

## 117<sup>th</sup> ARW Outstanding Act of Safety Award



**Photo Caption:** Col James, Col Newton and Lt Col RJ Smith present the 117<sup>th</sup> Outstanding Act of Safety Award to MSgt Aaron Davis, TSgt Timothy Blanchard, SSgt Brian Abbott, and SrA Eric Perkins. Not pictured TSgt William Krumrei.

Contrary to popular opinion, Safety is not a result of trying to do things safely. Safety is a byproduct of doing things excellently. Taking the initiative, not cutting corners, excellence in all that you do – together, these traits produce Safety as a byproduct. When in its most pure and most effective form, Safety is not a program. Rather it's an integrated process that is not thought of as Safety. It's thought of as *Excellence*.

Recently, the 117<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron's Aircraft Repair and Reclamation shop received a heads-up call from the 117<sup>th</sup> Quality Assurance office regarding a safety concern for all KC-135R aircraft, as a result of a deployed KC-135R aircraft losing all control in the yoke. The personnel in the A/R shop, led by their supervisor MSgt Aaron Davis, took the initiative and began their own one-time inspection of all KC-135R aircraft at the 117<sup>th</sup>. This self-initiated inspection resulted in the discovery of two aircraft with discrepancies directly related to the yoke problem. The problems were corrected before the beginning of the next work day. Two days after the problems were found and corrected at the 117<sup>th</sup>, the Air Force issued an Urgent One Time Inspection memorandum for all KC-135R aircraft. The personal ownership and sense of urgency displayed by the Aircraft Repair and Reclamation shop personnel had a profound impact, and possibly prevented potentially catastrophic events from occurring at the 117<sup>th</sup> ARW. The A/R personnel who discovered and corrected the problem were: MSgt Aaron Davis, TSgt William Krumrei, TSgt Timothy Blanchard, SSgt Brian Abbott, and SrA Eric Perkins. Job well done!

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