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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

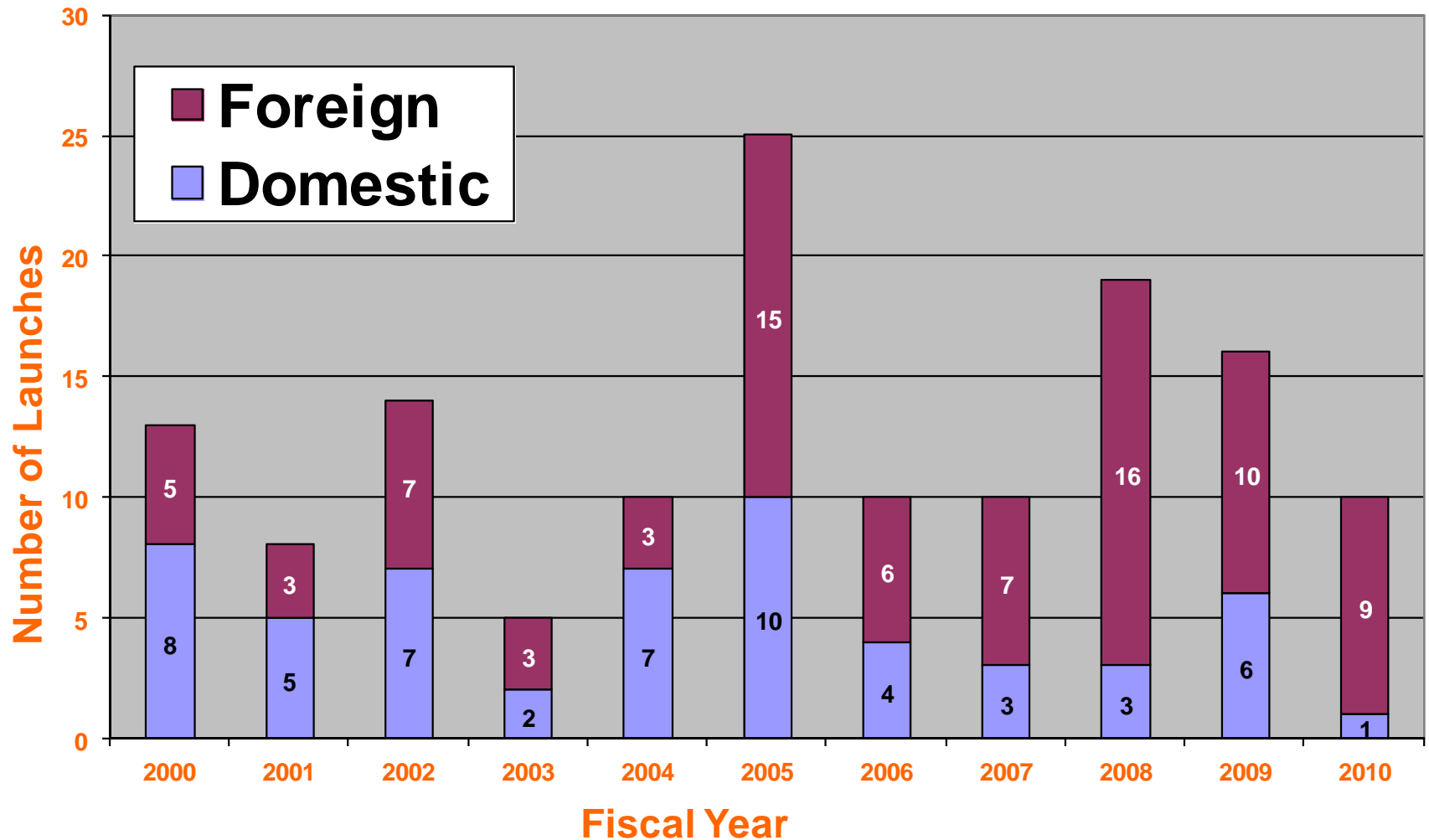
**Opening Statement**  
**Joseph M. Sedor**

# Aviation International Investigations

- Significant international workload
- Significant safety impact for U.S. aviation
- International safety effort
  - Investigative protocols
  - Outreach
  - Laboratory and data support
  - Family assistance
  - Case studies



# Major Domestic & Foreign Launches



# International Civil Aviation Organization

- Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation
  - Administered by ICAO
  - United States is a signatory
- NTSB responsible for fulfilling obligations
  - In coordination with State Department
- Annex 13: Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation
- Annex 8: Airworthiness of Aircraft



# Annex 13 – General

- Objective of Annex 13 investigations
  - Prevention of accidents, not for liability
- Standards and Recommended Practices
- Countries that take part in the investigations
  - State of Occurrence
  - State of Manufacture/Design
  - State of Operator
  - State of Registry

# Annex 13 – Investigative Process

- State of Occurrence
  - Conducts the Investigation
  - Notifies ICAO and appropriate States
  - Investigator in Charge (IIC)
  - Organize, conduct, and control investigation
- State of Registry
  - Conducts investigation in international waters



# Annex 13 – Investigative Process

- Accredited Representatives Rights
  - Appoint technical advisors
  - Visit the site and examine the wreckage
  - Participate fully in the investigation
    - recorder readouts, progress meetings, etc.
  - Have full access to all relevant data
- Accredited Representatives Obligations
  - Provide IIC all relevant information
  - Not release accident information



# Annex 13 – Final Report

- Draft Final Report
  - Completed by State of Occurrence
  - Draft report sent to all States that participated
  - 60 day review period
- State comments on draft report
  - Must modify report OR
  - Append comments to the final report if requested





# NTSB Annex 13 International Investigations

Significant Launches: 2000 to Oct. 2011



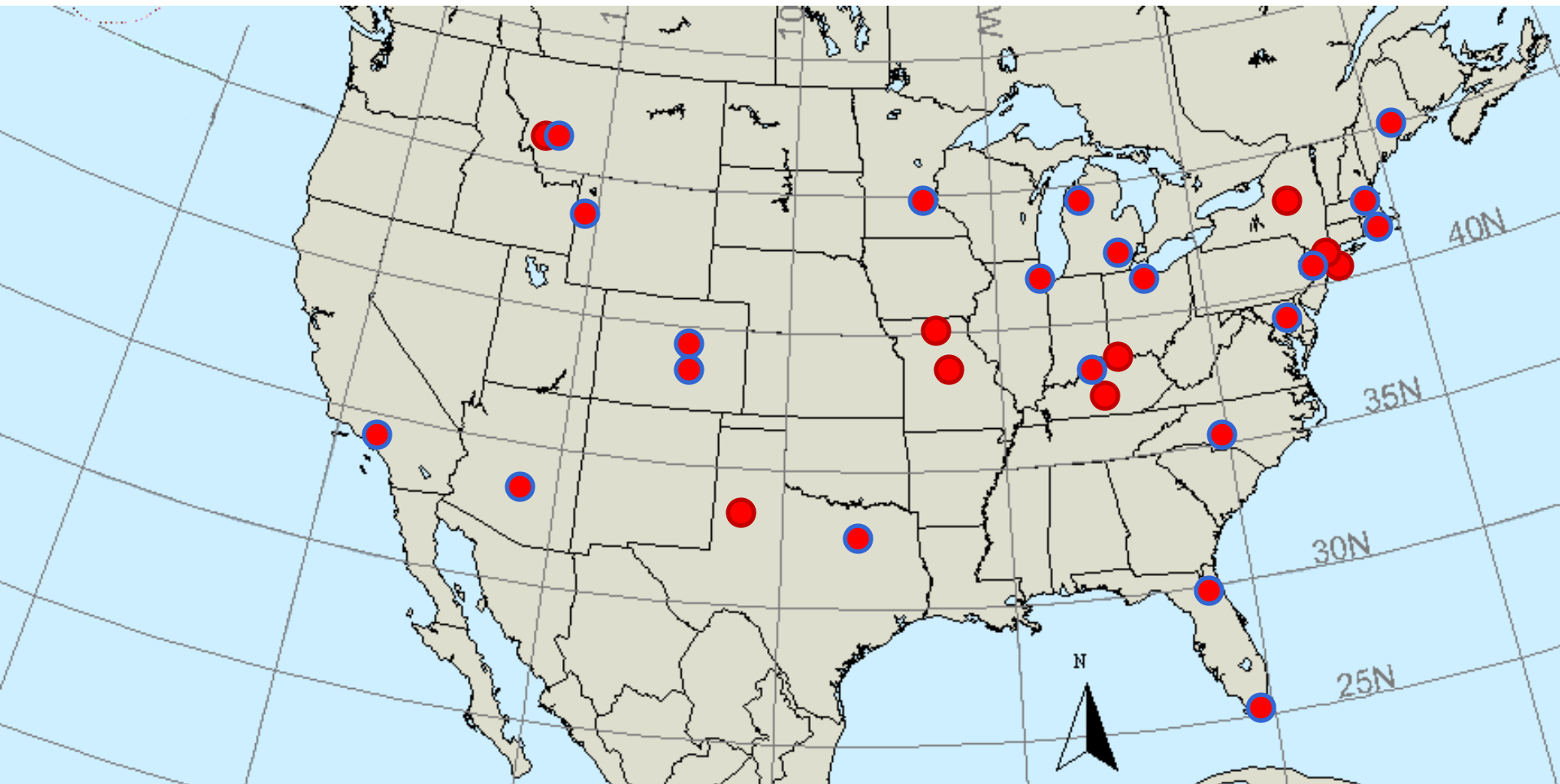
# NTSB Annex 13 International Safety Results

- Recommendations
  - Hundreds issued by State of Occurrence
- NTSB Recommendations issued
  - Since 2008 – **33 NTSB recommendations**
  - Last 10 years – **78 NTSB recommendations**
- Total NTSB recommendations issued
  - **Over 320 recommendations**



# NTSB Annex 13 Domestic Investigations

...not a “one-way street”...



# Annex 13 Investigations

- Critical factor in global aviation safety
- Critical component of U.S. aviation safety
- Identify safety issues from all accidents
- Required for many domestic accidents





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

**International Outreach**

**Frank Hilldrup**

# Why We Engage in International Outreach

- Improve bilateral cooperation
- Harmonize accident investigative procedures
- Enhance investigative knowledge
- Foster development of international safety protocols



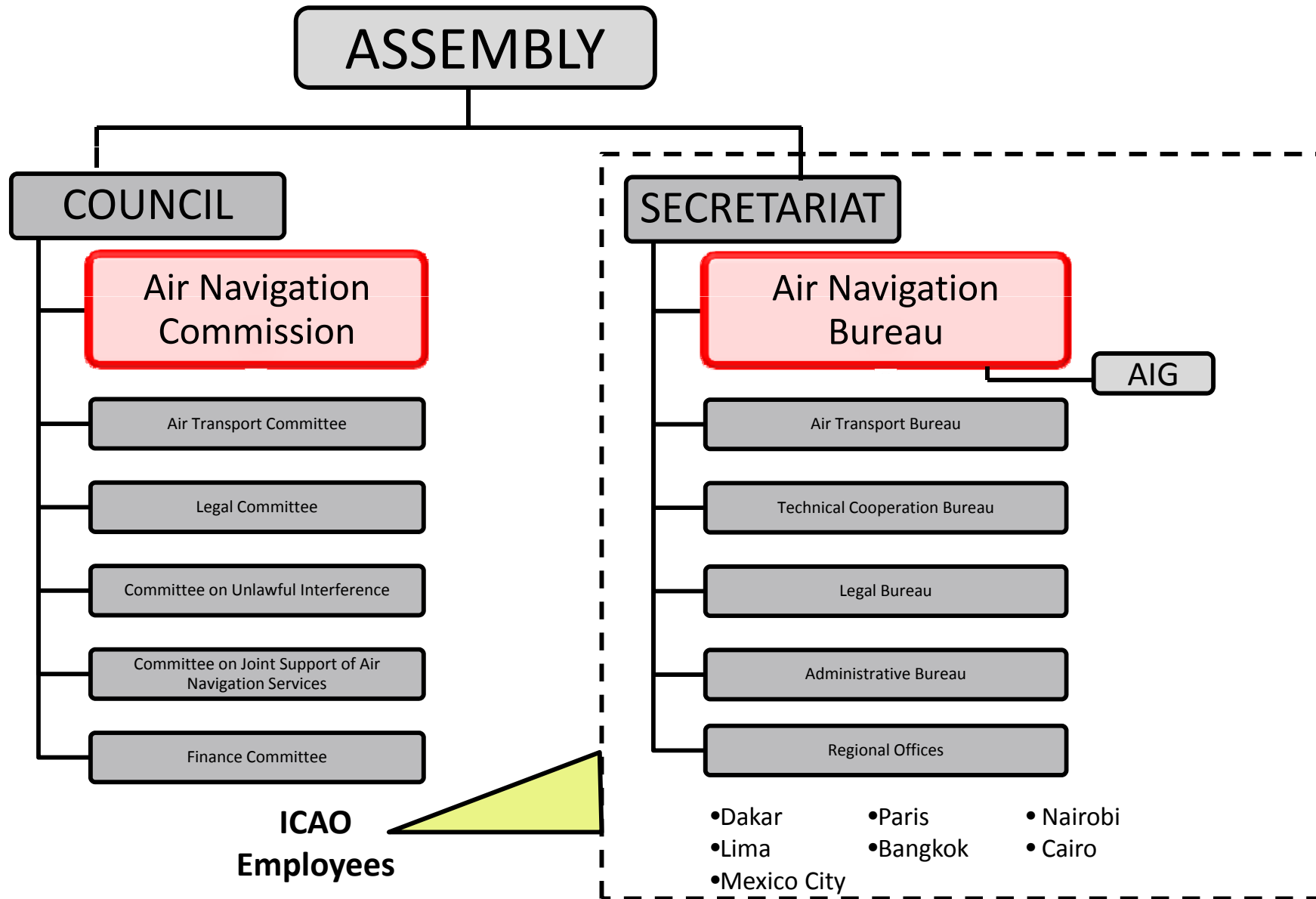
# Where We Engage in International Outreach

- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- Flight Safety Foundation (FSF)
- International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI)
- European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC)
- European Organization for Civil Aviation Equipment (EUROCAE)
- Meetings with foreign counterparts





# ICAO Organization



## Major Meetings and Symposia

- 2011 Fatigue Risk Management
- 2011 Runway Safety
- 2010 Triennial Assembly Meeting
- 2008 AIG meeting



# ICAO Activities/Interactions (Cont'd)

## ICAO Panels/Study Groups/Task Forces –

- Panels—
  - Flight Recorder Panel
  - Safety Management Panel
- Study Groups—
  - Accident Investigation Methods SG
  - Safety Indicators SG
- Task Forces—
  - Safety Information Protection TF
  - Circular 285 Update TF





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

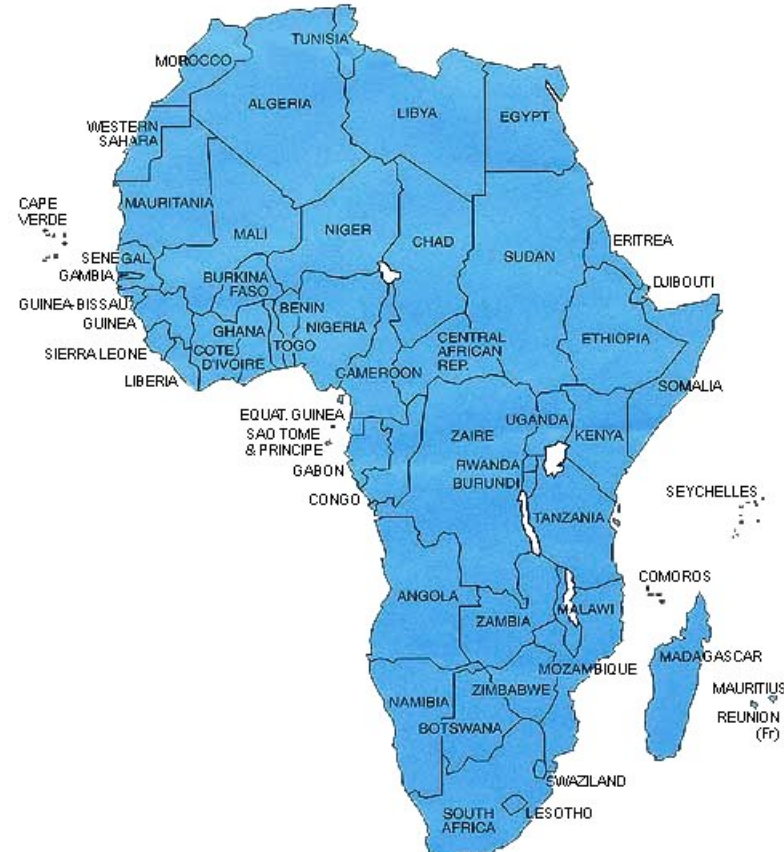
**Aviation Safety in Africa - Safe Skies For Africa**  
**Dennis Jones**

# Background

Second largest continent  
 55 countries  
 Three times the size of U.S.



