



## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Friday, October 31, 2003

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I want to thank all of the members of the Staten Island ferry investigation team, including **Investigator-in-Charge Bob Ford, Bill Woody, Brian Curtis, Rob Jones, Morgan Turrell, Barry Strauch, Luke Schiada, Brian Fiffick, Doug Brazy, Bob Barlett, Ted Lopatkiewicz, Keith Holloway, Paul Schlamm, and Chris Julius.**

The accident aboard the Andrew Barberi, which now has 10 fatalities and more than 70 injuries, illustrates the importance of the Board's mission. This, the third major marine

accident this year, illustrates the need for NTSB staffing to be supported in all modal departments.

We will aggressively pursue our safety mission in all of the modes during my tenure as Chairman. The bar must be raised so that all safety areas—rail, pipelines, marine, aviation and highways—receive our constant attention and resources, our expertise and our commitment to safety.

*Ellen G. Engleman*

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for  
NTSB  
Outreach  
Activities

### NTSB INVESTIGATES THE *ANDREW J. BARBERI* FERRY ACCIDENT



On October 15th the NTSB launched an investigation team, led by Investigator-in-Charge **Bob Ford**, to the accident scene of the Staten Island passenger ferry *Andrew J. Barberi* that struck a pier at the St. George Terminal. There were 10 passengers killed and over 70 injuries.

To date, the team has conducted 57 witness interviews of

crewmembers, passengers (including interviews of injured passengers in local hospitals), NYPD police and FDNY first responders, and company officials. In addition, the team has tested the steering and propulsion systems and examined the navigation equipment on board the *Andrew J. Barberi*. During these tests, the team also witnessed the operation of the transfer system passing control from engine room to wheelhouse, and from wheelhouse to wheelhouse. The tests verified that the equipment and systems performed as designed. Further, the team has examined the Ferry *Samuel I Newhouse* (sistership to the Barberi), and completed three round trip transits over the ferry

route to observe ferry operations. The team completed preliminary surveys of damages to the vessel and to the dock.

Chairman Engleman served as the spokesman and **Ted Lopatkiewicz, Keith Holloway** and **Paul Schlamm** were on hand from media affairs.



David Clark, Paul Schlamm, Captain Craig Bone, Ted Lopatkiewicz, and Bob Ford join Chairman Engleman at a press briefing at St. George's Terminal on Staten Island.

## NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES



### Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season

The TSP Open Season began October 15th and ends December 31, 2003. During this open season period, employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the

Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) may elect to begin contributing to TSP; change the amount that they are contributing to TSP; or stop their TSP contributions (without losing the right to begin contributing again at the next TSP open season). The TSP forms are available on-line at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov), through the Human Resources Division (HR), or your Regional/Field Administrative Staff Assistant. You may submit your election through the Employee Express System at [www.employeeexpress.gov](http://www.employeeexpress.gov) or by submitting your completed election form (TSP-1, dated 08/2002) to HR..

### On the Hill...

Chairman Engleman met with Congressman Vito Fossella, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Hillary Clinton and Senator Patty Murray to discuss the NTSB investigation of the Staten Island Ferry accident.



### Member John Goglia Receives Award



Member John Goglia received the 2003 SAE Aerospace Chair Award. This award is sponsored by the SAE Aerospace Program office and is given to recognize outstanding leadership demonstrated by chairs of committees under the Aerospace Council and Air & Space Group.

### Live Intranet Videocast of TWA 800 Reassembly

A live video cast of the reassembly of the wreckage of TWA Flight 800 is now available on the NTSB intranet at <http://inside/services/techserv/videocast.htm>. On Tuesday, October 21, the first pieces of wreckage arrived at the NTSB Academy. The entire reassembly is expected to be completed in early December 2003. Special thanks to **Chris Stephens, Jim Cash, Ray Smith, Antion Downs, Will Skolochenko** and **Candi Murphy** for handling the technical aspects of the videocast. The videocast will be compressed and used as a training tool.

### NTSB OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

**Oregon Lifesavers Conference – Member Carol Carmody** addressed the Oregon Lifesavers Conference and met with State officials in various modes of transportation to discuss the Board's recommendations and their needs.

**Wisconsin PFD Bill –** The Wisconsin Assembly Natural Resources Committee voted to recommend adoption of a PFD bill (AB 297). The bill is now before the Assembly Rules Committee. This bill would require children age 12 and under to wear a PFD, consistent with the Board's recommendation.

### Chairman Engleman and Member Goglia Meet With Safety Partners

Chairman Ellen Engleman, **Member John Goglia**, and **David Clark** visited the New York Port Authority at JFK Airport to observe their Air Train system and the AMASS System on their short runway. While there, they toured the Air Train Communications Center, toured one of the new Air Train cars, and were given a presentation on the design and safety features of the AMASS. Since the AMASS implementation in April 2002, two flights were saved from potential catastrophic disaster.

