



## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Friday, April 2, 2004

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Air Cargo Safety Forum was a resounding success. Held as the first forum topic for the new NTSB Academy in Ashburn, Virginia, over 160 representatives from industry, unions, manufacturers, and other interested parties joined together for a day and a half of informative, challenging and in-depth presentations and discussions.

Four core topics were presented: Current State of the Cargo Industry, Operational Issues, Human Factors and Regulatory Issues. The complete forum can be viewed on the NTSB

website via our webcast archives at [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov). Proceedings will also be available on the website soon.

The success of this event reflects the dedication of all involved to the open discussion of an important safety topic. This was a perfect beginning for the new NTSB academy to serve as a sanctuary for open discussion, debate and information on aviation and other transportation topics.

*Ellen Engleman Conners*

### Air Cargo Safety Forum Showcases NTSB Academy

The NTSB Academy hosted 166 attendees at the Air Cargo Safety Forum on March 30th and 31st. This forum was dedicated to fostering discussion between industry and government about safety issues affecting the U.S. air cargo industry.



David Cann, Aircraft Maintenance Division Manager for the FAA, addresses participants in the Air Cargo Safety Forum at the NTSB Academy in Ashburn, Virginia.

**Joe Sedor (AS)** organized and moderated the forum, which included 16 presentations on topics ranging from fatigue and human factors to standardization of cargo loading. Chairman **Ellen Engleman Conners**, **Vice Chairman Mark Rosenker** and **Member Dick Healing** welcomed the participants to the event, which was the first public forum to be held at the Academy.

Presenters included the Air Line Pilots Association, the Airline Professional Association, the FAA, FedEx, Flight Safety Foundation, Hawaiian Airlines, the Independent Pilots Association, the National Air Carrier Association, the Regional Airline Association and fatigue specialist Dr. Mark Rosekind of Alertness Solutions.

The entire Forum was archived for webcast, which is now available on the NTSB home page.

## NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES

### New Engineering Lab opens

The Office of Research and Engineering (RE) held an open house on April 1st to showcase their new, state-of-the-art laboratory in the NTSB's Washington, DC headquarters. Staff members from RE gave tours of the facilities and demonstrated the wide ranging capabilities of the lab. The remodeling took three months to complete at a cost of \$500,000.



**David Clark** and Chairman Ellen Engleman Conners get a tour of the new lab from Research and Engineering staffer **Bill Rossey**

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**Barbara Czech (MD)** and **Vern Ellingstad (RE)** worked closely together to find work space for the RE staff, who were displaced during construction.

### On the Hill...

Chairman Engleman Conners, **David Clark** and **Dan Campbell** met with key Senate Appropriations Staff to discuss the NTSB FY 2005 Budget request. They are currently working with NTSB senior staff to respond to specific questions from the committee staff.

**David Clark** also met with the office of Senator Dorgan to discuss NTSB recommendations on rail safety, and Senate Commerce Committee staff to discuss the NTSB's Transportation Disaster Assistance program in Amtrak rail accidents. Special thanks to **Dan Campbell**, **Bob Chipkevich**, and **Sharon Bryson** for their assistance.

The Office of Government and Industry Affairs also worked with **Elaine Weinstein** and **Bruce Magladry** to provide Congresswoman Lowey's office with recommendations regarding hours of service rules.

The Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing on the nomination of Debbie Hersman to become an NTSB Board Member.



### NTSB Attends ITSA Meeting in the Netherlands



**Vice Chairman Mark Rosenker**, **Elaine Weinstein** and other attendees listen as Dutch Transport Safety Board Chairman Pieter van Vollenhoven discusses the importance of independent safety boards.

The International Transportation Safety Association (ITSA) held its 10th anniversary meeting in the Netherlands last week. The purpose of ITSA is to improve transportation safety by learning from the experience of others. Countries in attendance included Australia, Canada, the Commonwealth of Independent States, Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Taiwan, the US, and New Zealand. **Vice Chairman Mark Rosenker** led the US delegation on behalf of Chairman Ellen Engleman Conners. Other NTSB participants included **Elaine Weinstein**, Director, Office of Safety Recommendations and Accomplishments; **David Clark**, Director, Government and Industry Affairs; and **Tom Doyle**, Special Assistant to the Vice Chairman. The NTSB will host the next ITSA meeting on March 9-11, 2005 at the NTSB Academy.

### NTSB Bar Association Meets in Washington Headquarters

The NTSB Bar Association held their annual conference in the NTSB's Washington, DC Board room this week. Chairman Ellen Engleman Conners and Board Members **Carol Carmody** and **John Goglia** addressed the group, and **Judges William Fowler** and **Patrick Geraghty** made presentations. **Dan Campbell** provided an overview of the TWA 800 investigation and tour of the Academy. The NTSB Bar Association consists of private and government attorneys who appear before the Board in FAA initiated legal proceedings.