Country/region	Area (in millions of square miles)
Africa	11.7
Argentina	1.1
China	3.7
India	1.3
Kazakhstan	1.0
Mexico	0.8
United States	3.8



Importance to the U.S.:

- Economic
- Strategic
- Foreign Policy





# Africa

**African Nations with  
Direct Air Carrier  
Service to USA**

Morocco

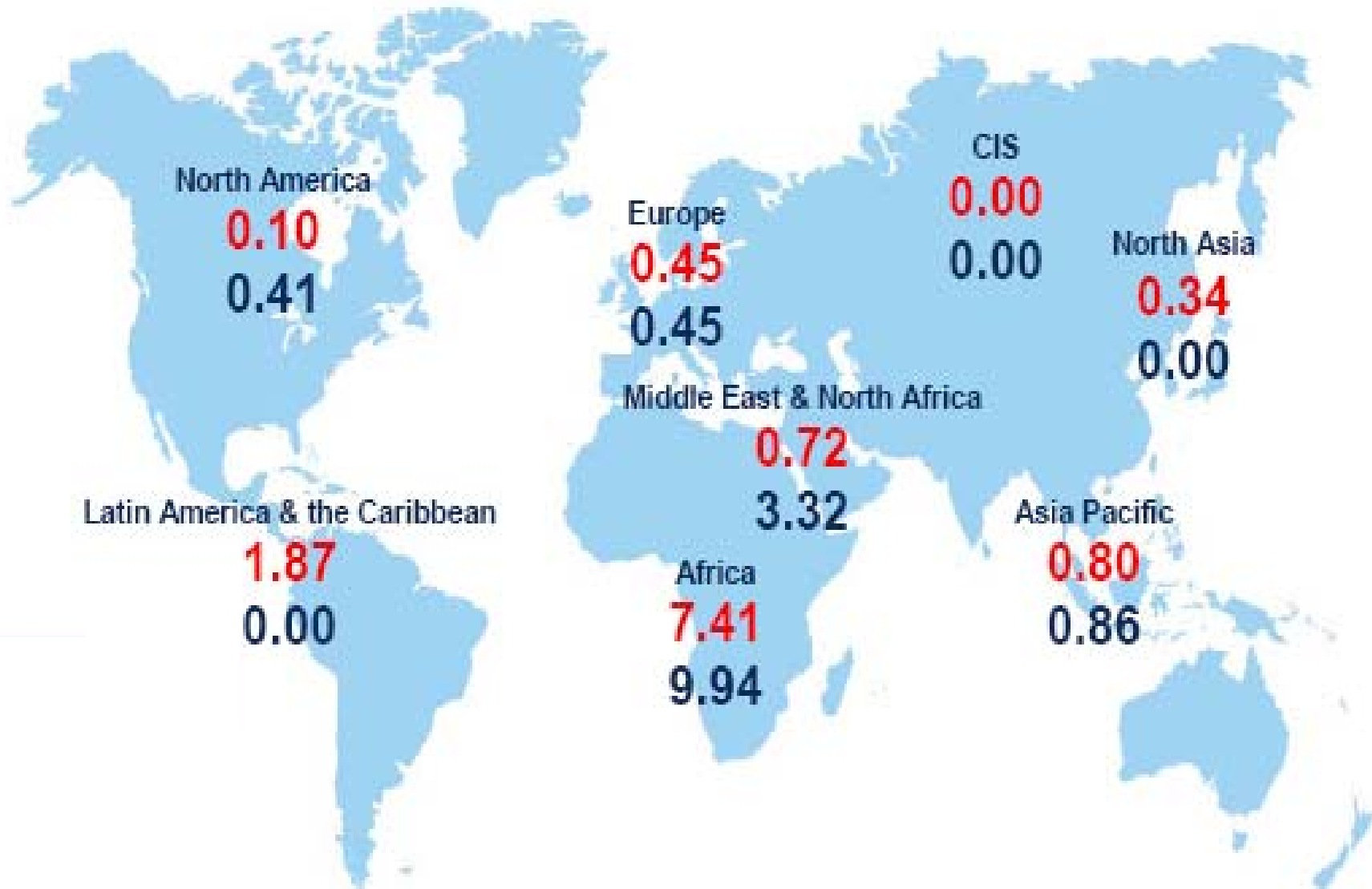
Egypt

Cape Verde

Nigeria

Ethiopia

South Africa

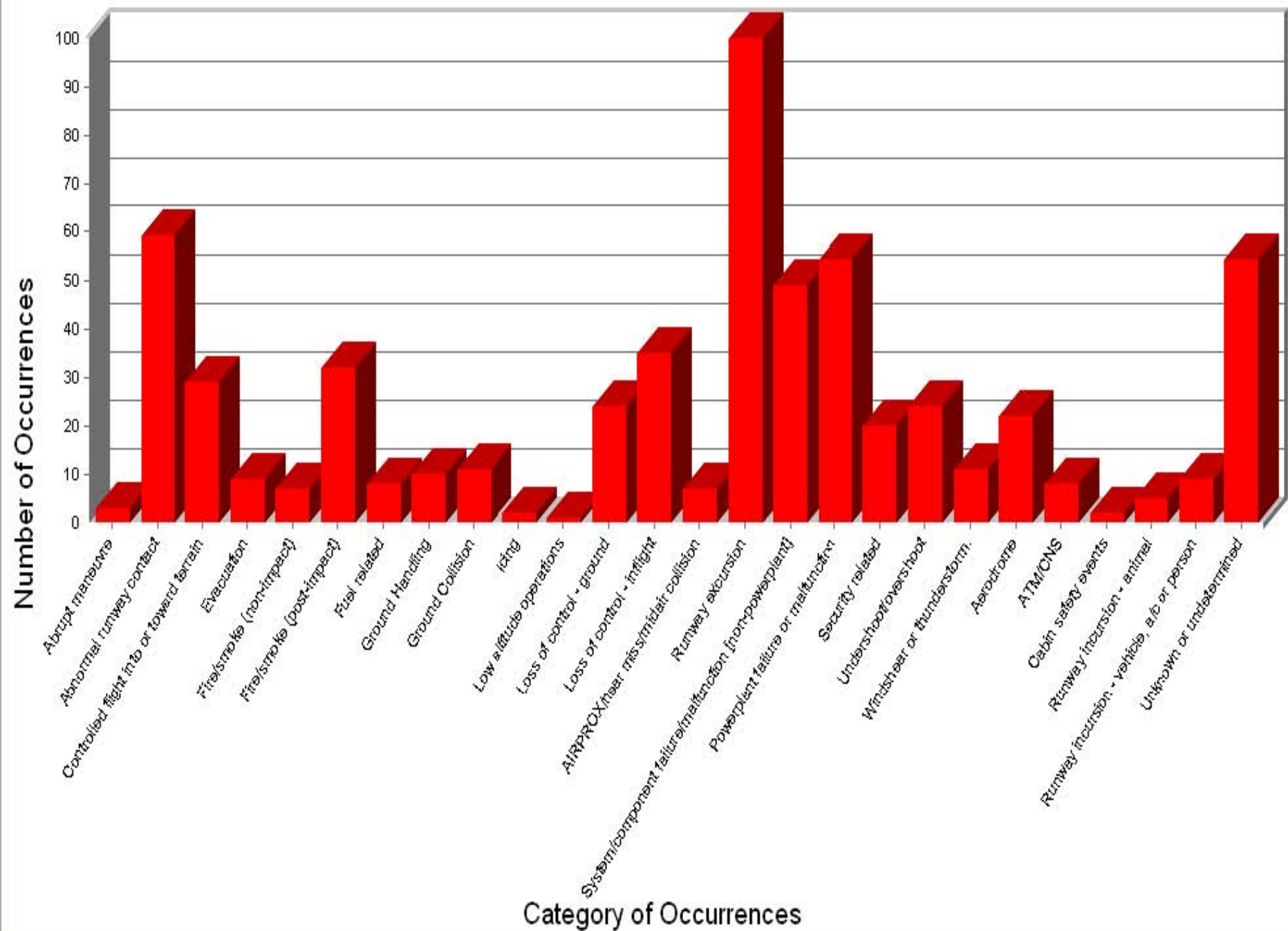


**Red = 2010 / Blue = 2009**





Reported Occurrences by Category of Occurrence in Africa - 1 January 1997 to 30 April 2007





# Safe Skies for Africa Program

- White House initiative created in 1998
- Assists civil aviation in African States:
  - Safety
  - Security
  - Air Navigation
- DOT-managed
- DOS-funded



# Safe Skies for Africa - Goals

- ICAO Aviation Safety Standards
- Improve aviation security at a number of African airports
- Improve regional air navigation services in Africa



# Safe Skies for Africa Participants

## Eight states selected in 1998

Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde,  
Coite d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Kenya,  
Mali, Tanzania, Zimbabwe

## Three states added June 2003

Djibouti, Namibia, Uganda

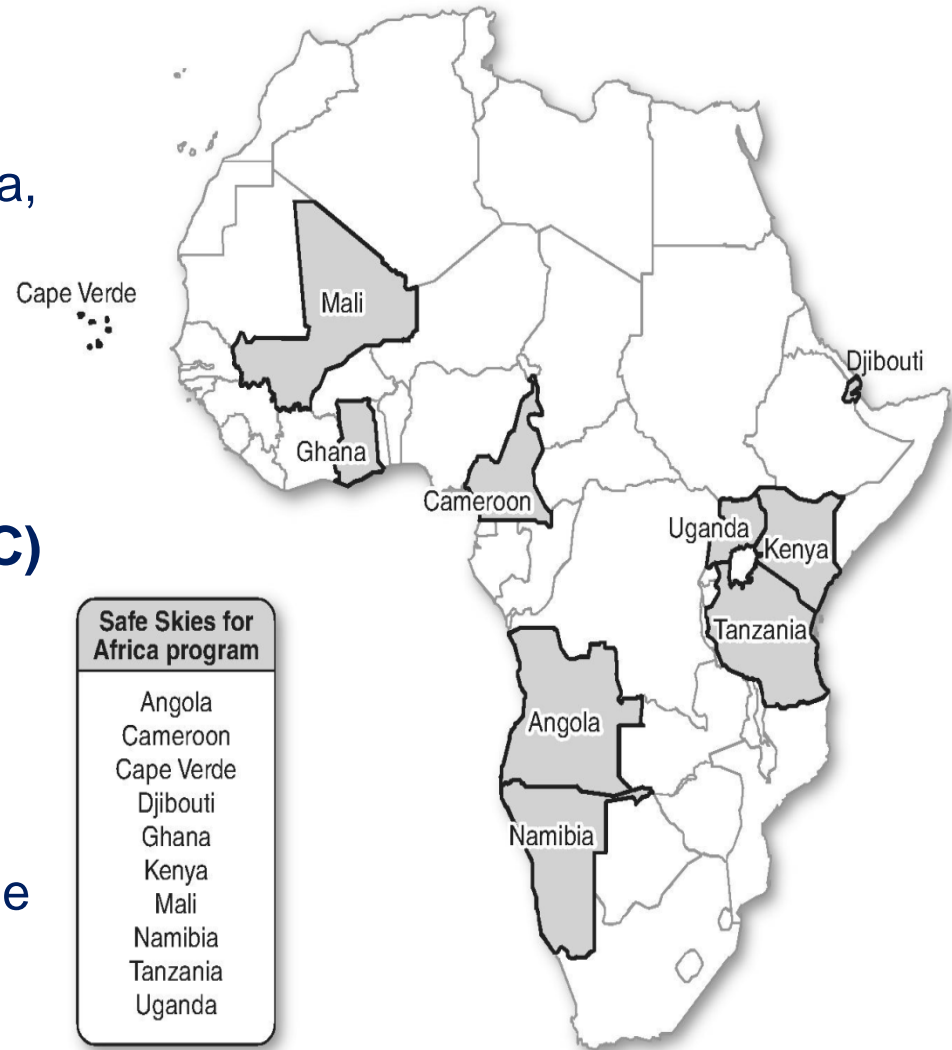
## Regional focus:

### East African Community (EAC)

Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda,  
Rwanda, Burundi

### Banjul Accord Group (BAG)

The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria,  
Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cape Verde



# NTSB and Safe Skies for Africa

Training and  
Technical  
Assistance



Accident  
Investigation  
Workshops



# Nigeria – An African Success



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# International Investigations

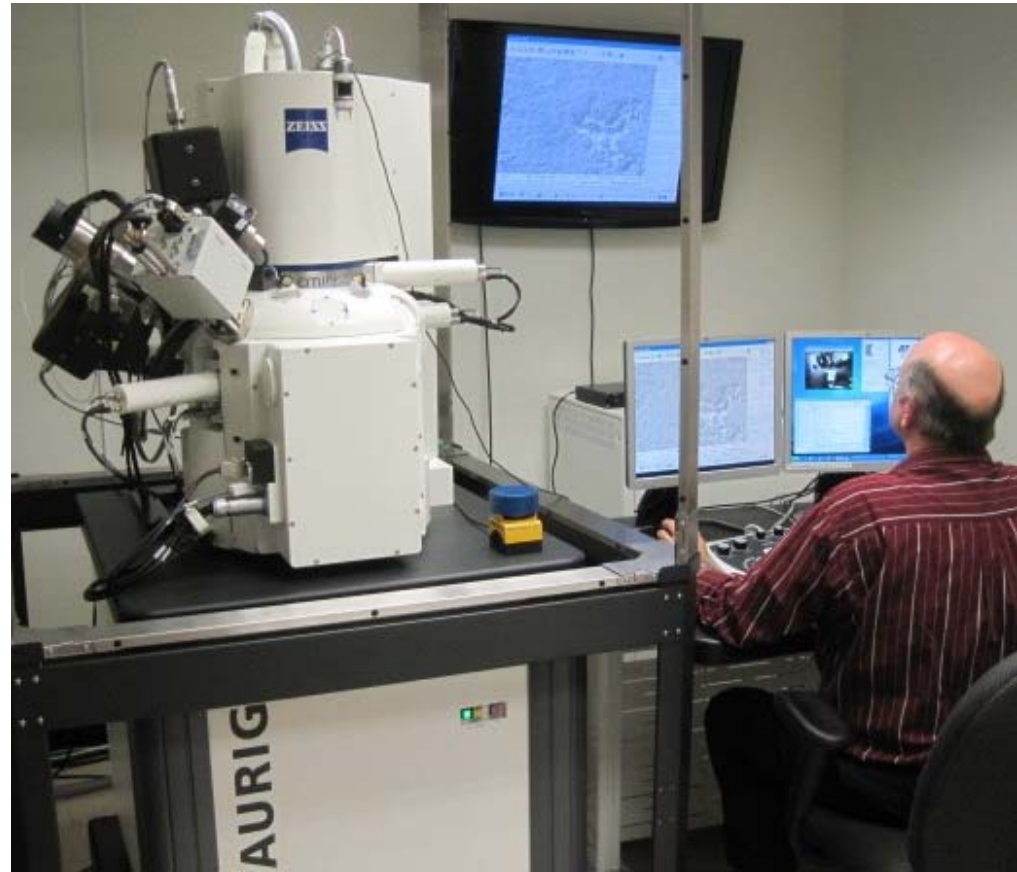
*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

