



Friday, January 14, 2005

THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The President's Management Agenda (PMA) has provided a map for improving the management of Federal agencies since its introduction in the summer of 2001. Strategic Management of Human Capital is one key element of the PMA, and this week, the NTSB continues to invest in our greatest resource -- our employees.

David Mayer will assume a new position as Deputy Managing Director. His responsibilities will include enhancement of the NTSB's fiscal management, improved procurement oversight, cost reduction and ensuring that budget planning for each department is timely with a key focus on planning, performance and results.

Jim Arena will assume the new position of Director, Strategic and Intergovernmental Operation. This position will focus on key intergovernmental and interagency relationships, support the development of MOU's and MOA's where needed, and monitor our continued need to improve security and maintain our COOP programs. It will also include oversight of the NTSB's continued development of our Hispanic initiatives and executive internship program.

Congratulations to David and Jim on their new positions, and thanks to the 424 other employees of the NTSB who have dedicated their lives to making transportation safer.

Ellen Engleman Conners

Helicopter Crash Investigated at NTSB Academy



NTSB investigators examine the wreckage of a helicopter in the lab at the NTSB Academy.

Wyoming on January 11th killed three more. These three accidents bring the number of air ambulance crashes in the last year to 14, with 12 killed. Since 2002, 45 crashes involving air ambulances have killed 21 people.

Wreckage from the crash was brought to the laboratory at the NTSB Academy in Ashburn, Virginia for further examination. An initial examination of the wreckage showed no obvious pre-impact mechanical malfunctions. The wreckage was cleaned and laid out in the lab for a detailed examination of its nose, cabin area, skids, and rotor blades. The Academy's laboratory facility was specially constructed with a high-capacity crane and reinforced concrete floor to house and lay out accident materials for investigation.

The NTSB's Office of Aviation Safety is investigating the crash of an air ambulance helicopter in Oxon Hill, Maryland on January 10th. A Eurocopter EC-135 belonging to LifeNet/Air Methods was returning from a medical evacuation flight when it crashed in the Potomac River, killing two of the three crew members. **Jill Andrews** from the Northeast Regional Office in Parsippany, New Jersey has been assigned as the Investigator-in-Charge and is leading a team of five in this investigation. Chairman Engleman Conners acted as spokesman at the scene of the accident.

This crash was one of three fatal air ambulance-related accidents in the past 10 days. On the night of January 5th, a Bell 206 helicopter, also operated by Air Methods, crashed in Mississippi immediately after take off, killing one. A Beech King Air crash in

NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES



2004 Awards Ceremony

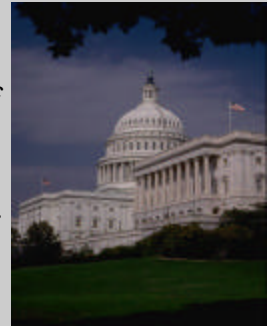
The 2004 Annual Awards Ceremony will be held in the NTSB's Board Room and Conference Center on Tuesday, March 15th at 2:00 p.m. The ceremony was previously scheduled

for March 2nd.

Award recipients will be chosen from the nominations that were received before the January 10th submission deadline.

On the Hill...

The Office of Government and Industry Affairs (GIA) updated Congressional offices and Hill staff on the NTSB's investigation into the Norfolk Southern freight train derailment in Graniteville, SC. GIA is also preparing to deliver copies of the American Airlines 587 accident report, as well as a link to the recently completed report on the 2001 Howard Street Tunnel train accident in Baltimore MD.



NTSB Employees Take on New Responsibilities

Two NTSB employees will be taking on new responsibilities at the Board. Managing Director **Dan Campbell** announced the appointment of **Dr. David L. Mayer** to the position of Deputy Managing Director and the selection of **Jim Arena** to the position of Director, Strategic and Intergovernmental Operations.



Deputy Managing Director,
Dr. David L. Mayer.

Dr. Mayer began his career at the Safety Board in 1991 in the Office of Research and Engineering. He worked on data base development and the design and management of safety studies, as well as numerous safety studies and aviation safety issues. In 1996 he accepted a position in the Office of Aviation Safety (AS). While in AS, he was extensively involved in the Board's investigation of TWA flight 800, being responsible for both investigative data management and serving as group chairman of the witnesses group. He has been working in the Office of the Managing Director since 2000, most recently as the Assistant Managing Director.

Dr. Mayer has worked on accident investigations and safety projects in all modes of transportation. He earned his doctorate in human factors from Rice University in Houston, Texas and also holds a private pilot's license.

Jim Arena came to the Safety Board in 1994 and served as the Director of the Office of Surface Transportation Safety, where he successfully managed over fifty major transportation accident investigations in the areas of highway, marine, railroad, pipeline and hazardous materials. He also served as the Associate Managing Director for Safety and Development and the Associate Managing Director for Planning and Operations.



Jim Arena, Director of Strategic and Intergovernmental Operations.

Prior to coming to the Board, Mr. Arena served for 26 years in the New Jersey State Police, with positions in highway traffic safety and emergency management. He was also appointed the Governor's Highway Safety Representative for New Jersey, during which time he was elected and served as the Chairman of the National Governor's Highway Safety Association. In his new role, he will act as the primary liaison with other Federal Agencies and Departments, representing the Safety Board in building alliances, maintaining communications channels, and ensuring coordinated mass casualty response.