

SM ICG Holds First Industry Day Outreach Event in Middle East

The Safety Management International Collaboration Group (SM ICG), a group of 18 aviation regulatory bodies, held its 11th semi-annual Industry Day event with representatives from 18 United Arab Emirates (UAE)-based aviation industry organizations and one Indian company on November 6, 2017 in Dubai, UAE. Ahmed Al Saabri, Quality & Safety Manager at Sheikh Zayed Air Navigation Center, remarked, "I am honored to be here with the SM ICG. You are setting the road map for the future of aviation safety." This event marks the first opportunity for aviation service providers in the region to hear directly from authorities that are working together and for those authorities to receive feedback on SM ICG products. The full day session, hosted by the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), included five presentations and an open discussion on lessons learned and challenges in safety management systems (SMS).

The SM ICG was established in 2009 to promote a common understanding of safety management principles and requirements, facilitating their application across the international aviation community. Since its formation, the group has published 25 products and several have been translated into French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish. Industry Day participants received the newest product, a pamphlet on *Safety Culture for Effective Safety Management*. In recent years, the SM ICG has increased outreach to the greater international aviation community. The inaugural Industry Day event took place in Ottawa, Canada in 2012 with subsequent events held in The Hague, Netherlands, Seattle, Washington, USA, Bern, Switzerland, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Cologne, Germany, Vancouver, Canada, Rome, Italy, Miami, Florida, USA, and Gatwick, United Kingdom.

Yousuf Hashim Al Azizi, Director of Policy, Regulation, and Planning at UAE GCAA Aviation Safety Affairs Sector, kicked off the day saying, "The SM ICG is a unique gathering of safety management subject matter experts representing their regulatory bodies. Industry Day is a good opportunity for us as regulators to hear about challenges you experience with SMS in industry. We face challenges as well in State Safety Programs (SSP). I am sure we will leave today with valuable knowledge that we can go back and share with our organizations." After opening remarks, Simon Roberts, United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority (UK CAA) SMS Programme Manager, gave an overview of the SM ICG and its work. 5 industry representatives (Carl Holt, Emirates; Martin O'Keeffe, Dubai Air Navigation Services; Dhruv Rebbapragada, IndiGo; Stewart Murphy, GAL Air Navigation Services; and Ahmed Al Saabri, Sheikh Zayed Air Navigation Center) then presented their experiences with and perspectives on SMS. Those briefings and speaker biographies are available for download at http://www.aviationsafetywiki.org/index.php/Industry_Day_-_November_2017.

Industry Day participants discussed safety management in their organizations. Topics included bringing stakeholders together to manage change, safety leadership and the importance of listening to people, non-punitive reporting, the importance of respect and trust for effective collaboration, and the need for continuous learning. Stewart Murphy, Air Navigation Services (ANS) Safety Manager at Global Aerospace Logistics (GAL), valued the discussion, noting, "I wasn't that familiar with the SM ICG before this event. This is an incredible collection of safety minds. It is a rare opportunity for safety professionals to gather to talk safety in this way."

Mike Reinert, System Performance and Development Branch Manager in the FAA Aircraft Certification Service and 2017 SM ICG Chair, thanked industry participants and encouraged them to visit SM ICG content on SKYbrary, concluding, "We want to continue to develop new products. Some are to help States and their regulatory bodies, some are for industry, and others are for both. Thank you for sharing your experience with us. We regulators learned a lot today and we welcome your feedback so that our efforts will continue to be useful to the global aviation community."

Send Feedback

The SM ICG welcomes your feedback. For further information regarding the SM ICG or to provide feedback on SM ICG products, please contact [Régine Hamelijncck](#), [Sean Borg](#), or [Mark Liptak](#).



This paper was prepared by the Safety Management International Collaboration Group (SM ICG). The purpose of the SM ICG is to promote a common understanding of Safety Management System (SMS)/State Safety Program (SSP) principles and requirements, facilitating their application across the international aviation community. In this document, the term “organization” refers to a product or service provider, operator, business, and company, as well as aviation industry organizations; and the term “authority” refers to the regulator authority, Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), National Aviation Authority (NAA), and any other relevant government agency or entity with oversight responsibility.

The current core membership of the SM ICG includes the Aviation Safety and Security Agency (AESA) of Spain, the National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC) of Brazil, the Civil Aviation Authority of the Netherlands (CAA NL), the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand (CAA NZ), the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), Civil Aviation Department of Hong Kong (CAD HK), the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) of Australia, the Direction Générale de l'Aviation Civile (DGAC) in France, the Ente Nazionale per l'Aviazione Civile (ENAC) in Italy, the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA) of Switzerland, the Finnish Transport Safety Agency (Trafi), the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA), Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB), the United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Aviation Safety Organization, Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA), United Arab Emirates General Civil Aviation Authority (UAE GCAA), and the Civil Aviation Authority of United Kingdom (UK CAA). Additionally, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is an observer to this group.

Members of the SM ICG:

- Collaborate on common SMS/SSP topics of interest
- Share lessons learned
- Encourage the progression of a harmonized SMS/SSP
- Share products with the aviation community
- Collaborate with international organizations such as ICAO and civil aviation authorities that have implemented or are implementing SMS and SSP

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