**Materials Laboratory**

**Michael Budinski**

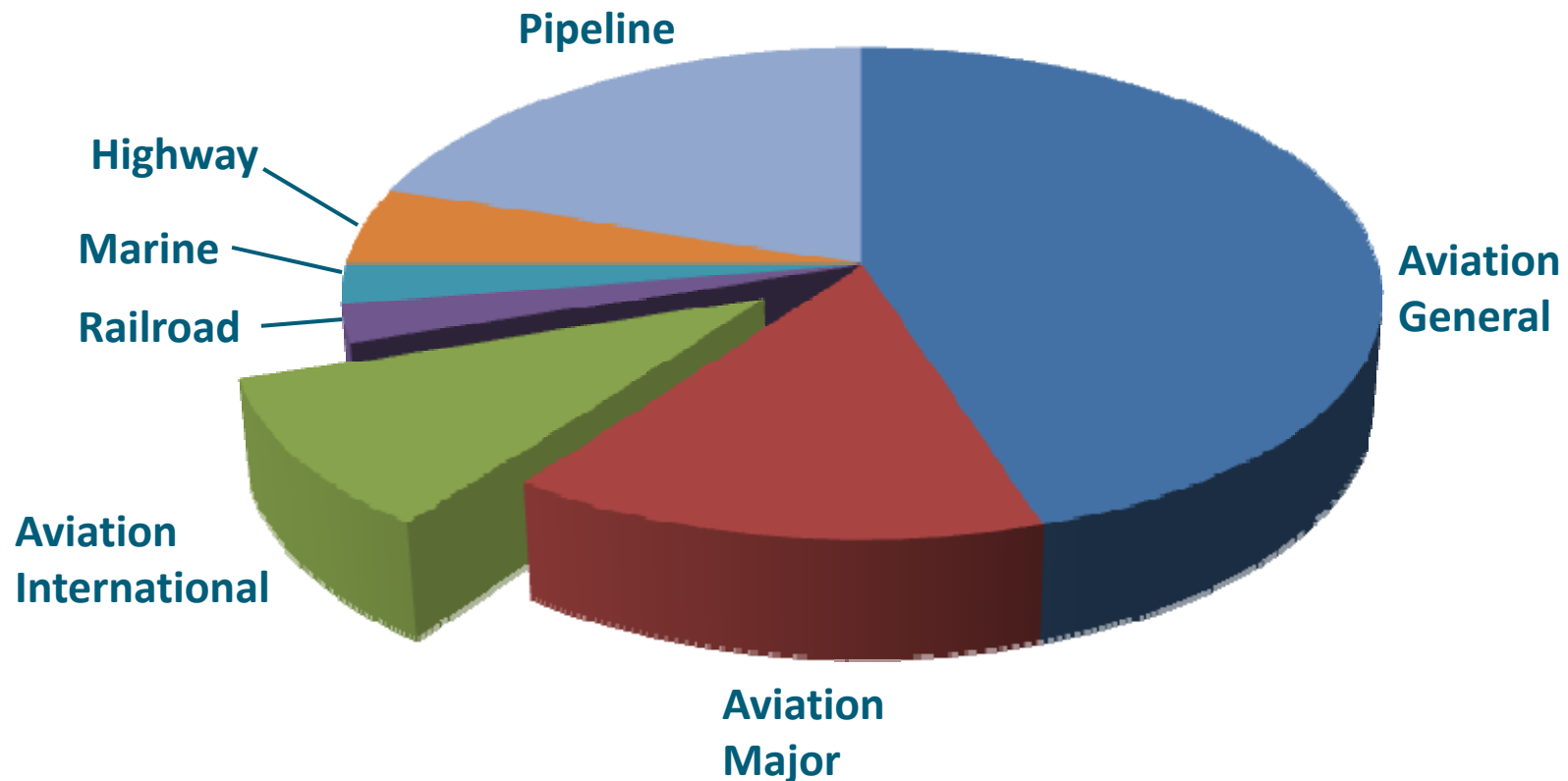
# Materials Laboratory: International Overview

- Technical specialists:
  - Materials science
  - Metallurgy
  - Fire science
- Laboratory
  - Material failure analysis
  - Structural analysis
  - Group examinations
  - Experimental testing
  - On-scene examinations
  - Consultation



# Materials Laboratory: International Overview

12-month “snap shot” of  
Materials Laboratory work based on labor hours



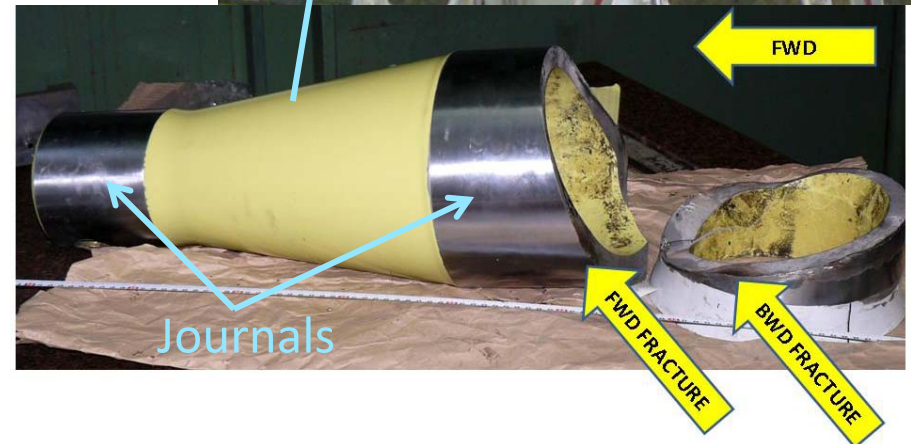
# El Al Flight 027, Boeing 777-200, Tel Aviv, Israel

- Normal takeoff from Ben Gurion International Airport—the left main landing gear (MLG) did not retract
- Aircraft returned to airport and landed without incident



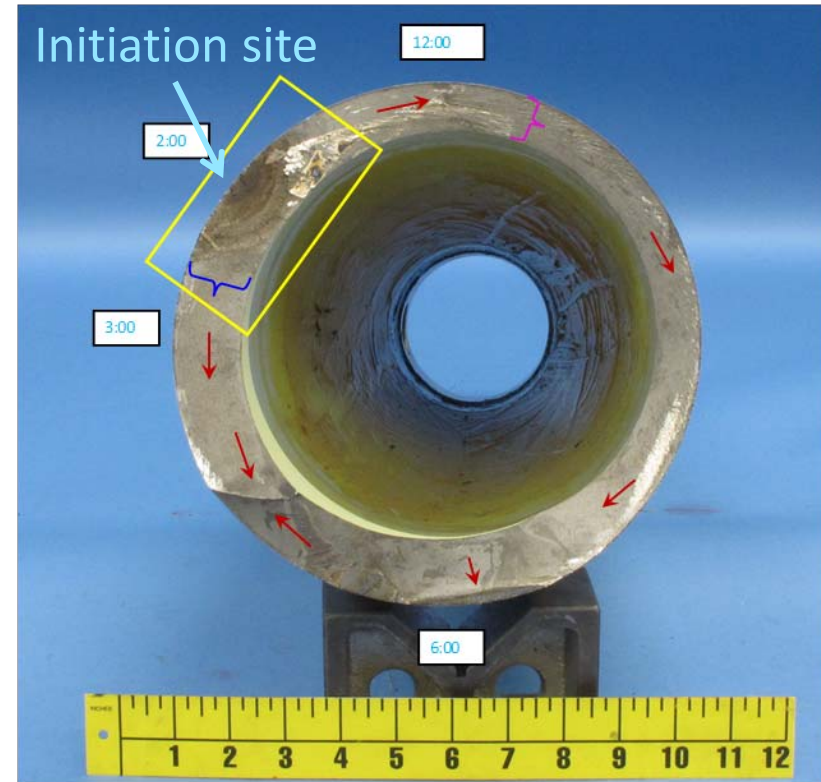
# EI AI Flight 027, Boeing 777-200, Tel Aviv, Israel

- Post-flight inspection revealed fractured left MLG forward trunnion



# EI AI Flight 027, Boeing 777-200, Tel Aviv, Israel

- Metallurgical analysis of the fractures, materials and specialized crack inspection
- Failure from fatigue at grinding burn cracks
- Examination of MLG steps at the overhaul shop in Singapore
- Opportunities identified to lower the probability of recurrence



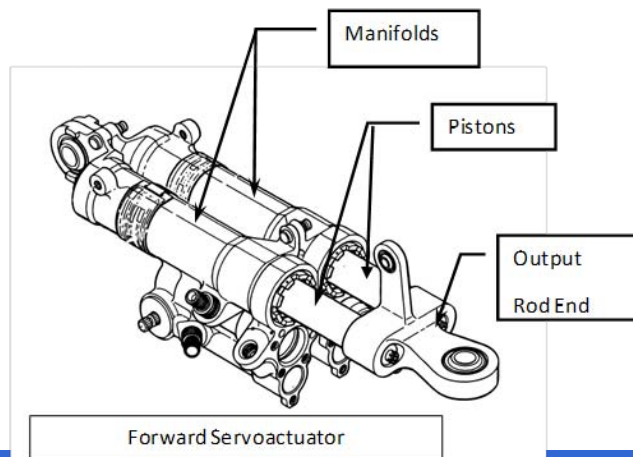
# Copterline Oy, Sikorsky S-76C, Tallinn Bay, Estonia

- Copterline Sikorsky S-76C+ helicopter (OH-HCI Finland), crashed into the Baltic Sea shortly after takeoff from Tallinn, Estonia
- The investigation revealed the failure of the forward main rotor actuator



# Copterline Oy, Sikorsky S-76C, Tallinn Bay, Estonia

The NTSB conducted a metallurgical evaluation of the main rotor forward actuator components, exemplar actuator pistons, and other system components

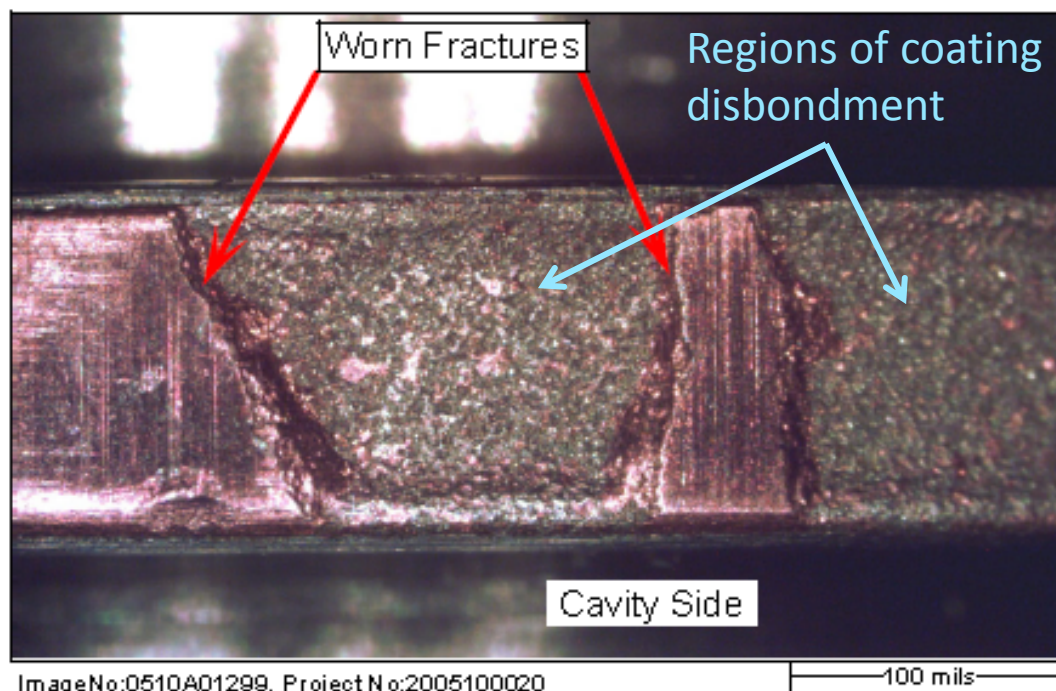




# Copterline Oy, Sikorsky S-76C, Tallinn Bay, Estonia

Metallurgical evaluation revealed failure of the coating system on the actuator pistons

- Excessive wear of components
- Hydraulic fluid leakage
- Blockage of a fluid return port



NTSB Safety Recommendations A-05-33 through -35 issued, which ask for:

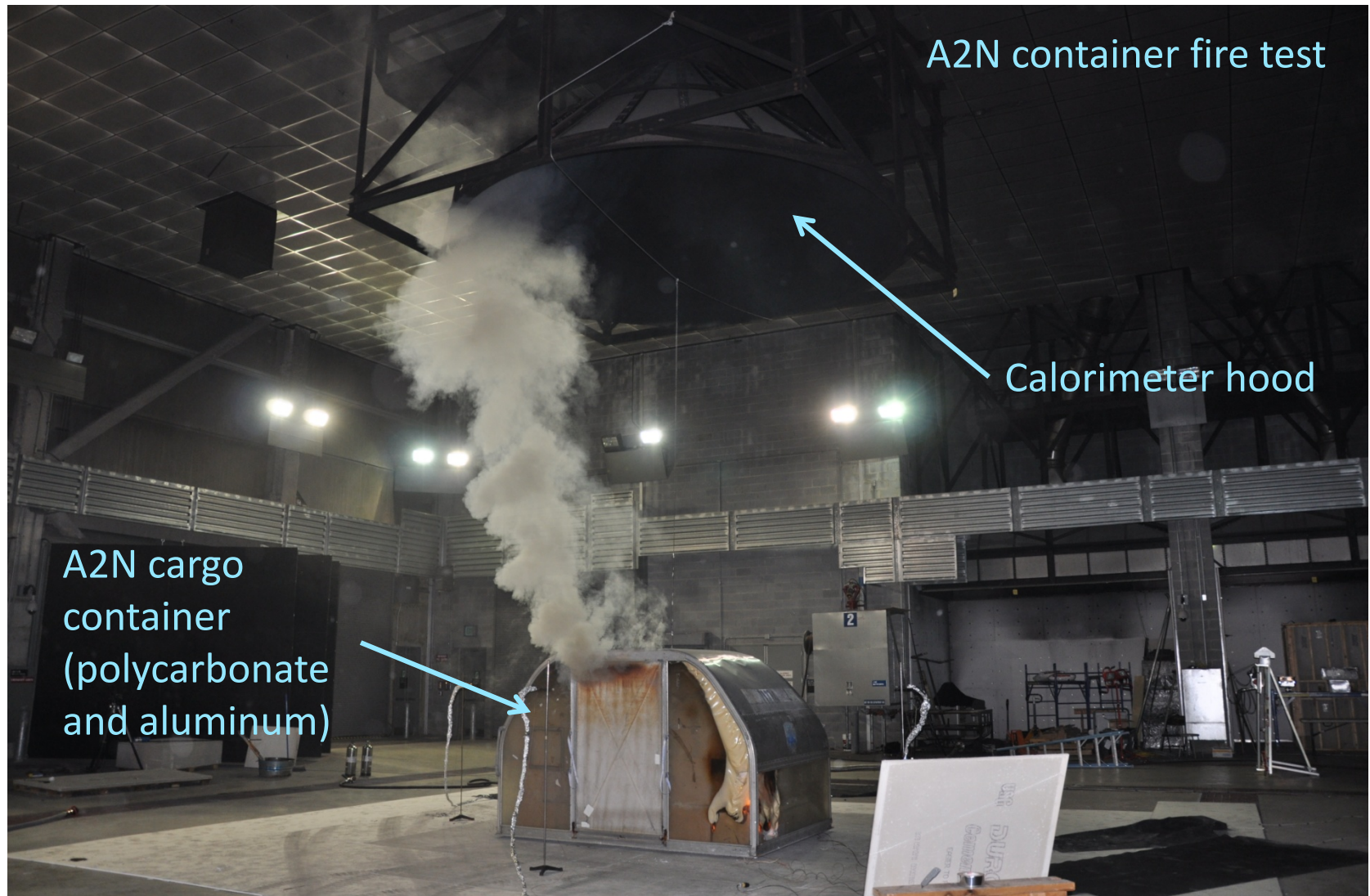
- Immediate leakage testing of in-service actuators
- Visual and laboratory examination of hydraulic fluid filters
- Preflight check of flight control “stick jump” and control movement smoothness

# UPS Flight 6, Boeing 747-400F, Dubai, UAE



- NTSB Materials Laboratory fire investigator on scene
- Developed a fire test program to understand cargo fires:
  - Quantify the fire load posed by lithium-ion batteries relative to ordinary combustibles
  - Quantify the size and growth rate of a cargo container fire

# UPS Flight 6, Boeing 747, Dubai, UAE



# UPS Flight 6, Boeing 747, Dubai, UAE

DMZ container fire test

DMZ cargo container (polypropylene)





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

## Flight Recorders and Electronic Devices

### James Cash

# Yearly Workload

- 30% of recorder lab's work is reading out of flight and voice recorders for foreign governments
- In 2010, recorder lab received over 40 recorders from 14 different countries
- Another 30 to 40 cases required support

