

Safety & Technical Update

► By the Safety & Technical Team



The Safety and Technical (S&T) Team continues to participate in many forums and undertake activities to ensure that high safety standards are maintained in Australia and, through IFALPA, globally. The following is a brief outline of some of the current issues with which your Safety and Technical Committee has been engaged.

ACCIDENT ANALYSIS AND PREVENTION (AAP)

AIPA Representation

AIPA has assisted 8 members involved in various safety incidents since May.

Remember if you are involved in an incident or accident, call the AIPA 24-hour Accident/Incident Hotline on +61 (0)2 8307 7788 for advice.

Accident Information for Pilots Package

AIPA has recently updated the Accident Information for Pilots package which contains a Guide for Flight Crew involved in an Accident or an Incident, a Quick Reference Guide and an Emergency Contacts for Pilots. All of the documents are available to AIPA members in the Resources section of the website - www.aipa.org.au.

The emergency Contact Directory is only available electronically to download. Both the Guide for Flight Crew involved in an Accident or an Incident and the Quick Reference Guide are available in hard copy, please contact the AIPA office if you would like one.

ANZSASI 2019

The annual Australian/New Zealand Society of Air Safety Investigators seminar took place in Wellington, New Zealand from 7-9 June and approximately 85 representatives from various organisations

within the industry attended. The topics of discussion included Fatigue monitoring and analysis; SMS; Aviation Medicine; Operating multiple variants of the same type in one tour of duty; and Human factors. Capt. Steve Tomkins made a presentation on “Fly Dubai 981 – A Go-around is Never Routine” on behalf of AusALPA, which used the accident of Fly Dubai 981 as the catalyst for a discussion on go-around preparedness which is currently considered inadequate.

AIRCRAFT DESIGN AND OPERATIONS (ADO)

Google Wing RPAS Application

AusALPA provided feedback to CASA in response to the introduction of the Google Wing RPAS App. AusALPA supports the concept of a CASA-approved app that can be used by “all recreational and commercial RPAS operators” to safely fly their “drones” in accordance with the regulations. AusALPA is aware that whilst the “Wing App” is being used in the USA, there are some operating conditions and regulations which may differ in Australia. In addition, the electronic dataset available to the App developer may be limited by the present Airservices Australia technology e.g. the resolution of the airspace charts.

AusALPA offered its assistance in determining the accuracy and suitability of all future versions and updates through active collaboration with CASA, the vendor and other interested parties.

AERODROME AND GROUND ENVIRONMENT (AGE)

Melbourne Airport Airfield Renaming Project Workshop

AusALPA attended the Melbourne Airport Airfield Renaming Project Workshop which aimed at briefing stakeholders on the

mechanics of the renaming project and to use case studies from other airports to understand the implementation challenges. AusALPA explained that the implementation of the ICAO (IFALPA) naming convention would not only ensure the airport was compliant internationally, but would also provide a range of safety and efficiency benefits, which was well received.

Brisbane Airport Local Runway Safety Team (LRST)

AusALPA continues to maintain an active participation at a number of LRST meetings country wide. Most recently, Brisbane Airport has been in discussions in relation to two main issues, stop bar installation and the new parallel runway. Stop bars for the existing runway are due to be commissioned by February 2020, with a standard ICAO compliant installation.



A view of the A380 off RWY 34 on TWY E at Melbourne Airport. Image courtesy of Benjamin Choi.

The new runway has had significant issues in terms of ground works; readiness testing; and the risk of aircraft aligning with wrong runway during construction.

AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES (ATS)

CASA Office of Airspace Regulation's (OAR) Broome and Karratha Airspace Review

AusALPA provided feedback on CASA's Broome and Karratha Airspace review. It was noted that this airspace review is essentially linked to the proposals and considerations found within Airservices' Airspace Modernisation Project (AMP). AusALPA believes it would be remiss of the OAR not to consider these together when making decisions and recommendations.

AusALPA further believes that this airspace review is an opportunity for the

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OAR to act in removing the unacceptable risks to aviation safety posed by Class E airspace over regional Class D aerodromes. It should be recognised that Class E airspace below the transition level facilitates unacceptable risks whilst providing too little in the way of discernible benefits for airspace users. This especially applies when in the vicinity of aerodromes.

36th Airline/Air Traffic Services Safety Forum

AusALPA attended the 36th Airline/Air Traffic Services Safety Forum in June. This annual event is facilitated by Airservices Australia and brings together industry stakeholders from across the Asia Pacific region. The theme this year was 'Managing Threats in an Increasing Complex Environment'.

In attendance were over 100 delegates from international, domestic and regional airlines; industry associations; Defence; BOM; airports; the LOSA and NOSS Collaboratives; air navigation service providers; aviation safety specialists; and pilots.

The forum provided an opportunity to discuss the management of the increasing range and complexity of threats presented to both pilots and air traffic controllers, and how these threats are likely to change as Australia's aviation industry evolve.

Specific topics included IATA perspectives on threats in the Asia Pacific region, Analysis of Safety Performance in the Australian Flight Information Regions, Top external threats for Airservices Australia and Airways New Zealand, and Understanding of ICAO Mayday and Minimum Fuel requirements.

Airservices Australia Airspace Modernisation Project

AusALPA continues to provide input to Airservices Australia's Airspace Modernisation Program which is aimed at delivering enhancements to Australian airspace over the next 5 years. Airservices has now progressed to tranche three of the program which focuses on providing standardisation across regional aerodromes and increased access to enroute airspace.

Our industry continues to operate in a challenging environment influenced by many factors which can alter the balance between profitability and safety standards. Nonetheless, as this year progresses, AusALPA will remain dedicated to preserving and advancing standards of safety domestically and internationally. If you have any concerns or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact our office via office@ausalpa.org.au.

