



Altitude Deviations

STEADES High-level analysis

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STEADES

- IATA GADM-STEADES database is the world's largest repository of operational safety reports
- More than 170,000 reports submitted annually
- Over 175 member airlines

Altitude Deviation Study

- Conducted based on a specific request to analyze safety reports of altitude deviations
- Dataset includes Air Safety Reports (ASRs) from 2009 to 2013 inclusive
- 9,686 ASRs coded with the immediate effect "Altitude Deviation"



• STEADES New Member 2014

Statistical Review

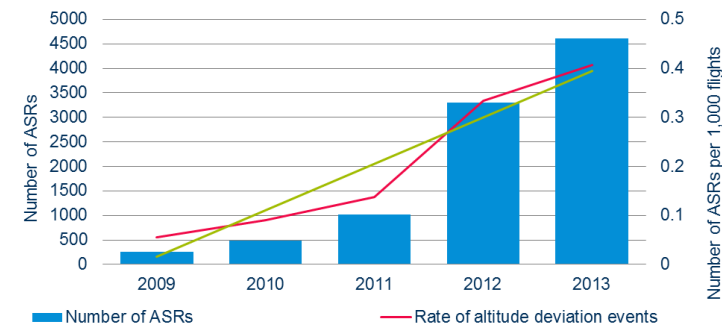
- Analysis based on descriptors and factual information submitted by the contributing airline
- Used to provide a high-level understanding of events
- Next step is to read and apply a specific taxonomy to provide an in-depth analysis of the events



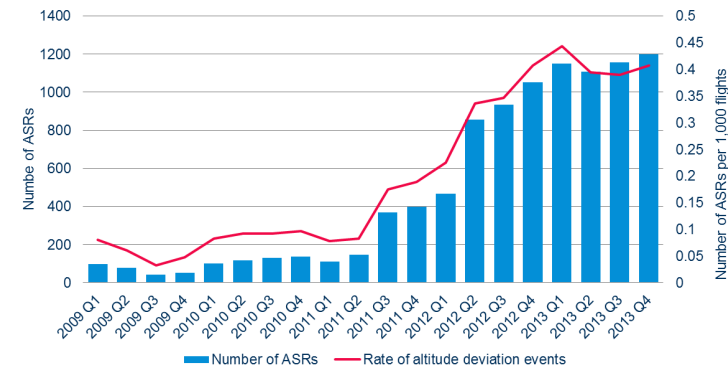
Altitude Deviations: Trend over time

- Overall rate for altitude deviation events was 0.25 reports per 1,000 flights
- Compare this to a reporting rate of all ASRs of 15.4 per 1,000
- Increasing number of ASRs and increasing trend

Altitude Deviations - Year Trend



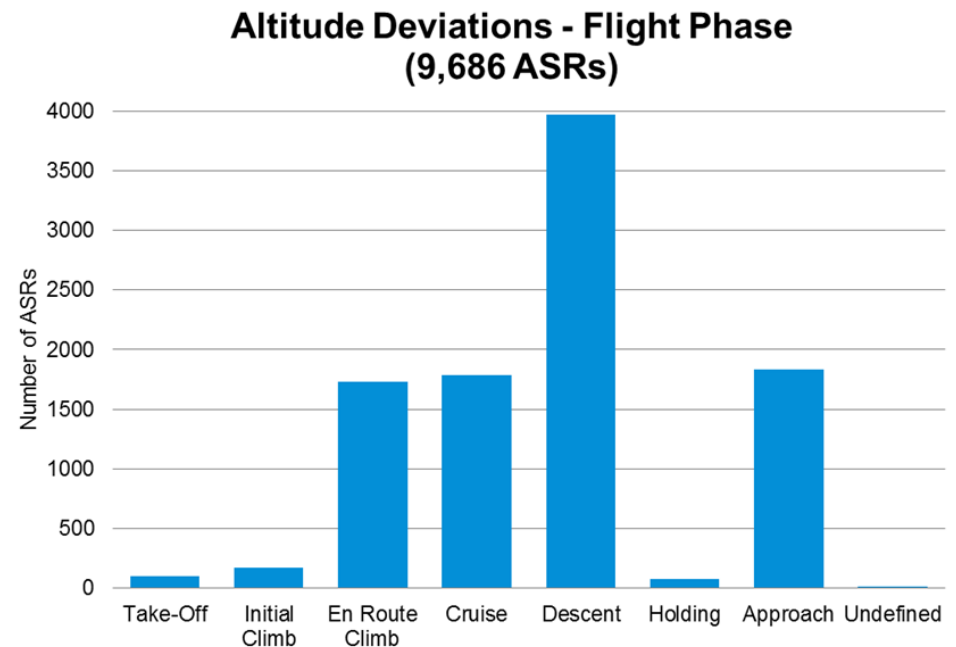
Altitude Deviations - Quarterly Trend



Altitude Deviations: Flight Phases

➤ Most common phases of flight:

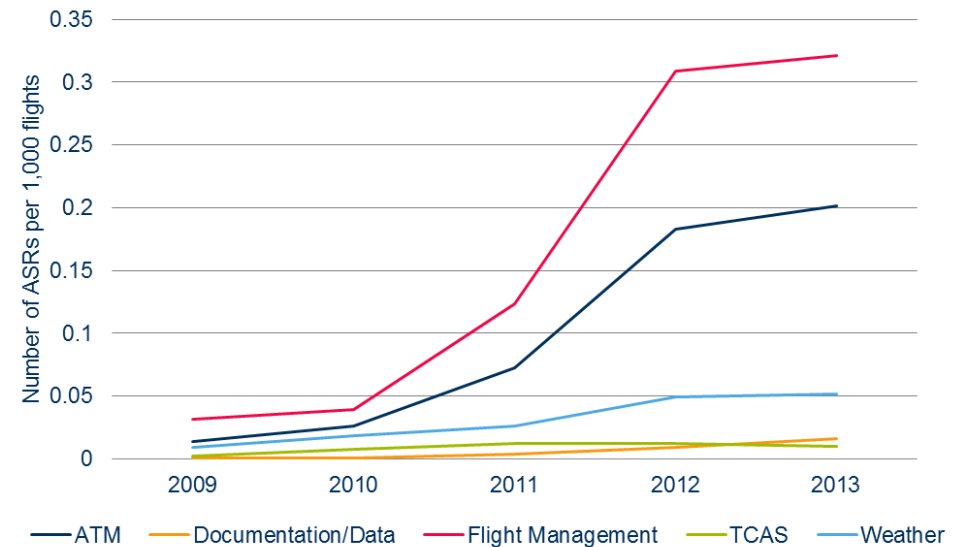
- 41% Descent
- 19% Approach
- 18% Cruise
- 17% En Route Climb



Altitude Deviations: Contributing Factors

- Determined through analysis of text descriptors applied to the narrative submitted by the airline
- Top contributing factors:
 - 82% Flight Management
 - 50% ATM
 - 14% Weather
 - 4% TCAS
 - 3% Documentation/Data