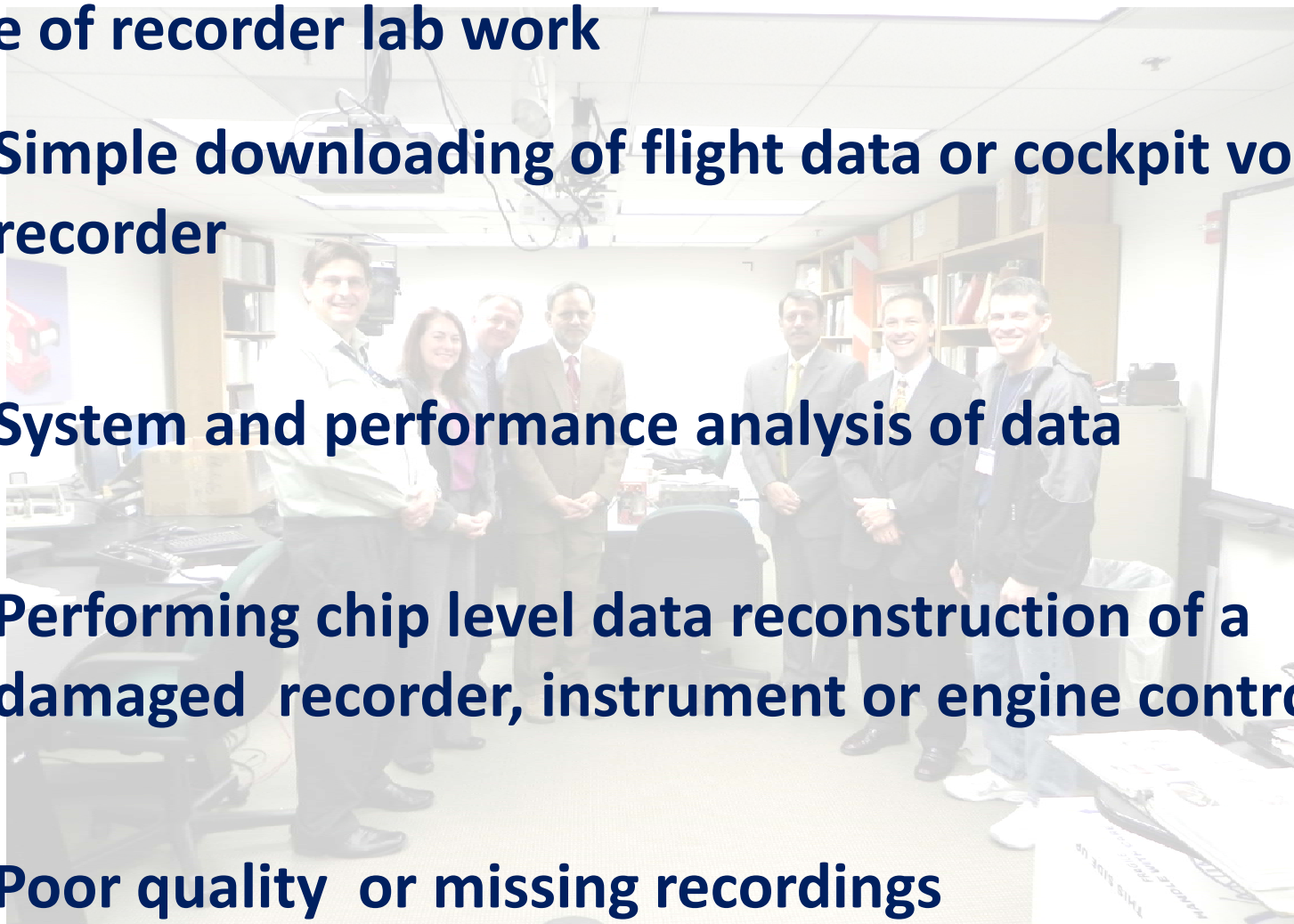




# NTSB Products

## Range of recorder lab work

- Simple downloading of flight data or cockpit voice recorder
- System and performance analysis of data
- Performing chip level data reconstruction of a damaged recorder, instrument or engine controller.
- Poor quality or missing recordings



# Animations

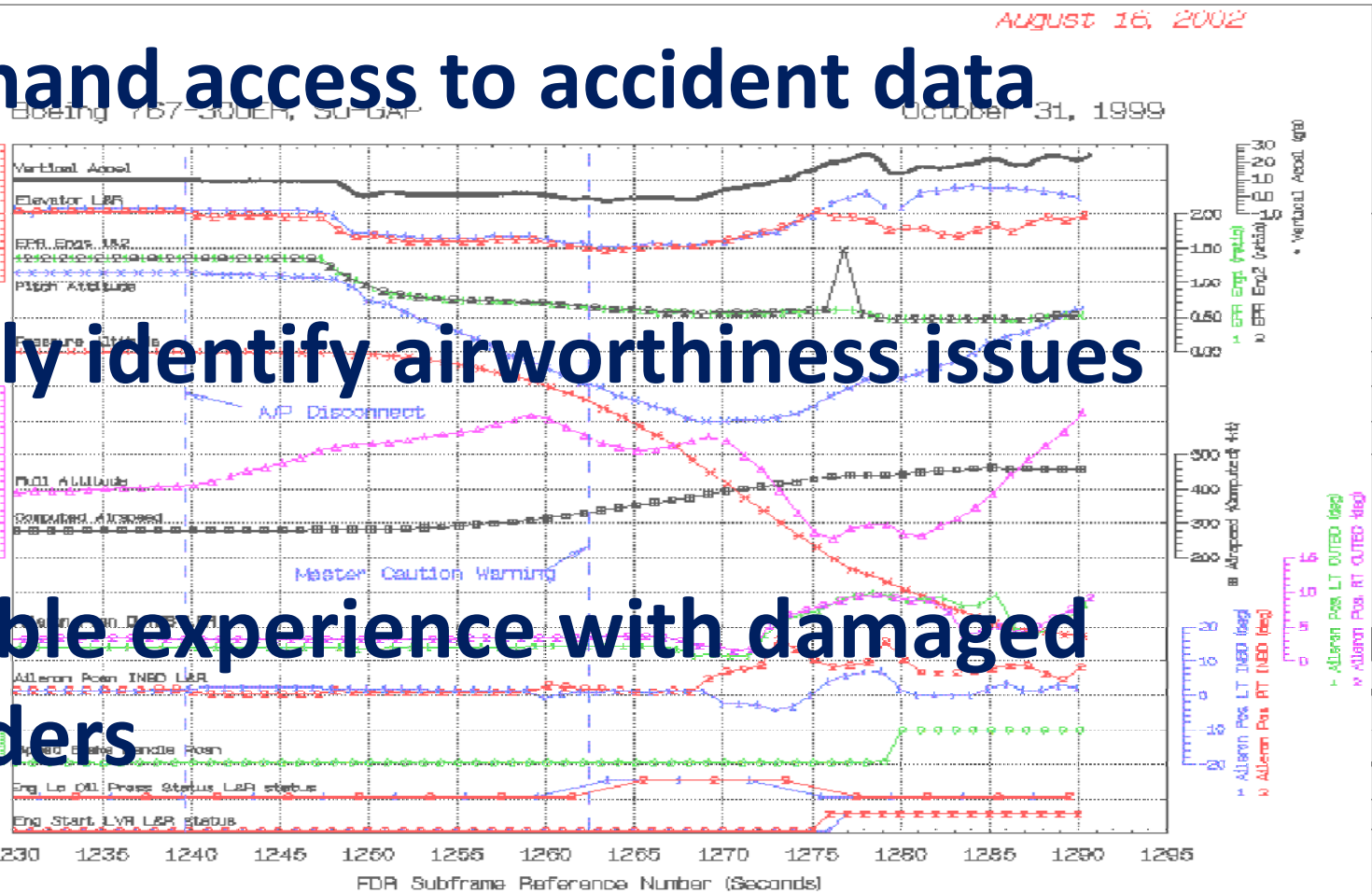


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# Benefits

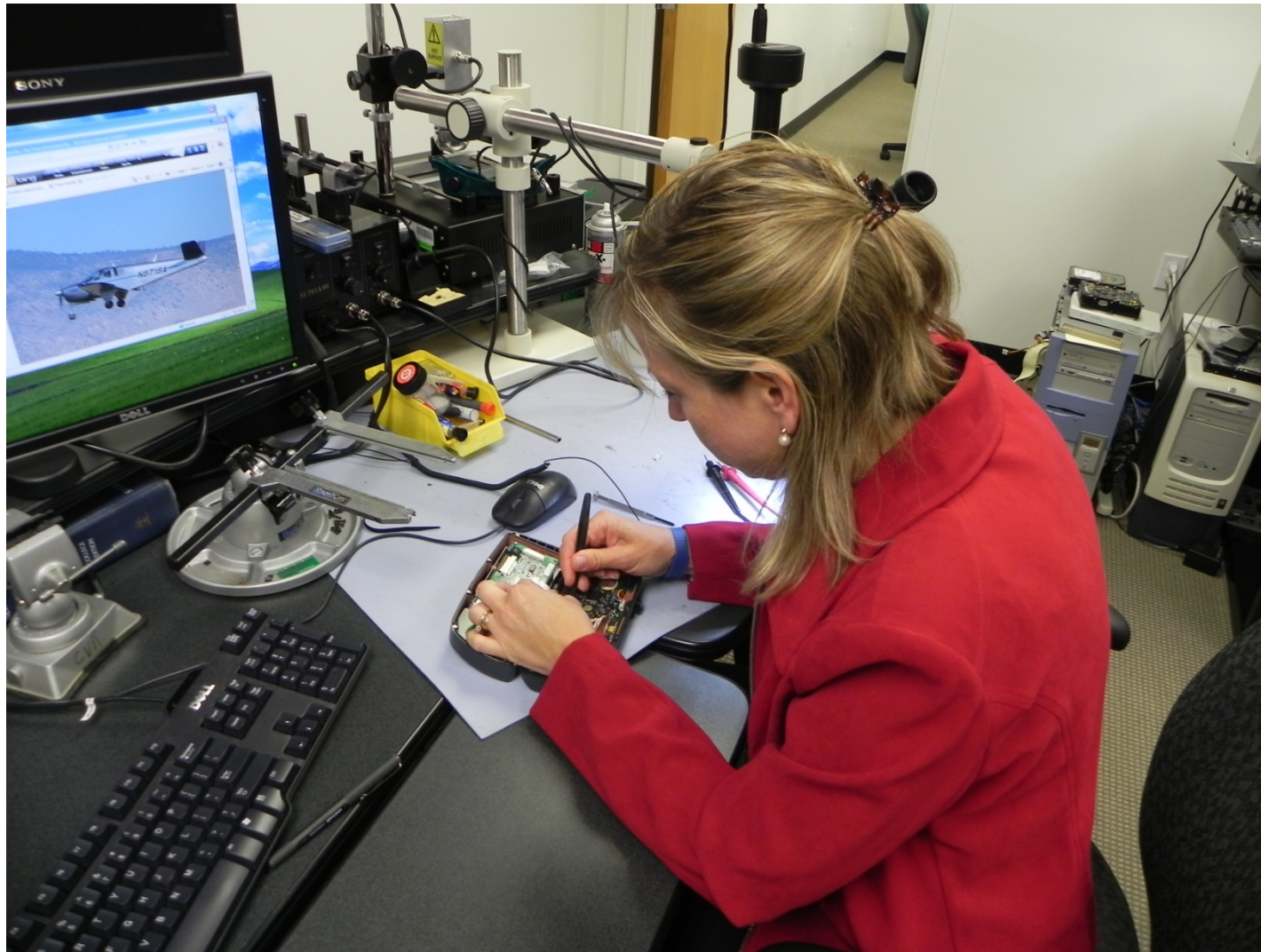
- First-hand access to accident data
- Quickly identify airworthiness issues
- Valuable experience with damaged recorders



# New Electronic Technology and Equipment

## Recorder lab is adding new equipment

- Technology is changing and growing rapidly
- Hardware tools
  - New recorder readout equipment
  - Board and chip level evaluation
  - Data recovery
- Software tools
  - Reverse engineering of data encoding
  - Reconstruction of accident flight data



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# Annex 13 Involvement

- **NTSB will send a recorder specialist to assist in the download and readout of flight recorders**
- **The lab frequently will interface between foreign data requests and U.S. manufacturers**





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

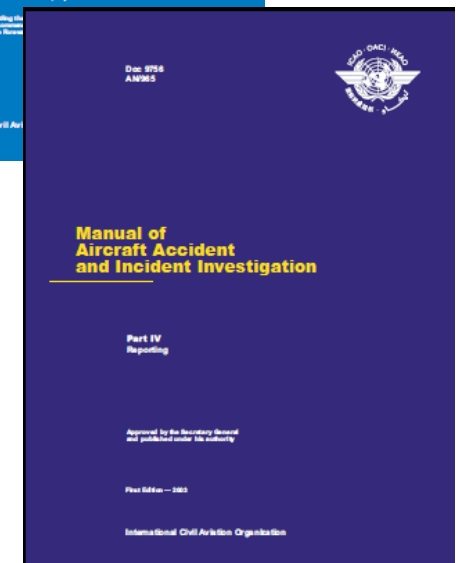
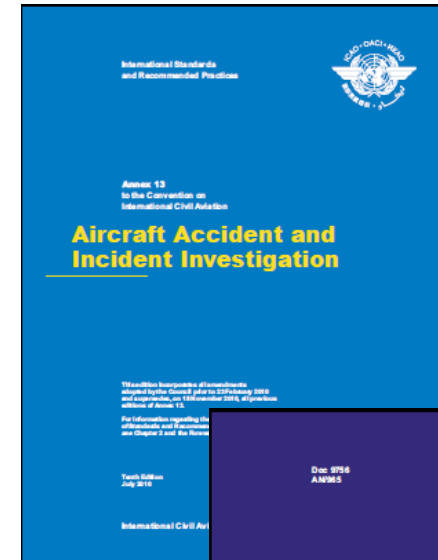
**Data Gathering and Sharing**

**Loren Groff, PhD**



# ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices

- Notification and reporting
- Mandatory and voluntary reporting systems
- Database systems and analysis
- Exchange of safety information



# Expanding Use of Data Systems

- Safety management programs demand more data
- Demand brings new challenges
  - Standardization
  - Legal protections



# Adopting Common Standards and Techniques

- CAST/ICAO Common Taxonomy Team (CICTT)
- European Coordination Centre for Accident and Incident Reporting Systems (ECCAIRS)



# Developing Common Standards and Techniques

- ICAO Safety Indicator Study Group (SISG)



# Addressing Shared Challenges

- Diverse legal frameworks
  - Safety Information Protection Task Force (SIP TF)
- Safety management procedures
  - ICAO Safety Management Advisory Group (SMAG)





