



## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Friday, July 25, 2003

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

A key avenue for success in achieving our safety mission is partnering with stakeholders who share our vision for multi-modal safety issues. This week's activities by Board members included successful meetings with the American Association of Airport Executives, the Century Council, ATA, Amtrak, the National Safe Boating Council and NASA to discuss both areas of collaboration and cooperation as well as technical briefings.

Such continued communication will support partnering in safety as

well as expand the NTSB's ability to successfully achieve implementation of our recommendations. But such partnerships are not limited to outside resources. The NTSB must continually strive to ensure that our internal divisions are working together to achieve our goals. That includes administrative areas – legal, contract, human resources financial along with the investigation teams, our state advocacy groups and media and public affairs.

As we continue to develop the NTSB Academy courses and programs, it is important that all of

the NTSB assist in creating a world-class product. A great example is the launch of a successful marine investigation course this week (see inside story).

*Ellen G. Engleman*

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for  
NTSB  
Successes

### NTSB AND THE CENTURY COUNCIL WORK TO PREVENT DRUNK DRIVING

“We want to prevent those phone calls that families receive informing them that a loved one has been killed in a crash involving a drunk driver,” said Chairman Engleman.

Chairman Engleman, Elaine Weinstein, Kevin Quinlan and David Clark met this week with former Congresswoman Susan Molinari, now Chairman of the Century Council. The Century Council was organized to fight drunk driving and underage drinking.

During the meeting, Chairman Engleman commended the Century Council for its efforts in the States to enact legislation consistent with the Board's recommendations on hard-core drinking drivers.

The NTSB and the Century Council agreed to be partners in safety and tackle important initiatives that support their shared goals and closing NTSB recommendations.



Chairman Engleman and Susan Molinari met to discuss hard core drinking drivers and underage drinking issues.

## NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES



**Blood Drive**—The NTSB will sponsor a blood drive September 18th from 9:00am-2:30pm in the NTSB Conference Center. For more information please contact **Kathleen Chu-Wun** at 202-314-6572 or **Cynthia Keegan** at 202-314-6390.

**Coming Soon to a Computer Near You...E-Learning**—The NTSB has entered into a partnership with GoLearn.gov to deliver simplified, one-stop access to high quality e-training products and services to all employees. Through GoLearn.gov you can take online courses 24 hours a day and 7 days a week in business and leadership, as well as many technical areas. The site contains thousands of on-line courses, a registration desk, help desk, e-books, a resource center, and much more. Within the next couple of weeks, you will receive a pre-registration email welcoming you to the GoLearn.gov site along with instructions on how to register to access their services. Additional information about GoLearn.gov will be provided to you in the near future. Welcome to E-Learning!

## On the Hill...



- The House Appropriations Committee reported out the Transportation Appropriations Bill, which includes NTSB's appropriations for FY 2004.

- The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee unveiled their six-year Highway and Transit spending outline.

## NTSB SUCCESSES

**Office of Aviation Safety**—**Mr. Bob Benzon** has been assigned as the Chief of the Major Investigations Division (AS-10). Mr. Benzon has been the Deputy Chief of AS-10 for over two years. Since joining the NTSB in 1984 he has investigated close to 90 aviation accidents. Mr. Benzon was the lead investigator assisting with the NASA investigation of the shuttle *Columbia*. He is currently the Investigator in Charge of the crash of the AA flight 587 in New York.

**NTSB Academy**—Congratulations to the Office of Marine Safety for a well done delivery of its new industry training program, "*Overview of Marine Accident Investigation Process*." **Dr. Barry Strauch** coordinated the course; in addition to Dr. Strauch, MS presenters included **Marjorie Murtagh**, **Bob Ford**, **Tom Roth-Roffy** and **Jim Scheffer**. A tour of the materials lab was provided at the end of the day and half course. Thanks to **Jim Wildey**, **Kristin Poland** and **Anna Cushman** for their informative presentations in the lab.

## STATE ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

**Hawaii Improves Recreational Boating Laws**—Governor Linda Lingle signed legislation this week that will require children under age 13 to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs), satisfying the intent of Safety Recommendation M-93-1. Hawaii has also recently made it mandatory for operators and passengers of thrill crafts (such as jet skis and other personal water craft) to wear PFDs. With this new rule, Hawaii has satisfied Safety Recommendation M-98-102.

**National Safe Boating Council Board Meeting**—Vice Chairman Rosenker and **Bill Gossard** attended the National Safe Boating Council Board meeting in Manassas, Virginia, July 18-19. The Canadian Safe Boating Council (CSBC) Chair indicated that in August 2003, a research organization would present a report to their Board on PFD's. It has been suggested that the report and CSBC action may greatly expand PFD use in Canada and may surpass the effort in the U.S. which to date has focused only on children.