Rate of Contributing Factors for Altitude deviations



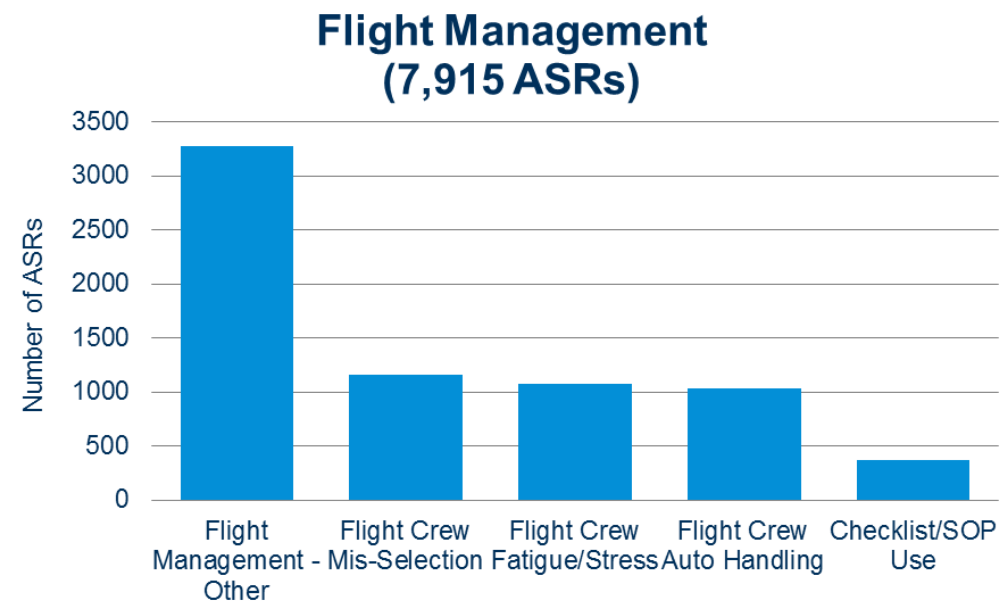
Altitude Deviations: Flight Management

➤ Flight Management

- 41% Flight Management - Other
- 15% Flight Crew Mis-Selection
- 14% Flight Crew Fatigue/Stress
- 13% Flight Crew Auto Handling
- 5% Checklist/SOP Use

➤ Flight Crew Mis-selection:

- Incorrect altimeter setting
- Incorrect altitude input
- FMC/MCDU programming error or mode selection



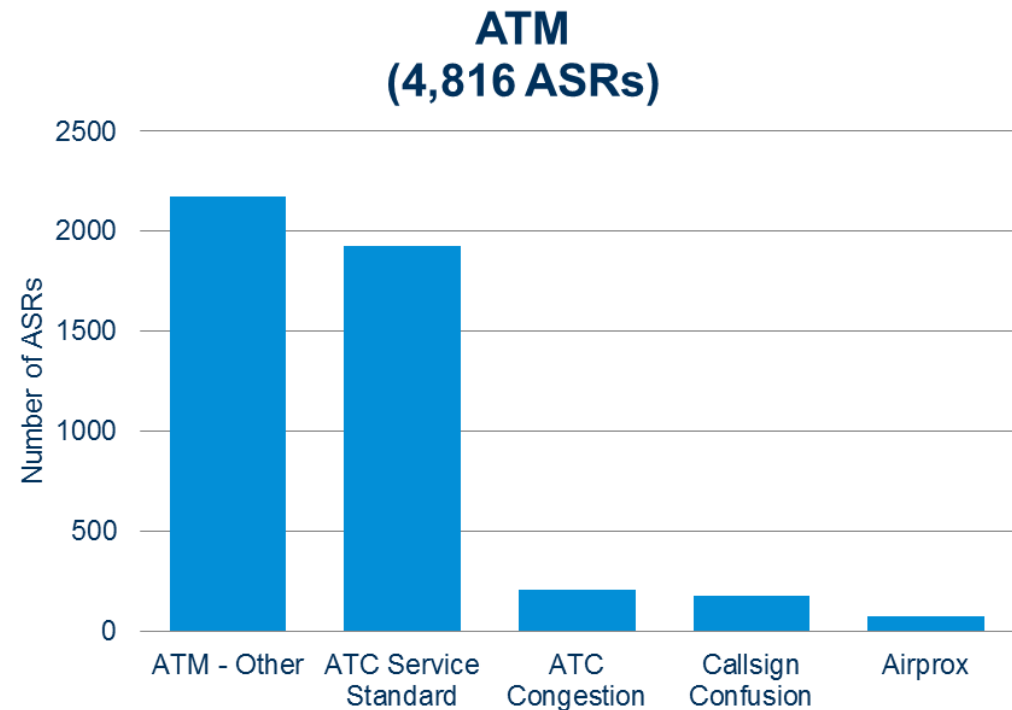
Altitude Deviations: Air Traffic Management

➤ Air Traffic Management

- 45% ATM – Other
- 40% ATC Service Standard
- 4% ATC Congestion
- 4% Callsign Confusion
- 2% Airprox

➤ ATM Service Standard:

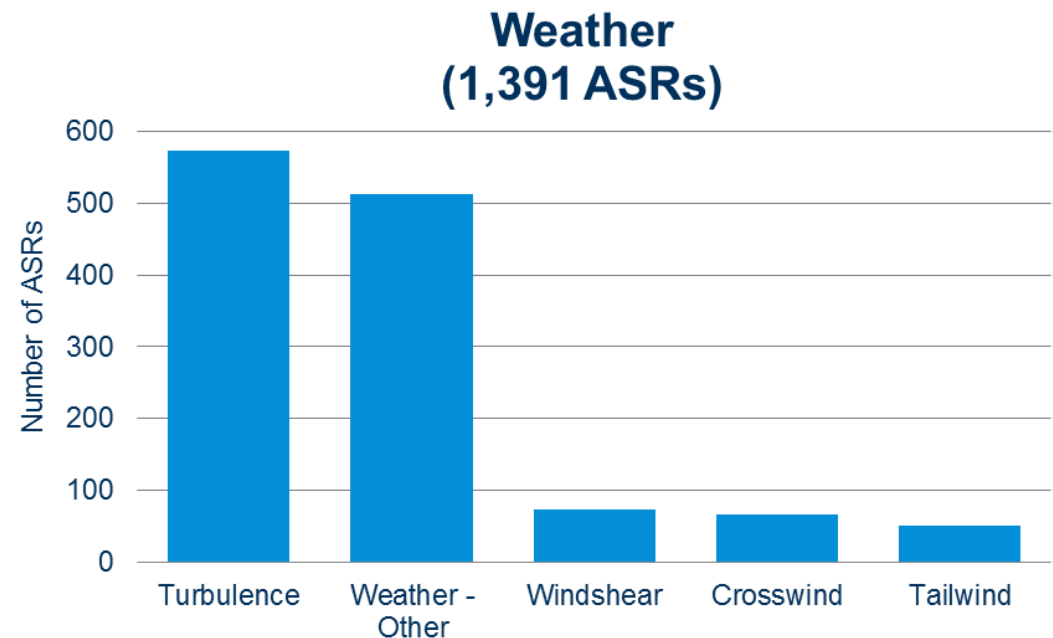
- Confusing clearances
- Late changes to clearances



Altitude Deviations: Weather

↗ Weather

- ↗ 41% Turbulence
- ↗ 37% Weather - Other
- ↗ 5% Windshear
- ↗ 5% Crosswind
- ↗ 4% Tailwind



Altitude Deviations: Other Effects

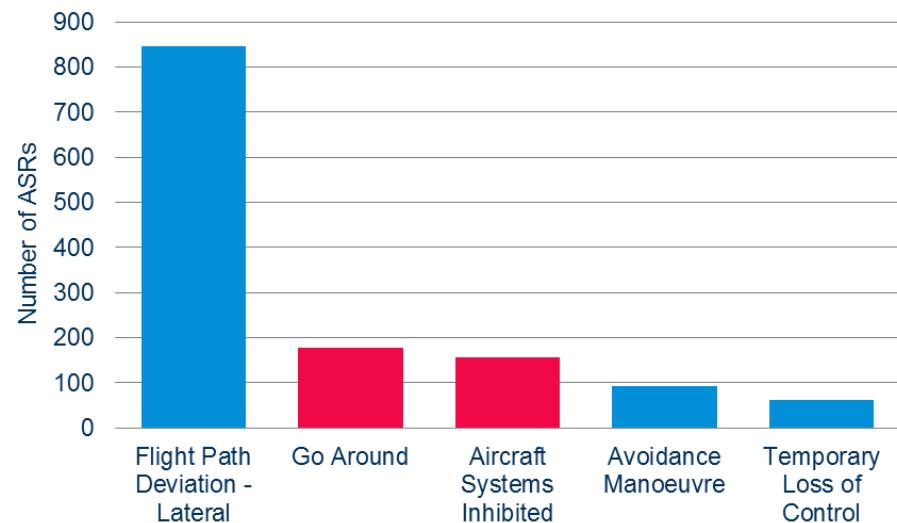
➤ Effects on Operations

- 68% Flight Path Deviation - Lateral
- 7% Avoidance Manoeuvre
- 5% Temporary Loss of Control

➤ Contributing Events

- 14% Go Around
- 12% Aircraft Systems Inhibited

**Altitude Deviations - Immediate Effect
(1,252 ASRs)**



Altitude Deviations: Recommendations

➤ IOSA Standards Manual Ed.7

FLT 3.11.28 The Operator shall have policies, procedures and guidance that address altitude awareness, to include:

- i) Instructions for the use of automated or verbal flight crew altitude callouts and any other actions to be taken by the flight crew to maintain altitude awareness;
- ii) Policies and/or procedures for the avoidance of altitude deviations;
- iii) Policies and/or procedures that address call sign confusion during altitude clearance acceptance and readback;
- iv) Instructions for the flight crew to report the cleared flight level on first contact with ATC, unless specifically requested not to do so by ATC. (GM)



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to represent, lead and serve the airline industry