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

**International Family Assistance Efforts**

**Paul Sledzik**

# Legislative Background

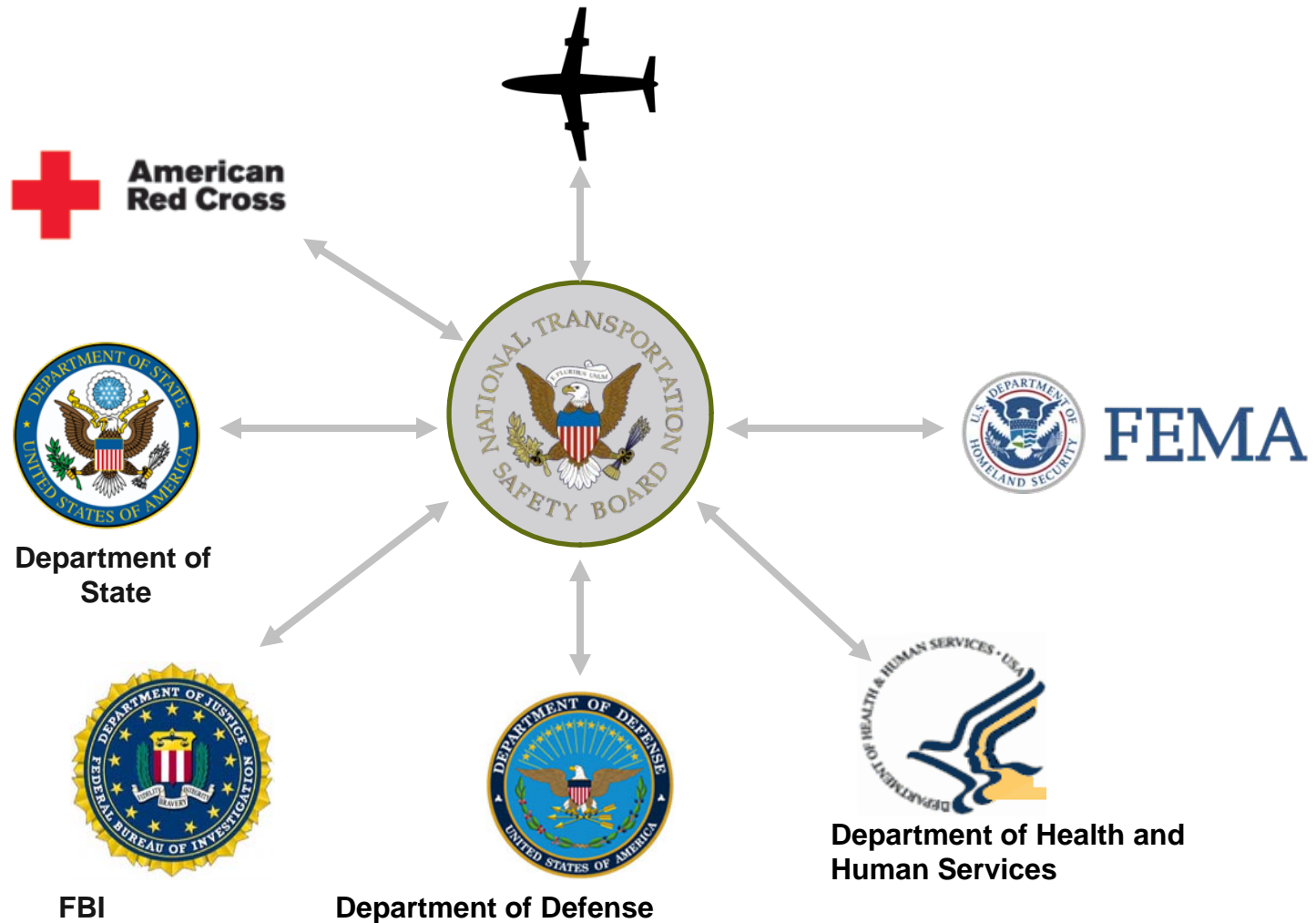
- Aviation Disaster Family Assistance Act of 1996
  - Foreign Air Carrier Family Support Act of 1997
  - Rail Passenger Disaster Family Assistance Act of 2008

- Accidents in U.S. or territories
- Part 121 or 129 air carrier
- Major loss of life

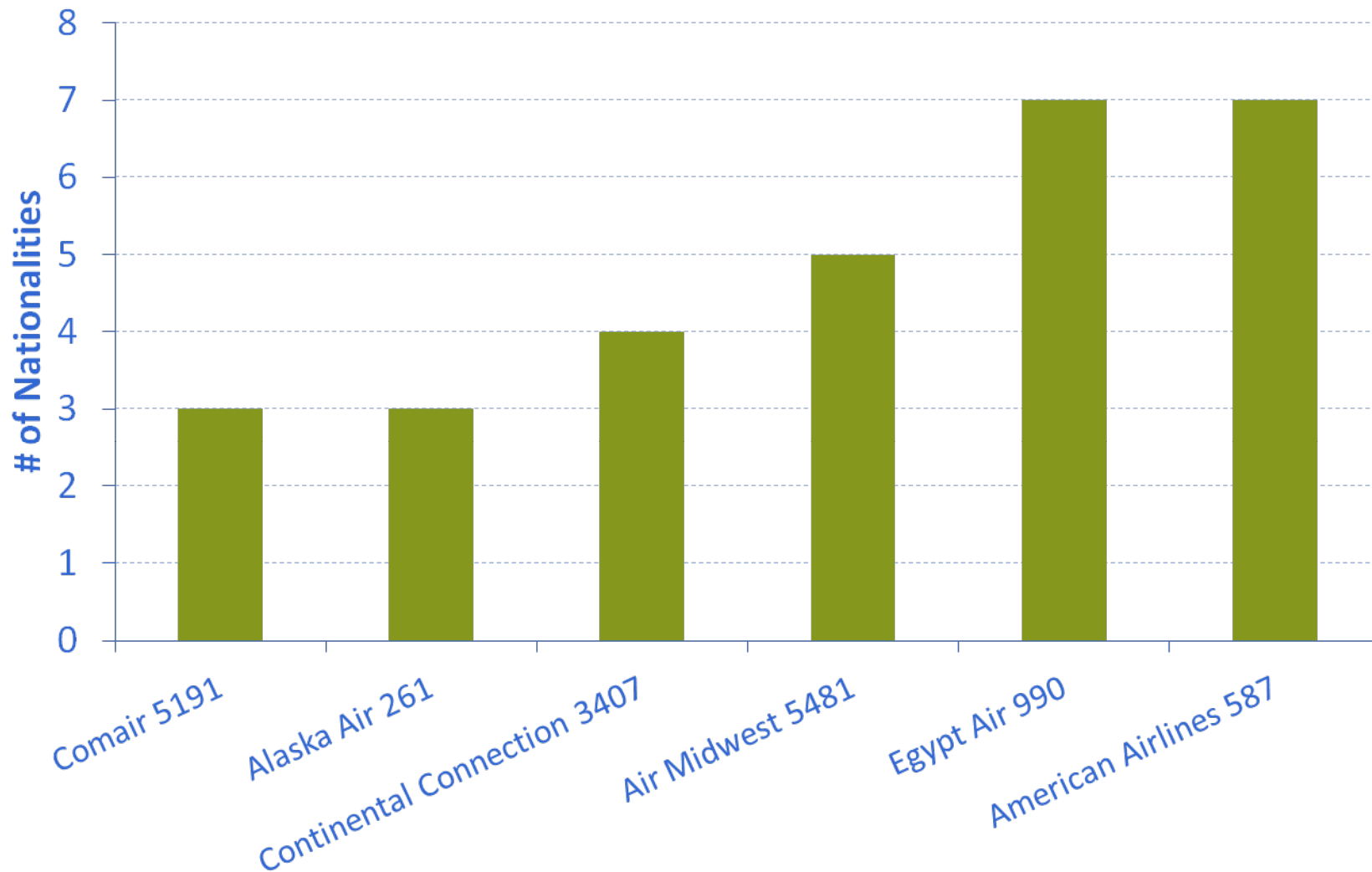




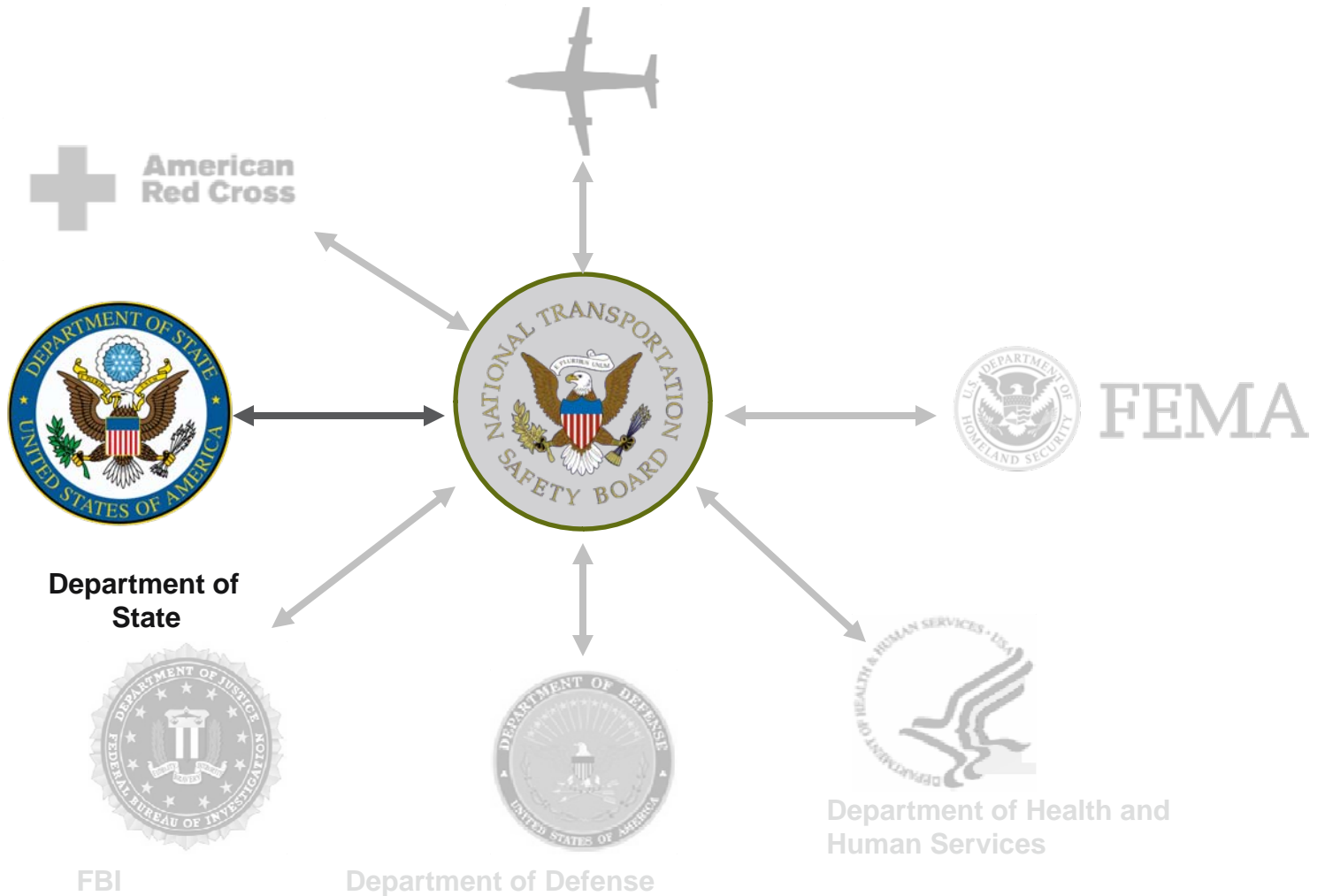
# TDA Primary Partner Agencies



# Nationalities in Domestic Accidents



# TDA Primary Partner Agencies



# Department of State Roles & Responsibilities

- Notification to families
- Crisis response team
- Ombudsman with local government agencies

U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual Volume 7 – Consular Affairs

## **7 FAM 1830 AVIATION AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION DISASTERS**

*(CT:CON-291; 04-07-2009)  
(Office of Origin CA/OCS/PRI)*

### **7 FAM 1831 INTRODUCTION**

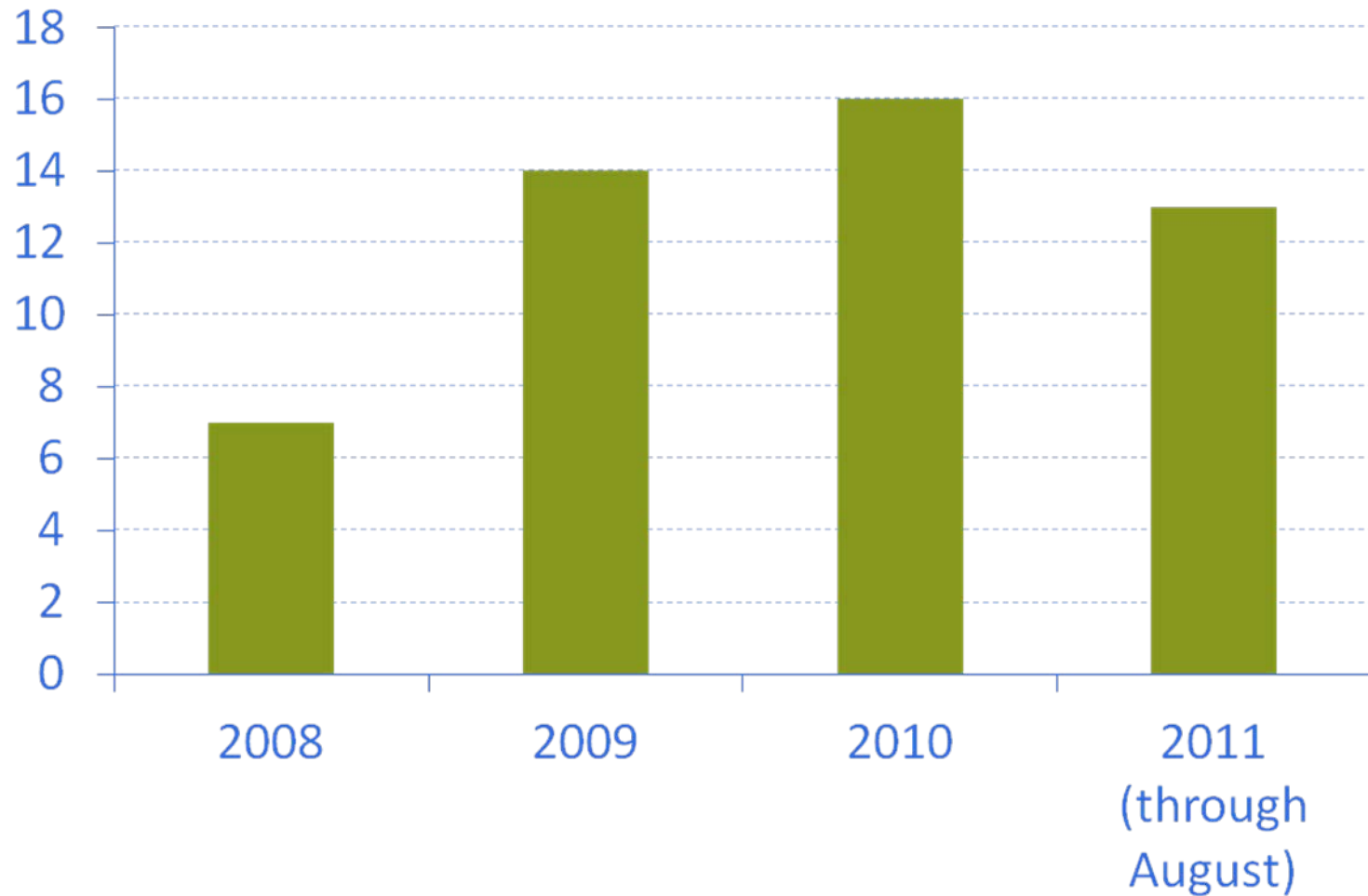
*(CT:CON-212; 11-20-2007)*

- a. The U.S. Department of State is responsible for coordinating and managing the federal response to aviation disasters involving U.S. citizens abroad. In recent years the Department has made significant changes to the way that it handles aviation disasters that involve U.S. citizens outside the United States. These changes are highlighted in this subchapter and include:

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/86830.pdf>



# TDA Caseload Supporting International Accidents



# International Accidents Supported by TDA



- Zacapa, Guatemala
- August 24, 2008
- 11 fatal, 3 serious
  - 10 U.S. citizen aid workers
- Cessna 208

- Dubai, UAE
- September 3, 2010
- 2 fatal – both U.S. citizens
- Boeing 747-44AF



