

THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Friday, June 18, 2004

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This week marks both an ending and a new beginning. The National Transportation Safety Board bids a fond farewell to John Goglia with our appreciation for his dedication and service of the last nine years. It is a privilege to call John Goglia both a colleague and a friend. John CARES, and that is his strength. John brought key issues to the safety debate including the importance of maintenance and aircraft rescue fire fighting (ARFF). Both issues are a permanent part of the NTSB's focus.

We will welcome Debbie Hersman on June 21st as the new NTSB Board member. Debbie will bring her talents and skills and design her own contributions to our aggressive pursuit of safety. Endings and beginnings -- the change of watch brings strength to the NTSB and supports our mission for safety.

Ellen Engleman Conners

Member John Goglia Retires From Board



John J. Goglia

On June 20th, John J. Goglia will retire after nearly nine years as a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board. He has served as a Member since August 1995. With more than 30 years experience in the aviation industry, he is the first Board Member to hold an FAA aircraft mechanic's certificate.

Mr. Goglia has distinguished himself in numerous areas of transportation safety. In particular, he has been instrumental in raising awareness of airport safety issues, including the importance of airport crash fire and rescue operations and the dangers of wildlife at airports. He has played a key role in focusing international attention on the increasing significance of aircraft maintenance in aviation accidents. He has pressed successfully for greater integration of civilian and military safety information, becoming a featured speaker at national aviation symposiums attended by military leaders and major defense contractors.

He has worked diligently to ensure that families receive timely and forthright information following transportation accidents. In recognition of his dedication to helping grieving families, the National Air Disaster Alliance awarded him its 2001 Aviation Safety Award. In addition, he was awarded a 2003 Aviation Week & Space Technology Laurel for his significant accomplishments on the Board.

NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES

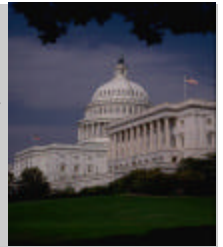


NTSB Supports E-Government Initiatives!

SafetyJobs, a new web-based recruitment and job application system for the NTSB, will be in operation on June 22, 2004. The new system brings technological sophistication to recruitment efforts as well as consistency to the method and approach of announcing and filling jobs. The goal in implementing **SafetyJobs** is to improve timeliness and customer service, and will simplify the recruitment and job application process.

On the Hill...

Paul Sledzik and **Erik Grosf** of Transportation Disaster Assistance participated in a Mass Casualty/Mass Fatality Emergency Preparedness Seminar hosted by the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness for the Senate Sergeant at Arms at the Dirksen Senate Office building. The June 18th seminar addressed issues of mass fatality incident planning and response and associated family assistance issues.



Office of Highway Safety Investigates Fatal Accident

On June 14th, the Office of Highway Safety launched a team to investigate an accident in Sulphur Springs, TX that killed five people. The accident, involving three tractor-trailers and two SUVs, occurred on Interstate-30 an hour and a half after a section of the highway had been closed due to another accident that killed three. Traffic had been diverted onto a parallel service road beginning at an exit about three miles prior to the original accident site and eventually congested both the service road and I-30. A 1991 Kenworth tractor-trailer rear-ended a stopped Hyundai Santa Fe SUV, fatally injuring all four occupants and the truck driver. These vehicles subsequently impacted another stopped tractor-trailer, then a Lincoln Navigator, and finally another tractor-trailer.



One of the vehicles that was involved in a fatal accident in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

The Office of Highway Safety launched a team from its Central Regional office in Arlington, Texas to investigate this accident. The team consists of **David Rayburn**, **Jennifer Russert**, **Dan Walsh**, **Hank Hughes**, **Burt Simon**, **Robert Accetta**, and **Mark Bagnard**.

NTSB Testifies Before House Subcommittee on Highways, Transit and Pipelines

On June 16th, **Bob Chipkevich** represented the NTSB when he testified before the House Subcommittee on Highways, Transit and Pipelines. The NTSB joined the Department of Transportation's Inspector General and the Government Accounting Office in giving the Research and Special Programs Administration's Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) high marks for addressing NTSB open safety recommendations. Since February 2002, OPS has closed 32 safety recommendations, all Acceptable Action. The remaining 10 recommendations to OPS are all classified as Open — Acceptable Action.



The NTSB's Bob Chipkevich (far left) listens to testimony from DOT Inspector General Ken Mead