

SM ICG Showcases Canadian Aviation Industry Innovation in Vibrant Toronto

Toronto, Ontario lived up to its international reputation on May 8, with Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) hosting the 19th Safety Management International Collaboration Group (SM ICG) meeting in the city over the span of five days. 36 representatives from 17 member authorities gathered for a full day plenary session and three working meeting days, as well as an Industry Day outreach event with representatives from 32 Canadian aviation industry organizations. Industry Day marks a unique opportunity for aviation service providers in Canada to hear directly from authorities that are working together and for those authorities to receive feedback on SM ICG products. The full day session included nine presentations and an open discussion on data-informed decision making.

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. 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, Gatwick, United Kingdom, and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

François Collins, Director General of Civil Aviation at Transport Canada, kicked off the day saying, “It is pretty rare to have representatives from so many authorities and industry in one room. I am confident the collaboration and discussions that take place today will be valuable for initiating the sharing of lessons learned and achieving a common understanding of safety management principles, which upholds the spirit of SM ICG.” After opening remarks, two Transport Canada staff and seven industry representatives (Nancy Rockbrune, International Air Transport Association (IATA); Sherry Reid and Donnie O’Connor, Transport Canada; Bilal Mouralli, Independent Consultant; Josh Ogden, Aerial Vehicle Safety Solutions Inc.; Mike Hoodspith, Periculum Labs Inc.; Geert Bos, Vancouver International Airport; Larry Lachance, NAV CANADA; John Gronlund, Porter Airlines; and Slawko Borys, Air Canada Rouge) presented their experiences with and perspectives on data-informed decision making. Those briefings and speaker biographies are available for download at [https://www.aviationsafetywiki.org/index.php/Industry Day - May 2018](https://www.aviationsafetywiki.org/index.php/Industry_Day - May_2018).

Industry Day participants discussed data-informed decision making in their organizations. Topics included the value of data and safety information protection, non-punitive reporting, unstructured data, social media mining, data integration, analysis, and reporting, making sure analysis is defensible, using controlled data inputs and standardized taxonomy, safety information exchange programs, targeted inspections, and using resources in areas of greatest risk. Geert Bos, Director of Airside Operations at Vancouver International Airport, valued the discussion, urging participants to “Work with your regulator. If you do not, you might end up with a system that does not work for you. It is in your interest as a [service provider] to educate your regulator and create understanding of hazards, causes, and contributing factors.”

Claudio Trevisan, Head of Air Operations Department at the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and 2018 SM ICG Chair, gave an overview of the SM ICG and its work. He thanked industry participants and encouraged them to visit SM ICG content on SKYbrary, concluding, “The SM ICG is a unique assembly of authority experts in safety management. We want to interact with you, get feedback on our products and tools, and get insight into what tools you need or would like us to develop. We are putting into a place an industry consultation mechanism to get your input on SM ICG products under development, 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 [Claudio Trevisan](#), [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 (AES) 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 (Traf), 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
- Share products with the aviation community
- Collaborate with international organizations such as ICAO and civil aviation authorities that have implemented or are implementing SMS

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