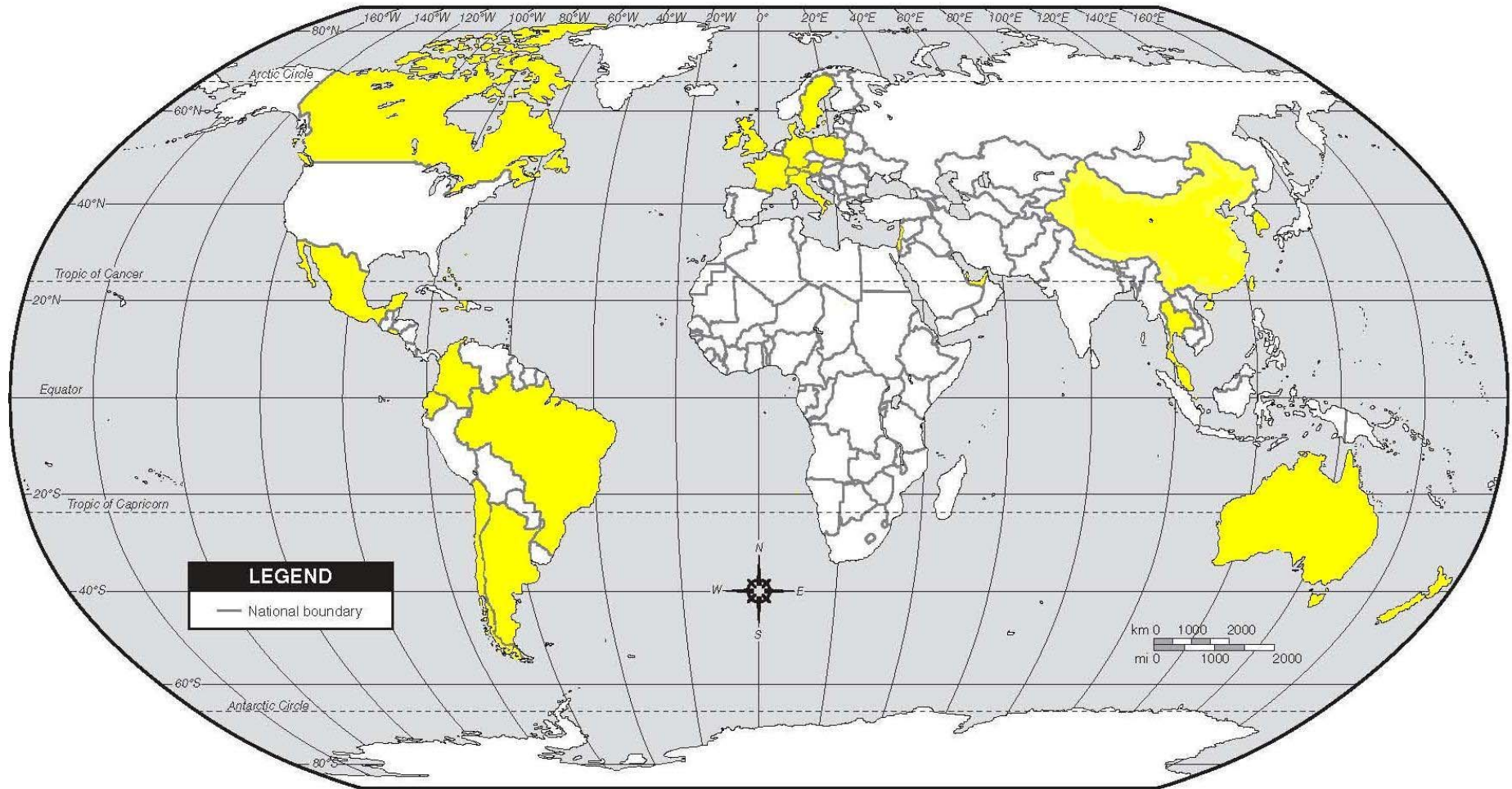
# Family Assistance: Promoting an International Approach for the Transportation Industry



**Family Assistance**  
*Promoting an International Approach for the Transportation Industry*

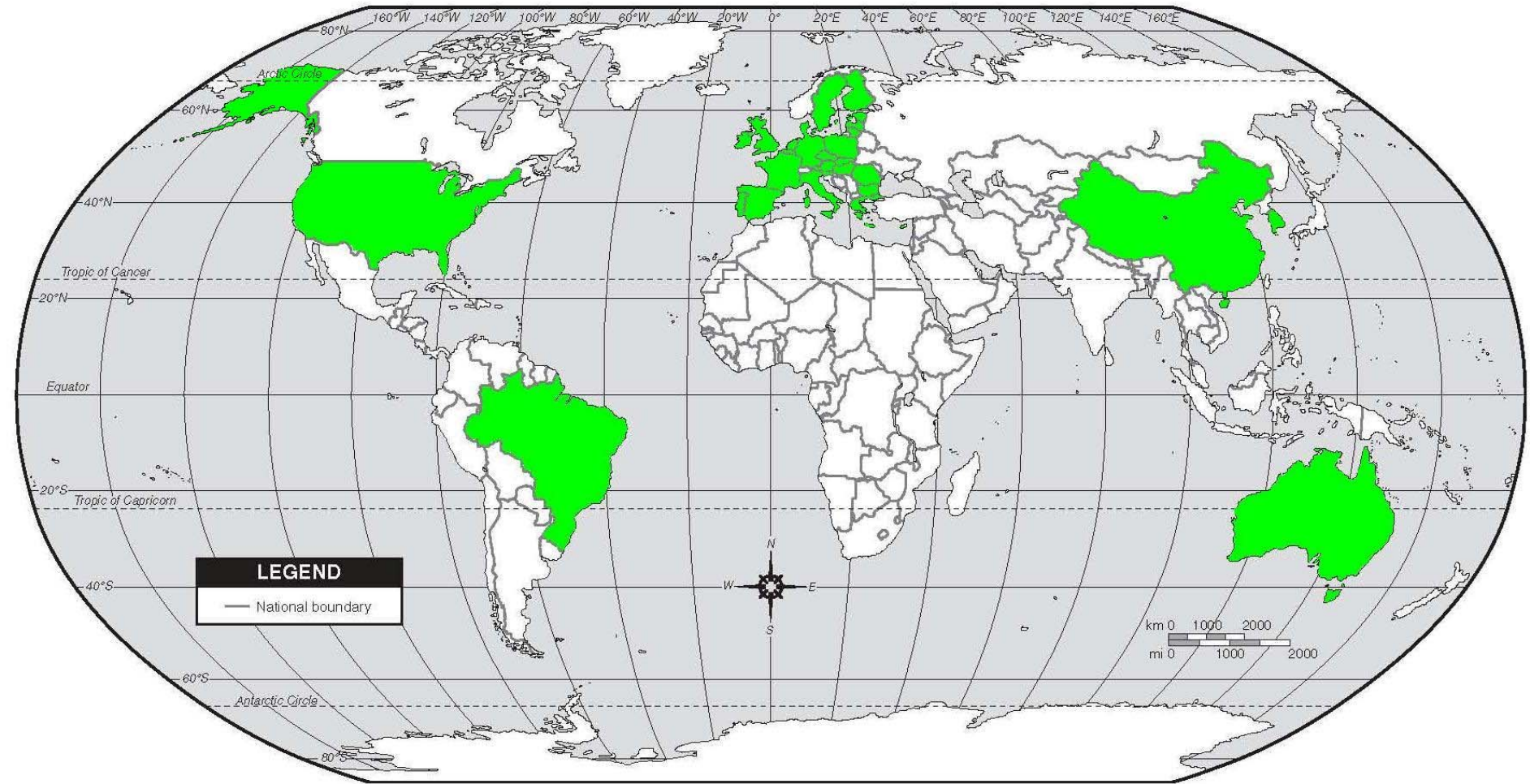


# TDA Trainings - International Attendees (2005-2011)





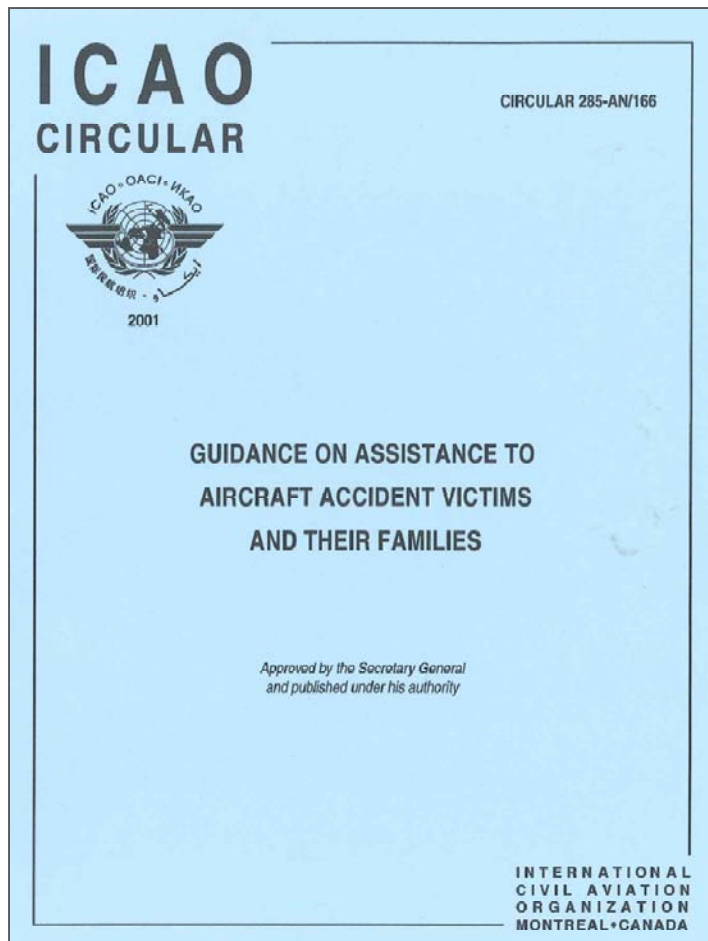
# International Family Assistance Legislation



Data sources: Airports Council International; ICAO



# ICAO Circular 285 Revision



- Executive Summary
- Terminology
- Recipients of family assistance
- Guidelines for the provision of
- Types of family assistance
- When family assistance should be provided
- Family assistance providers
- Preparation of a family assistance plan
- Conclusion
- Appendices





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# International Investigations

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**Naha, Okinawa – China Airlines Boeing 737**

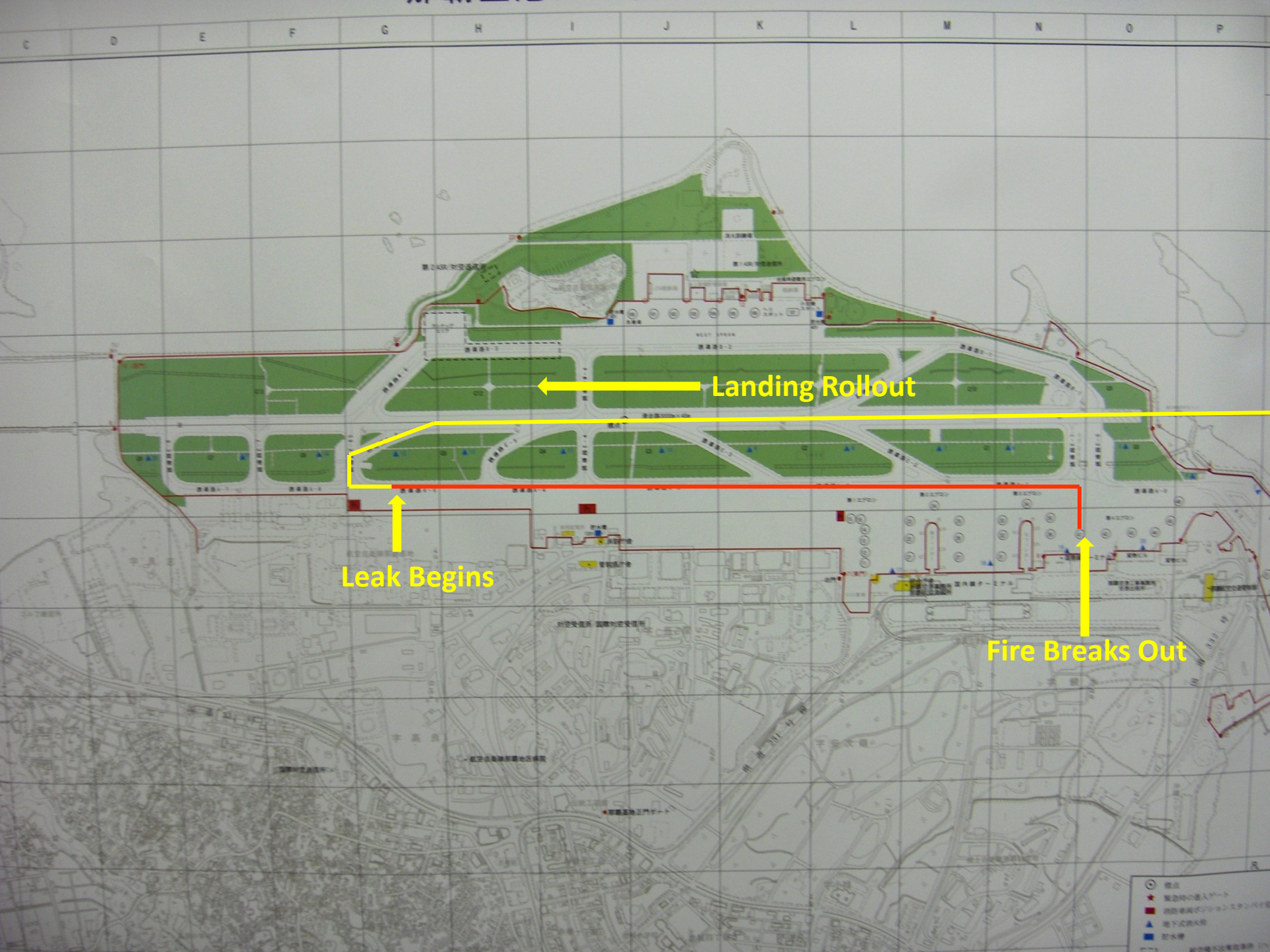
**Fuel Leak and Fire**

**Robert Benzon**

# Basic Information

- **August 20, 2007 10:35 AM**
- **China Airlines Flight 120**
- **157 passengers, 8 crewmembers (no injuries)**
- **Taipei, Taiwan, to Naha, Okinawa**
- **Investigated by Japan Aviation and Railroad Accident Investigation Committee**





Landing Rollout

Leak Begins

Fire Breaks Out

- 標高
- ★ 緊急時の進入ゲート
- 消防車用の消防ポンプステーション
- ▲ 地下通路の入り口
- 貯水塔

# Video of Fire





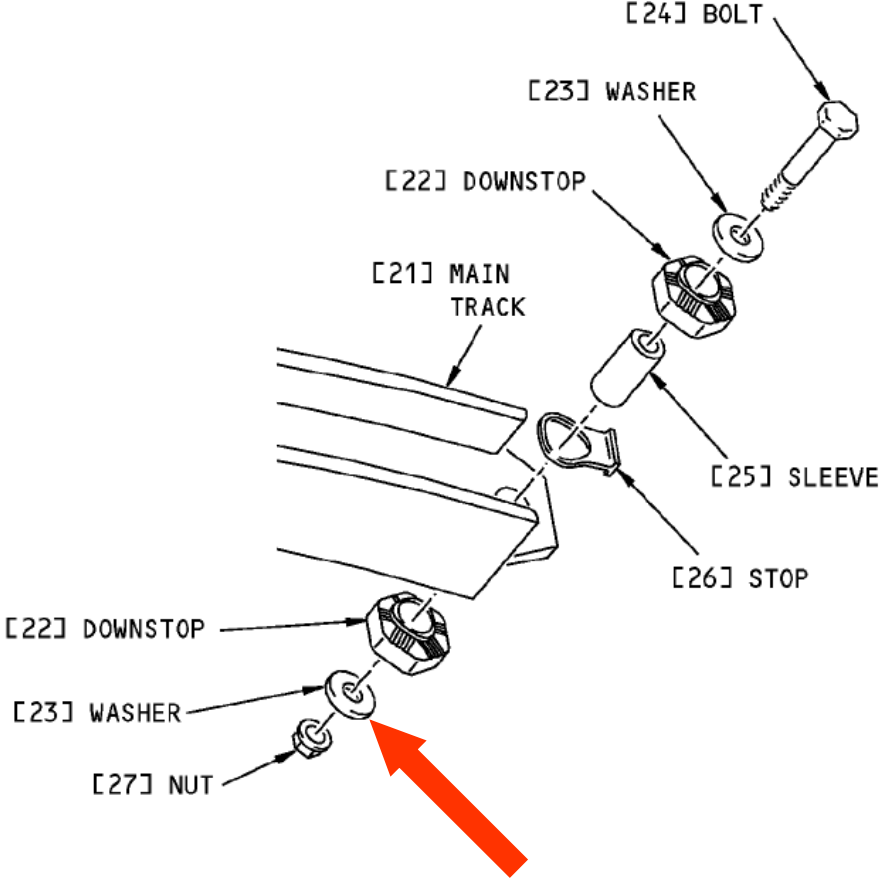




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# Slat Track Downstop Assembly



