

## THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Friday, February 18, 2005

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The stories in this week's Chairman's Corner reflect the multifaceted range of events and activities for the NTSB. The tragedy of the crash of a Circuit City corporate jet in Pueblo, Colorado illustrates the continuous dedication of our accident investigators who leave their homes on a moment's notice to pursue safety, and of our Transportation Disaster Assistance team who accompanies them in order to support the victims' families and their needs.

"Out of tragedy, good MUST come," is a phrase that many of you have heard in my speeches or in our NTSB outreach for safety advocacy. No better example can be shown than in the extensive work of our Safety Recommendations and Communications offices who support our safety advocacy in state legislatures throughout the country. Through their

efforts, NTSB Board Members and staff are given the opportunity to testify in support of new state legislation that will help save lives throughout our nation's transportation system and in all modes.

Lastly, in order to support our mission we must continue to be stewards of the people's money. Our CFO's office has, once again, shown that the NTSB is responsible in its use of tax dollars by the recent "green" grades by the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Management Service.

Continued dedication to our safety mission, commitment to safety advocacy and responsible stewardship -- another good week at the NTSB.

*Ellen Engleman Conners*

### NTSB Launches Team to Colorado Plane Crash

The National Transportation Safety Board launched a Go-team to the February 16th crash of a business jet near Pueblo, Colorado. Eight people were killed when the Cessna Citation 560, owned by electronics retailer Circuit City, crashed while on approach to the Pueblo Memorial Airport. The jet was enroute from Richmond, Virginia to Santa Ana, California, and had planned a refueling stop in Pueblo.

The NTSB's **Frank Hildrup** is the Investigator-in-Charge and will be leading the team of 10 during the investigation. Other team members include investigators in operations, survival



Investigators at the scene of the Cessna Citation 560 business jet crash outside of Pueblo, CO.



Chairman Engleman Conners (left) studies wreckage from a Colorado plane crash, with the NTSB's **Brian Fiffick** and **Lauren Peduzzi**.

factors, weather and engineering structures, as well as representatives from Public Affairs and the Office of Transportation Disaster Assistance. Chairman Engleman Conners acted as the spokesman during the on-scene portion of the investigation.

The cockpit voice recorder from the accident airplane, as well as another from a similar aircraft that landed in Pueblo shortly after the crash, have been flown back to the NTSB's Washington, DC Headquarters for analysis.

## NTSB ALL HANDS MESSAGES



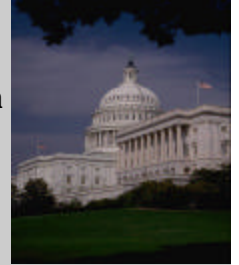
### Treasury Awards NTSB with Two Greens

The U.S. Treasury Department has awarded the NTSB two "green" ratings for its successful financial management. The Board received the awards for both the accuracy and timeliness of its financial management reporting. The Financial Management Service of the Treasury uses a traffic light grading system to rate the success of federal agencies' financial management for these two reports.

Congratulations to **Steve Goldberg** and the CFO team for receiving these awards.

### On the Hill...

The Office of Government and Industry Affairs (GIA) accompanied Member **Debbie Hersman** and **Tom Haueter** from the Office of Aviation Safety to a briefing with New Jersey Congressman Steve Rothman regarding a corporate jet accident in Teterboro, NJ. Additionally, Managing Director **Dan Campbell**, CFO **Steve Goldberg** and the GIA's **Cheryl McCullough** attended a budget briefing with the Senate Commerce Committee to discuss the Board's 2006 authorization. GIA also received and distributed H.R. 3, the newly reintroduced five-year Highway Bill, and S. 230, the Rail Safety Bill, to Board staff.



## State Advocacy Efforts in Full Swing

NTSB Board Members and staff from the Office of Safety Recommendations and Communications (SRC) have been actively involved in helping state legislatures address laws affecting transportation safety. This year, SRC has provided communication, assistance and testimony for 23 states, including visits to six of those states. NTSB advocacy efforts this year have included:

- The January 13th testimony by Member **Debbie Hersman** before a subcommittee of the South Carolina Transportation Committee regarding Primary Seat Belt Enforcement, accompanied by **Kevin Quinlan**.
- The January 26th testimony by **Bill Gossard** before the Washington State Senate Transportation Committee on Mandatory Boater Education.
- The February 3rd testimony by Vice Chairman **Mark Rosenker** on Graduated Driver Licensing before the Colorado House Transportation Committee, accompanied by **Steve Blackistone** and Special Assistant **Tom Doyle**.
- The February 7th testimony by **Bill Gossard** before the Virginia Senate Courts of Justice Committee regarding mandatory wear of Personal Flotation Devices by children.
- The February 8th testimony by **Kevin Quinlan** before the Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on Graduated Driver Licensing.
- The February 9th testimony by Chairman **Ellen Engleman Connors** before the Maryland House Environmental Matters Committee on Graduated Driver Licensing, accompanied by **Steve Blackistone**.
- The February 14th testimony by Member **Debbie Hersman** before the Connecticut Legislature on Child Passenger Safety, accompanied by **Stephanie Perkins**.
- On February 17th **Kevin Quinlan** testified by phone on Primary Seat Belt Enforcement before the Alaskan Senate State Affairs Committee.