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MAKE BUSINESS AVIATION SAFETY YOUR TOP PRIORITY

2019 Top Safety Focus Areas

www.nbaa.org/safety-focus

NBAA's Top Safety Focus Areas for 2019 highlight a set of priorities in support of a greater commitment to business aviation safety standards. Identified through the NBAA Safety Committee's data-driven risk assessment process, these focus areas are a tool for safety-enhancing initiatives within all business aircraft operations. For full descriptions and resources, visit www.nbaa.org/safety-focus.

TOP SAFETY ISSUES

Reduce the Risk of Loss of Control Inflight (LOC-I)

Loss of control inflight (LOC-I) accidents result in more fatalities throughout general aviation than any other category of accident. The alarming consistency of catastrophic outcomes in this type of accident continue to make its contributing factors a targeted issue for safety improvement by NBAA and aviation professional organizations across the globe.

Reduce the Risk of Runway Excursions

Runway excursions are the most common business aviation accident. By recognizing well-identified risk factors, overcoming resistance to going around when necessary and adhering to stabilized approach and landing criteria, as well as using accurate, timely runway condition data, these are highly preventable accidents.

Reduce the Risk of Controlled Flight into Terrain (CFIT)

Controlled Flight into Terrain (CFIT) has occurred in more than 15 percent of general aviation accidents and fatalities. Enhanced Ground Proximity Warning Systems (EGPWS) and other ground collision avoidance systems are exceptionally capable technological solutions, but not all business aviation aircraft are so equipped. NBAA continues to raise awareness, push for scenario-based training, and spark discussions on technology and best practices to reduce the risk of CFIT.

Reduce the Risk of Aircraft Ground Operation and Handling Incidents

Within business aviation, far more aircraft suffer damage on the ground than in the air. Although these events rarely result in serious injuries or loss of life, they can be very expensive and hinder, if not cancel altogether, any ensuing flight operations. NBAA encourages the adoption of robust Safety Management Systems (SMS) among all operators and FBOs which would include enhanced standards, training, and procedures to prevent avoidable mishaps on ramps and in hangars.

Improve the Safety Performance of Single-Pilot Operations

Single pilot operations have enhanced risks when compared to multi-pilot operations, demonstrated by the fact that single pilot aircraft are 30 percent more likely to be involved in an accident than aircraft with dual pilot crews. Single pilot operations are more susceptible to task saturation; when that increases, so too does the number of errors. The Safety Committee has an important role to play in arming pilots with tools and training to safely manage single-pilot operations.

Increase Use & Sharing of Human-Reported and Automated Safety Data

Human-reported and automated safety data can provide a wealth of information to business aircraft operators. However, without operators utilizing or providing data, these critical failures can go unnoticed, resulting in incidents and potentially loss of life. The Safety Committee is developing tools to promote the use and sharing of data among business aircraft operators not already doing so.

Improve Defenses Against Automation Mismanagement

To take full advantage of modern aviation technology, crews must have a full understanding of all its modes and capabilities, as well as the training to understand when it is not producing the desired outcome. Over-reliance and over-dependence on cockpit automation can induce complacency and a reluctance to actively monitor aircraft flight path and performance, as well as disconnect the automation when it is prudent to do so.

FOUNDATIONS FOR SAFETY

Operation-wide commitment to the adoption of these core principles is the basis of a proactive and effective safety system.

Professionalism

Professionalism is the pursuit of excellence through discipline, ethical behavior and continuous improvement. It is a cornerstone focus of active safety management where professional behaviors rule and safe actions become a byproduct.

Safety Leadership

The entire organization must work together to fully embrace a proactive safety mindset supported by a “just culture” and evidenced by not only participation and belief in the culture, but the willingness to share safety data with fellow aviation professionals.

Technical Excellence

The common denominator for excellence in aviation decision-making and risk management is training. Training programs need to address the skill sets required of business aviation professionals today in a way that teaches them new skills and sharpens old ones.

Risk Management

On a daily basis, business aviation operators must effectively identify, analyze and eliminate or mitigate the hazards and associated risks that threaten the viability of the organizations for which they operate.

Fitness for Duty

In a physically and mentally demanding environment, a clear mind and healthy body is essential to safe business aircraft operation, maintenance and management. Operators must address fatigue, sleep apnea, improper use of medications and many other physical and psychological aeromedical issues.



NBAA

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ABOUT NBAA

Founded in 1947, the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) is the leading organization for companies that rely on general aviation aircraft to help make their businesses more efficient, productive and successful. Join today by visiting www.nbaa.org/join.

ABOUT THE SAFETY COMMITTEE

NBAA and its Safety Committee published the 2019 Top Safety Focus Areas to provide business aircraft operators with the awareness, knowledge and tools for achieving even higher standards of aviation safety. The safety focus areas were developed with input from government agencies, industry associations, regional groups and other NBAA standing committees. To share feedback, contact NBAA at ops@nbaa.org, or review additional safety resources at www.nbaa.org/safety.