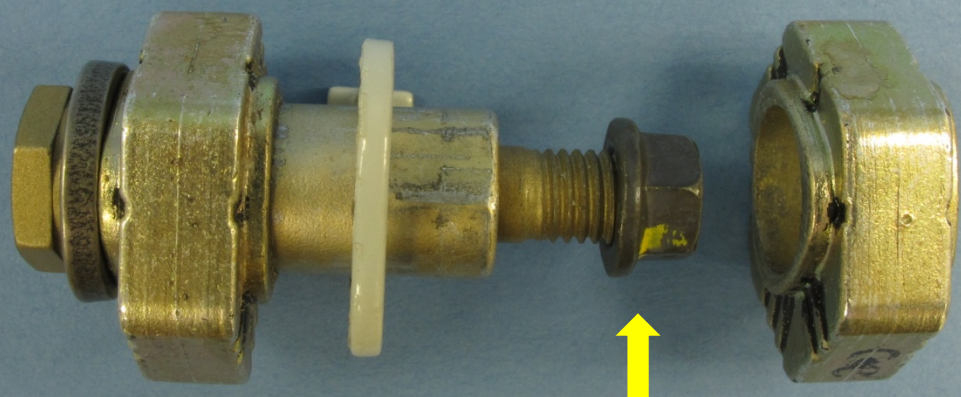
**WASHER NOT INSTALLED DURING  
EARLIER MAINTENANCE**



# Damaged Can



Loose Washer →



↑  
Nut



# Immediate Government Actions

- **Japan Civil Aviation Bureau Emergency Airworthiness Directive**
- **Taiwan Civil Aviation Authority Emergency Airworthiness Directive**
- **U.S. Federal Aviation Administration Emergency Airworthiness Directive**



# Manufacturer Actions

- **Rapid Boeing redesign of bolt/nut assembly**
- **Immediate Boeing cross-model safety review (B707/DC-9 through B777)**



# FAA Emergency AD Results

- **21 missing/loose washers discovered on U.S. Boeing 737s**
- **Any of these anomalies, if not discovered, could have led to an in-flight fuel leak and/or ground fuel leak, and subsequent fire.**





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

**Dubai UAE – UPS Boeing 747F, In-Flight Fire**  
**Bill English**

# Investigation Information

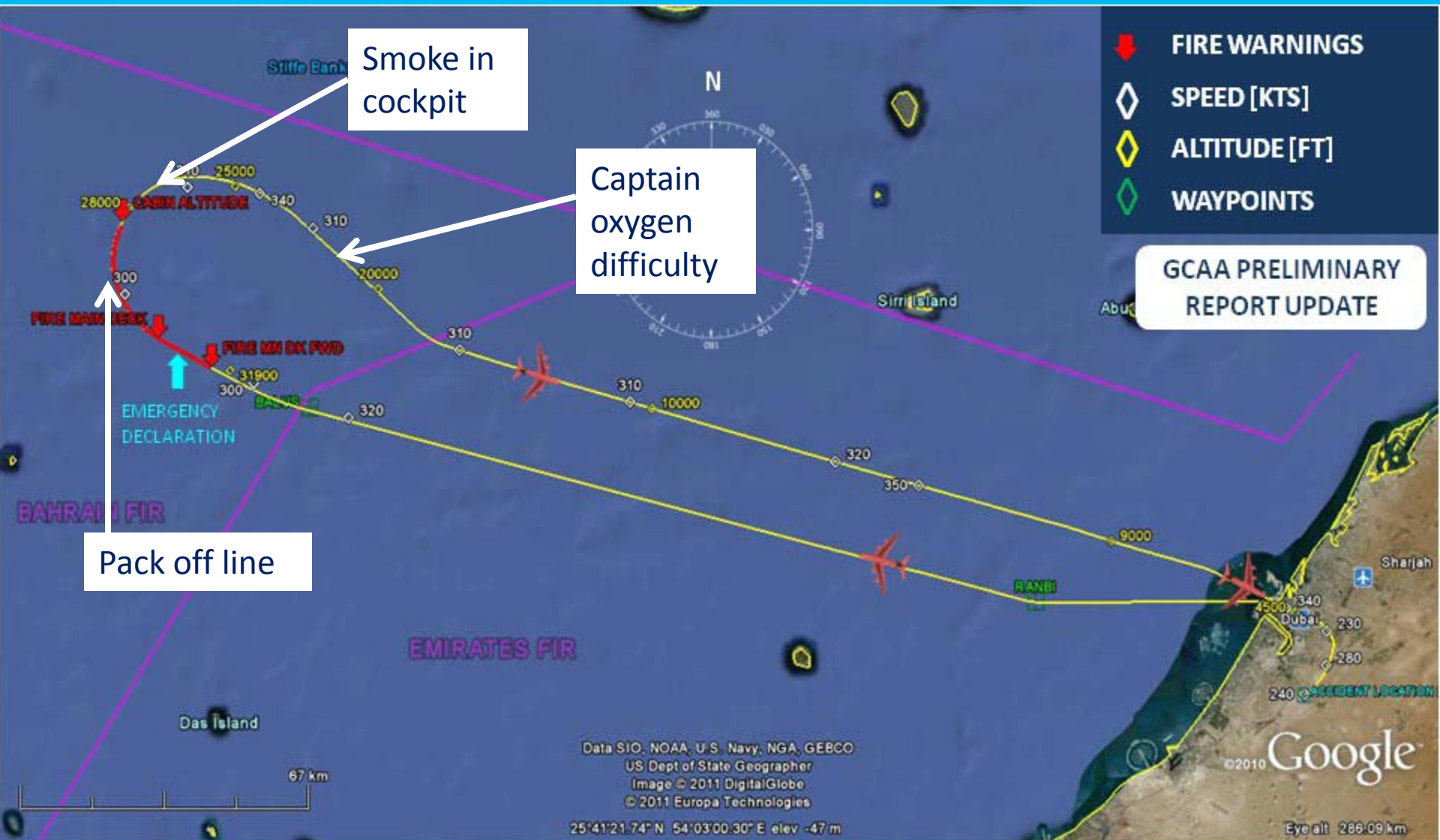
- UAE GCAA leads investigation
  - ICAO Annex 13
- U.S. Involvement
  - State of Manufacture, Registry, Operator
- Open investigation
  - no conclusions
- NTSB, FAA, UPS, Boeing, IPA responded



# Initial Information

- Scheduled cargo flight to Cologne
  - Many shipments of lithium batteries
- At FL320, crew reported fire alarm
- Turned back to Dubai (120 nm)
- Began descent and initiated FIRE MAIN DECK checklist
  - Depressurizes cargo deck
  - Donned masks and goggles

# Flightpath



# Flightpath

GCAA PRELIMINARY  
REPORT UPDATE

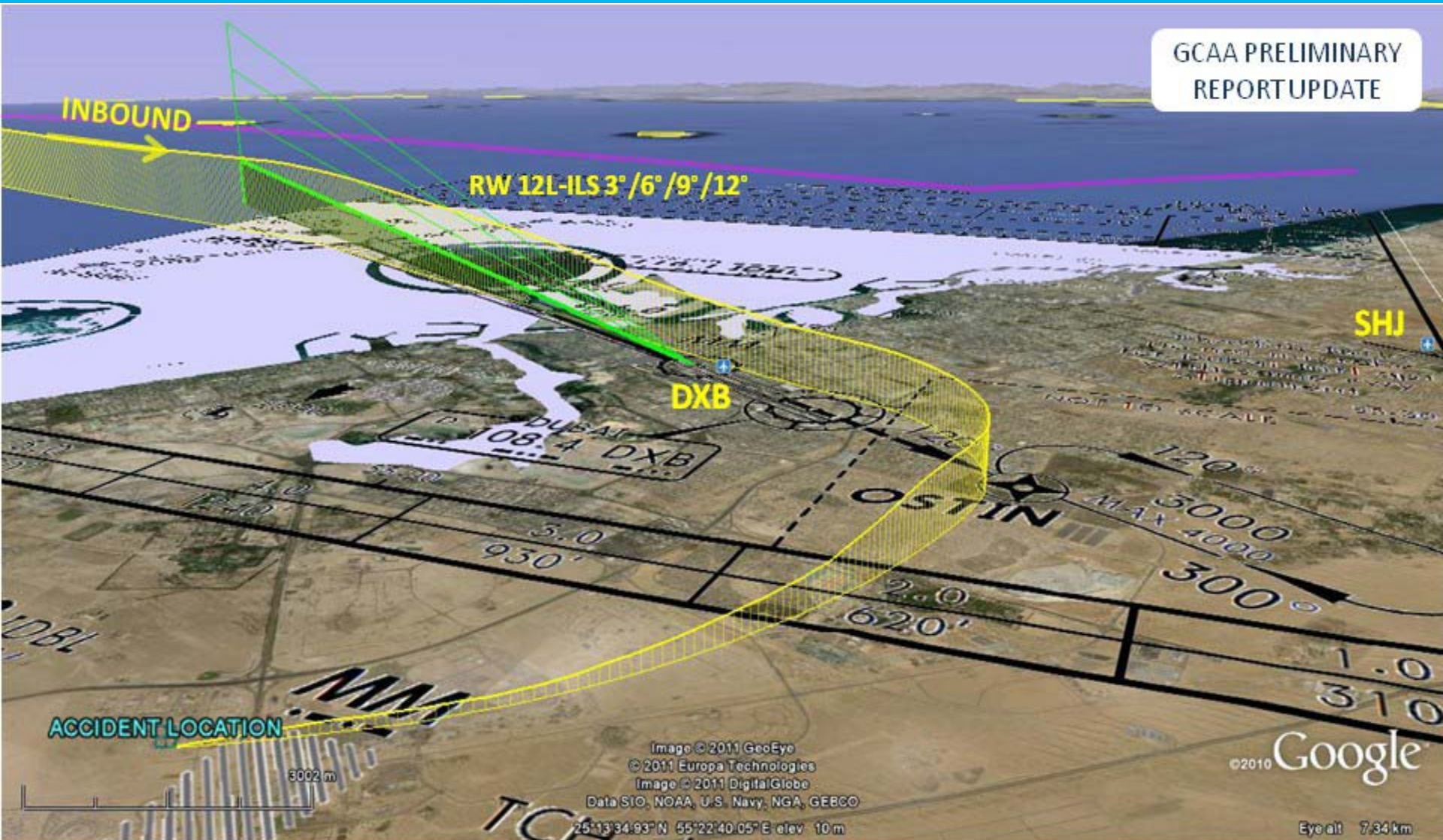


Image © 2011 GeoEye  
© 2011 Europa Technologies  
Image © 2011 DigitalGlobe  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
25°13'34.93" N 55°22'40.05" E elev. 10 m

© 2010 Google

Eye alt 7.34 km



# Wreckage



Wreckage path coming out of screen, housing in background

# Follow-on Work

- Recorders
  - FDR, CVR, AHM
- Groups formed
  - Operations/Human Performance
  - Cargo
  - Systems
  - Fire

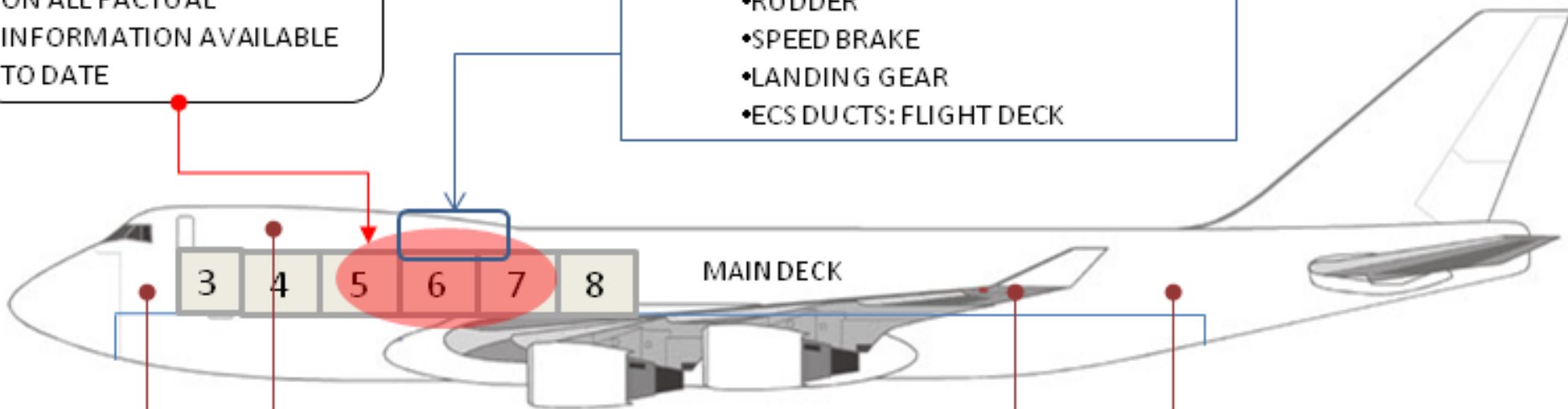


# UPS B747-400F Layout

**APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF ONBOARD FIRE BASED ON ALL FACTUAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DATE**

**MECH CONTROL/ECS DUCTING LOCATION:**

- ELEVATOR
- RUDDER
- SPEED BRAKE
- LANDING GEAR
- ECS DUCTS: FLIGHT DECK



MAIN CARGO DECK SMOKE DETECTION	
TIME (UTC)	DFDR EVENT
15:12:54	FIRE MAIN DECK FWD
15:13:46	FIRE MAIN DECK
15:14:40	MAIN CARGO ZONE 12
15:15:15	CREW REST SMOKE
15:15:28	FIRE MAIN DECK AFT

