority to bypass governance controls.

**That's expected.**  
**That's not the failure.**



THE REAL FAILURE

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**The bypass isn't the failure.**  
**The missing return path is.**



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# Emergency Reconciliation Gap

1

Bypass Authority

2

Change Latency Budget

3

Reconciliation Ownership

4

Closure Deadline

**FAILURE STATE: Permanent Exception**



# What Happens When a Variable Is Missing

VARIABLE MISSING	RESULT
Ownership	Nobody fixes it
Deadline	Nobody prioritizes it
<b>Both</b>	<b>Permanent Exception</b>



**Emergency changes are not dangerous because they bypass standards.**

**They're dangerous because most organizations never define how exceptions return to the governed system.**

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