



News Release

For immediate Release: 6/25/2007

NBC Media Contacts:	Donald R. Swain	Terri Raines
	National Business Center	National Business Center
	Phone: (202) 219-0259	Phone: (703) 390-6624
	Fax: (202) 208-7894	Fax: (703) 390-6781

DOI's National Business Center Moves to Enhance Aviation Safety in Alaska

NBC's Aviation Management Directorate Joins the Alaska Medallion Foundation

Anchorage, Alaska – In a June 12, 2007 signing ceremony, at its Alaska Regional Office in Anchorage, the Department of the Interior National Business Center's (NBC) Aviation Management Directorate (AMD) joined the Alaska Medallion Foundation for the purpose of improving the Department's flight safety program and to support further reductions in the overall aviation accident rate in Alaska. Signing on behalf of the NBC was Harry Kieling, Alaska Regional Director, also attending the ceremony was Hans Neidig, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior for Alaska.

By joining the Foundation, AMD becomes the first Federal entity to become an Active Shield and Star Participant. AMD owns and operates over fifty aircraft in Alaska and manages over 60 DOI fleet pilots based in Alaska. AMD has agreed to start the Shield Program by pursuing the CFIT star program with the goal of improving flight safety training

"NBC's relationship with the Medallion Foundation is an important addition to our overall aviation safety program. We are committed to seek the best, safest, and most efficient processes and methods to improve the way we do our business. AMD's bottom line business is **Safety.**"
Doug Bourgeois, Director,
NBC



News Release

through the use of Medallion's PC based ATD flight simulators. These simulators are unique in that they house databases which contain and reproduce the ground terrain and flight conditions that pilots encounter across the diverse Alaska air space.

During the planning process, AMD agreed that it would join the Medallion Foundation only if there was benefit to both Medallion and DOI. Medallion benefits through its affiliation with a Federal Government fleet operator with an outstanding safety record and focus. AMD's immediate benefit comes from the addition of a state of the art but regionally focused training tool for DOI fleet pilots. In the longer term, AMD is exploring methods to encourage the numerous Alaska based aviation contract operators that support the DOI mission to become participating members of the Medallion Foundation and its safety improvement programs.

The Medallion Foundation is a unique safety centered non-profit organization overseen by the Federal Aviation Administration and currently only operates in Alaska. The Foundation was formally chartered in November 2001 to counter the alarming accident rate of general aviation and FAR Part 135, Commercial Air Taxi Operators in the State of Alaska. It developed the Medallion Shield Program which is a Safety Management System based on business practices. In order to earn the Medallion Shield, members must complete and be audited on the five Star supporting programs. These sub-programs are the Safety Program, the Controlled Flight in Terrain (CFIT) avoidance training program, Operation Control, Maintenance and Ground Service, and the Internal Audit Program. Achieving each of the stars represents demonstration of proper processes proven to enhance aviation safety and reduce aviation accidents. Over 75 Alaska aviation organizations have joined the program and some like Alaska Airlines have achieved all five stars.



News Release

About the NBC - Quality customer service, innovation, and best value are the cornerstones of the NBC. For over 30 years, the NBC has been supporting federal government agencies as a Shared Service provider, establishing world class business management systems and services. NBC's portfolio of services include: Budget and Finance systems and services, Human Resources and Payroll services, Training Services, Acquisition Services, Appraisal Services, Aviation Management Services, Information Technology Services, as well as Administrative Support Services to support Drug and Alcohol Testing. Our workforce of dedicated professionals with unsurpassed knowledge of federal business practices, along with our ability to leverage government and commercial best practices, allows us to service our customer base of more than 150 government agencies. For additional information about the NBC see,

<http://www.nbc.gov/organization.html>

For additional information about AMD's involvement with the Medallion Foundation you can contact Harry Kieling, Alaska Regional Director at Harry_Kieling@nbc.gov. Additional information about the Medallion Foundation can be found at their web site,

<http://www.medallionfoundation.org/>