Examine fire origin, detection and containment





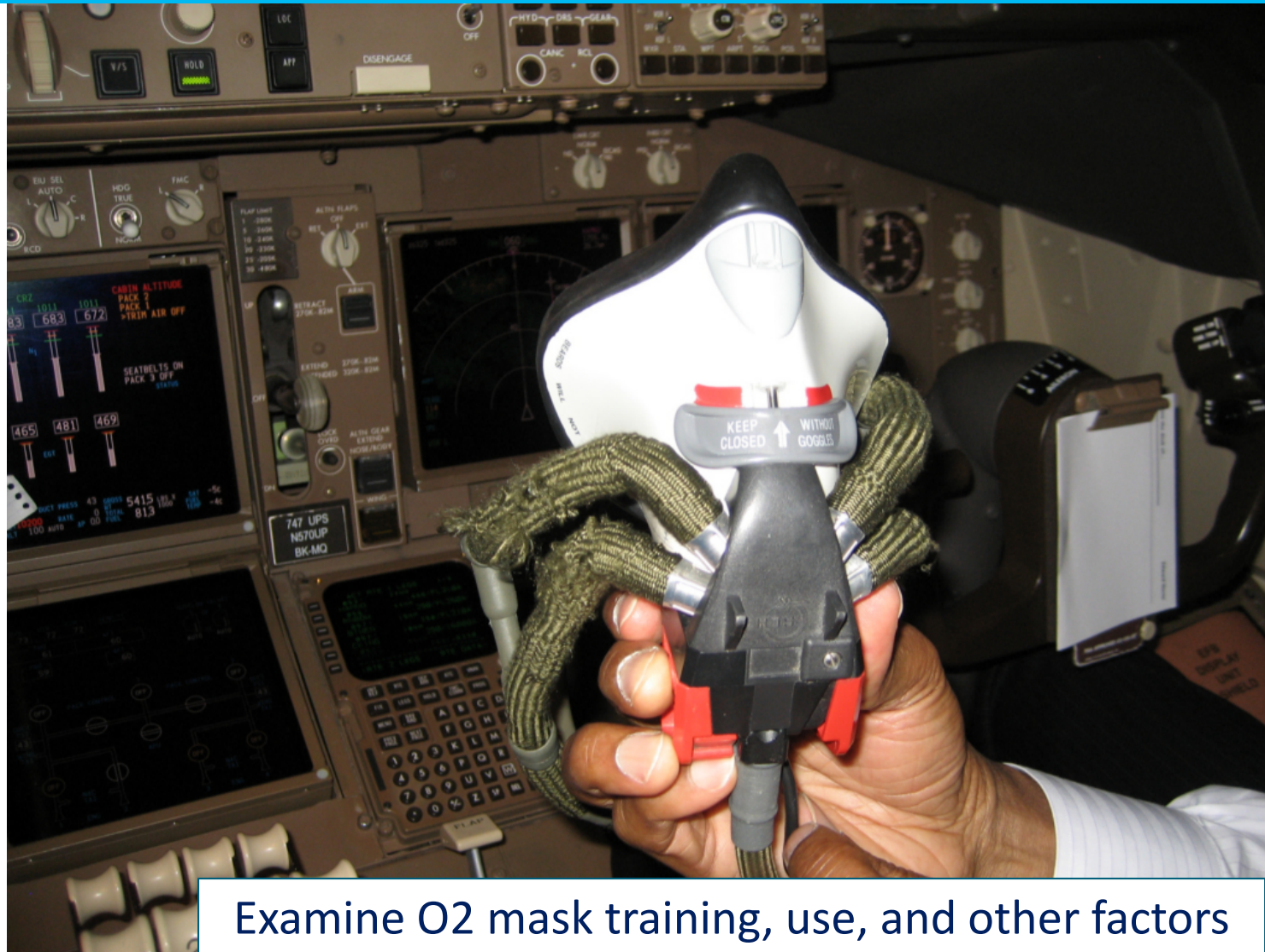
# Common Point of Failures



Examine aircraft systems between cargo and cockpit



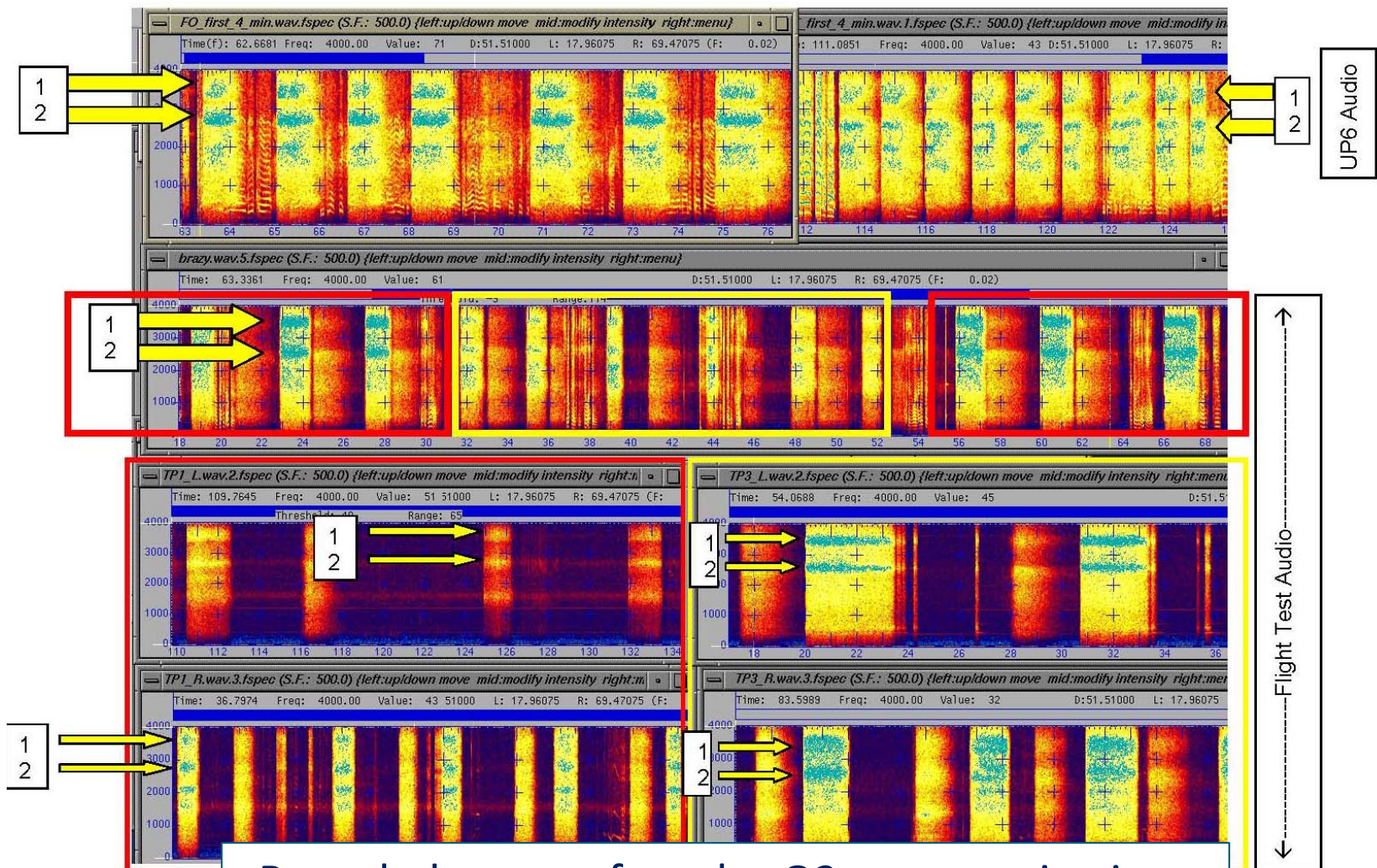
# Investigation Activities



Examine O2 mask training, use, and other factors



# Sound Spectrum Study



Revealed status of masks, O2, communications



# Fire Threat Investigation



Quantify the actual threats in air cargo

# Safety Actions

- GCAA Updates and Releases
- FAA Lithium Battery SAFO
  - Rulemaking/ICAO WP pending
- ICAO/EASA lithium carriage
- Boeing/UPS checklist changes 747F
- Recommendations – crew training, mask use, etc.



# Follow-on Testing Support

- GCAA lead
- Boeing – simulator, timelining, systems and FDR analysis, etc.
- UPS – test flights, cargo information
- IPA – flight operations
- FAA – hazmat, aircraft certification, tech center
- BATFE – fire testing





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# International Investigations

*Global Collaboration with Domestic Impact*

**United States – Pilatus PC-12, Butte, Montana**

**Dennis Diaz**



# Investigation

- Documentation and data gathering
- Wreckage exhibited extensive impact damage and fire-related damage
- No flight data or cockpit voice recorders on board
- Several components containing nonvolatile memory (NVM) recovered from wreckage



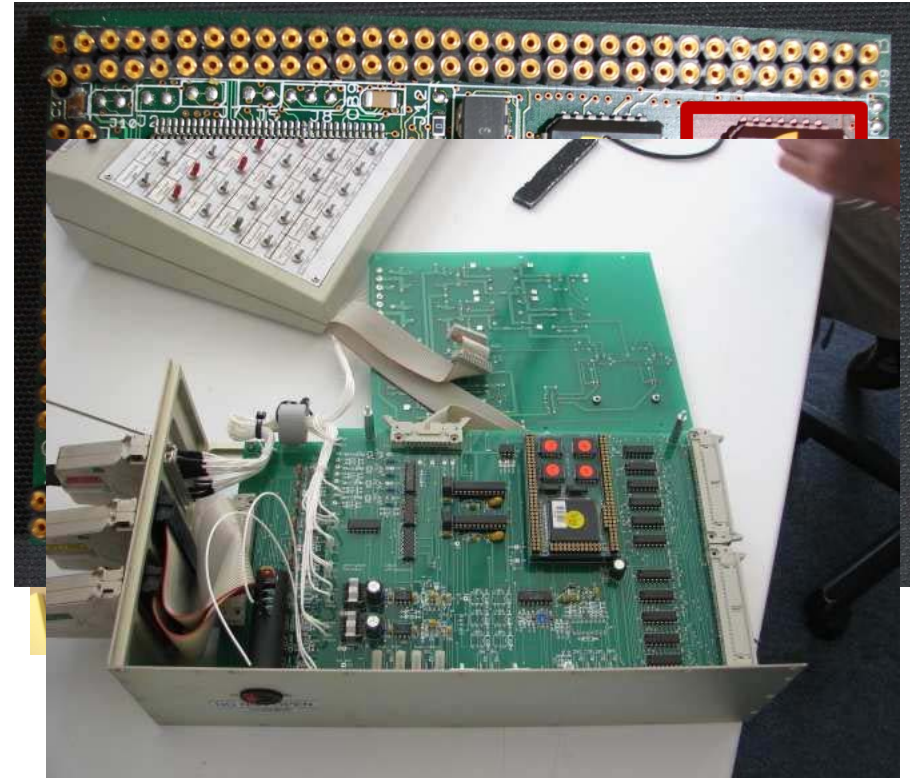
# Focus on Components

- One component with NVM was the central advisory and warning system (CAWS) computer
- CAWS provided system status indications and recorded event activation/deactivation in memory

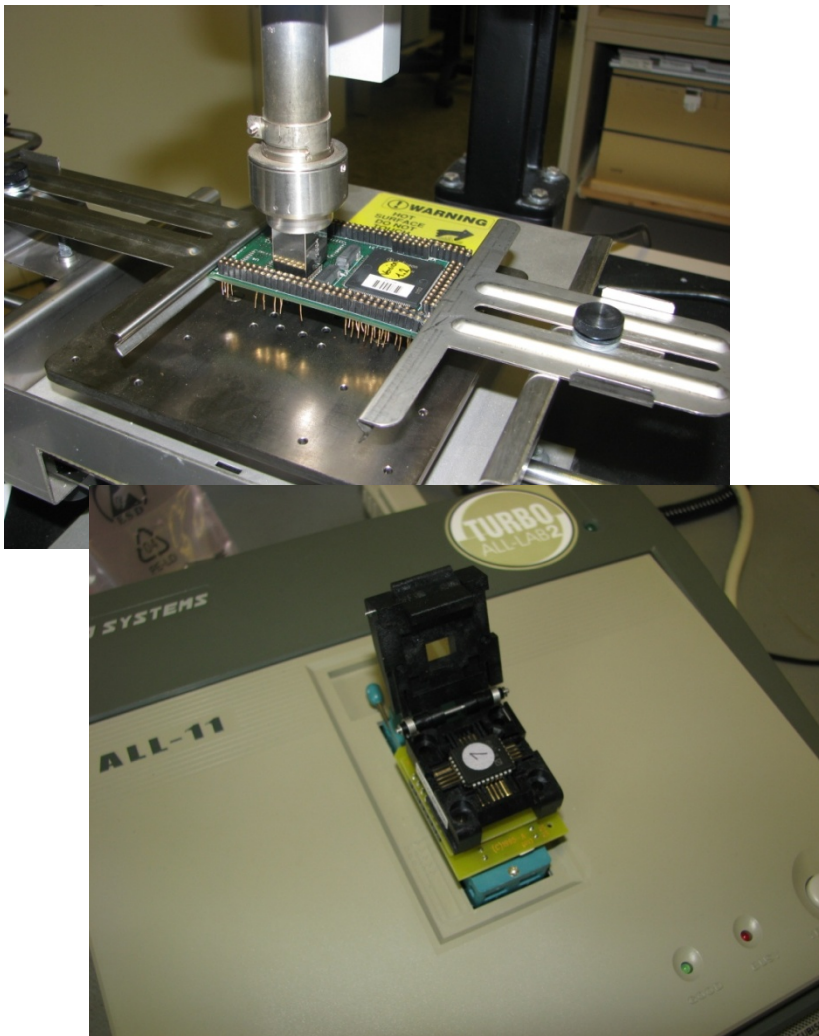


# Focus on Components

- CAWS computer was damaged by fire and impact
- Board containing memory chips survived
- Log data contained on chips '3' and '4'
- Data recovery attempted at manufacturer using surrogate CAWS
- Damage precluded data download



# Assistance From Abroad



- German Federal Bureau of Aircraft Accident Investigation (BFU)
- After attending initial download attempt, offered to assist
- Extracted chips from board
- Downloaded data from chips directly

# Assistance From Abroad

```

Ety: 107904 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:30:01 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107905 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:30:02 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107906 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:30:10 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107907 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:30:11 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107908 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:30:17 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107909 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:30:18 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107910 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:34:49 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107911 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:34:49 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107912 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:35:43 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107913 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:35:44 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107914 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:38:49 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107915 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:38:49 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107916 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:39:06 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107917 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:39:06 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107918 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:45:06 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107919 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:45:06 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107920 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:48:55 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107921 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:48:56 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared
Ety: 107922 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:50:14 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Activated
Ety: 107923 F\No: 1559 Date: 31.05 0001 Time: 23:50:14 WNo 43 : A/P TRIM :Cleared

```

- Extracted files returned to CAWS manufacturer
- Manufacturer compiled software to decode data
- Decoded data returned to NTSB team

```

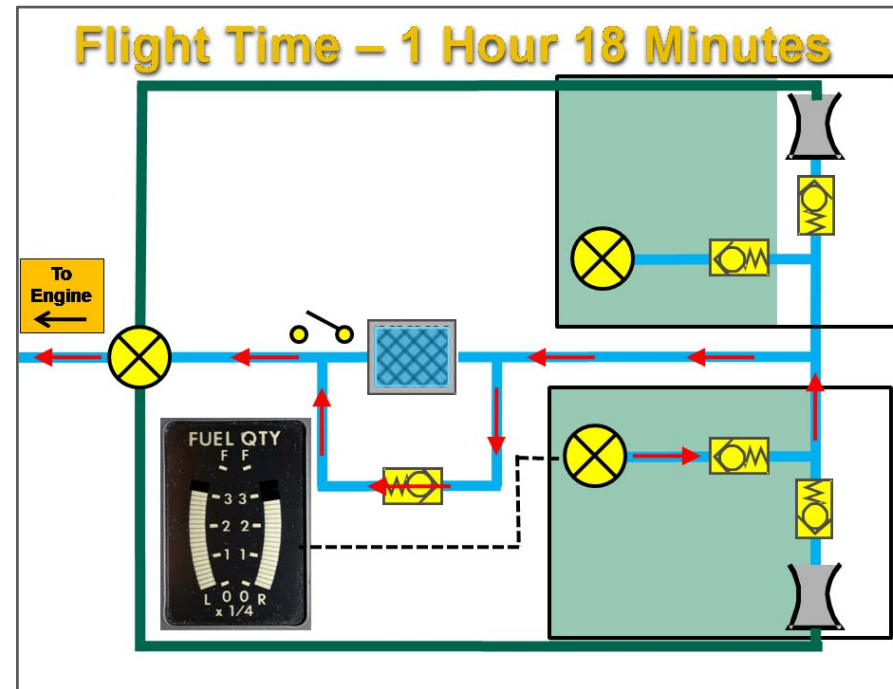
000000660: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 34 08 38 04 5F E0 00 00 .0...#"Q4.8.à..
000000670: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 34 00 38 04 60 E0 00 00 .0...#"Q4.8.à..
000000680: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 38 08 38 04 61 E0 00 00 .0...#"Q8.8.aà..
000000690: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 39 00 38 04 62 E0 00 00 .0...#"Q9.8.bà..
0000006A0: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 42 08 38 04 63 E0 00 00 .0...#"QB.8.cà..
0000006B0: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 43 00 38 04 64 E0 00 00 .0...#"QC.8.dà..
0000006C0: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 46 08 38 04 65 E0 00 00 .0...#"QF.8.eà..
0000006D0: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 47 00 38 04 66 E0 00 00 .0...#"QG.8.fà..
0000006E0: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 51 08 38 04 67 E0 00 00 .0...#"QQ.8.gà..
0000006F0: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 51 52 00 38 04 68 E0 00 00 .0...#"QR.8.hà..
000000700: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 52 16 08 38 04 69 E0 00 00 .0...#"R.8.ià..
000000710: 00 30 01 00 05 23 22 52 16 00 38 04 6A E0 00 00 .0...#"R.8.jà..
000000720: 00 11 01 00 05 23 22 53 03 0C 38 04 6B E0 00 00 .0...#"S.8.kà..
000000730: 00 11 01 00 05 23 22 53 28 00 38 04 6C E0 00 00 .0...#"S(.8.là..
000000740: 00 34 01 00 05 24 00 26 14 00 38 04 6D E0 00 00 .4...$.&.8.mà..
000000750: 00 00 01 00 05 24 00 26 19 10 39 04 6E E0 00 00 .0...$.&.8.nà..
000000760: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 27 30 08 39 04 6F E0 00 00 .0...$. '0.9.oà..
000000770: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 27 31 00 39 04 70 E0 00 00 .0...$. '1.9.pà..
000000780: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 28 05 08 39 04 71 E0 00 00 .0...$. (.9.qà..
000000790: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 28 06 00 39 04 72 E0 00 00 .0...$. (.9.rà..
0000007A0: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 30 18 08 39 04 73 E0 00 00 .0...$.0.9.sà..
0000007B0: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 30 18 00 39 04 74 E0 00 00 .0...$.0.9.tà..
0000007C0: 00 30 01 00 05 24 00 30 10 00 38 04 75 E0 00 00 .0...$.0.9.ù..

```



# Putting the Pieces Together

- Analysis of data validated by and supported with other information led investigation in new direction
- New understanding of accident flight system behaviors and operational factors
- Data proved pivotal in determining probable cause





**NTSB** National  
Transportation  
Safety Board

