



Federal Aviation
Administration



FY 2009

Portfolio of Goals

**PORTFOLIO OF GOALS
FY 2009**

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SAFETY

Commercial Air Carrier Fatality Rate



FY 2009 Performance Target

"In FY 2009, the commercial air carrier fatality rate will not exceed 8.4 fatalities per 100 million people on board."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Reduce commercial air carrier fatalities.

Performance Target: Cut the rate of fatalities per 100 million persons on board in half by 2025.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 ¹ | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | 8.7 | 8.4 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | 0.4 ² | |

¹ This measure replaced the Commercial Air Carrier Fatal Accident Rate in FY 2008. No data are available for prior years.

² Preliminary estimate. Final data will be available in March 2010.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of fatalities per 100 million persons on board.

Computation: Number of fatalities, including ramp accidents and other fatalities as a result of the accident, divided by number of passengers and crew on board flights.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Number of commercial air carrier fatalities}}{(\text{Number of persons on board}/100,000,000)}$$

Scope of Measure: This measure includes both scheduled and nonscheduled flights of U.S. passenger and cargo air carriers (14 CFR Part 121) and scheduled flights of regional operators (14 CFR Part 135). It excludes on-demand (i.e., air taxi) service and general aviation. Accidents involving passengers, crew, ground personnel, and the uninvolved public are all included.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

We chose this measure because it is easy to understand and measures the individual risk to the flying public. As fatal air carrier accidents have declined in terms of average fatalities per accident, this measure will sharpen FAA's focus on helping air travel become even safer.

Source of the Data

The data on commercial fatalities come from the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB's) Aviation Accident Database. All but a small share of the data for persons on board comes from the air carriers, who submit data for all passengers on board to the Office of Airline Information (OAI) within the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. In addition, FAA estimates crew on board based on the distribution of aircraft departures by make and model, plus an average of 3.5 persons on board per Part 121 cargo flight.

Statistical Issues

Both accidents and passengers on board are censuses, having no sampling error. However, crew on board is an estimate, but crew staffing in fact varies only within a very small range for any given make-model. Departure data and enplanements for Part 121 are from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). The crew estimate is based on fleet makeup and crew requirements per number of seats. For the current fleet, the number of crew is equal to about seven percent of all Part 121 enplanements. The average number of cargo crew on board is 3.5 per departure, based on data from subscription services such as Air Claims, a proprietary database used by insurers to obtain information such as fleet mix, accidents and claims. Cargo crews typically include two flight crew members, and occasionally another pilot or company rep, or two

deadheading passengers. Part 135 data also comes from BTS and Air Claims databases, but is not as complete. AEP calls the operators where BTS data have gaps. Based on previous accident and incident reports, the average Part 135 enplanement is five per departure. Crew estimates for Part 135 are based on previous accident and incident data. Any error that might be introduced by estimating crew will be very small and will be overwhelmed by the passenger census. Also note that the fatality rate is small and could significantly fluctuate from year to year due to a single accident.

Completeness

The FAA does comparison checking of the departure data collected by BTS. This data is needed for crew estimates. However, FAA has no independent data sources against which to validate the numbers submitted to BTS. FAA compares its list of carriers to the DOT list to validate completeness and places the carriers in the appropriate category (i.e., Part 121 or Part 135). The number of actual persons on board for any given period is considered preliminary for up to 18 months after the close of the reporting period. This is due to amended reports subsequently filed by the air carriers. Preliminary estimates are based on projections of the growth in departures developed by the Office of Policy, Planning and Environment. However, changes to the number of persons on board should rarely affect the annual fatality rate. NTSB and FAA's Office of Accident Investigation meet regularly to validate the accident and fatality count.

To overcome reporting delays of 60 to 90 days, FAA must rely on historical data, partial internal data sources, and Official Airline Guide (OAG) scheduling information to project at least part of the fiscal year activity data. FAA uses OAG data until official BTS data are available. The air carrier fatal accident rate is not considered reliable until BTS provides preliminary numbers. Due to reporting procedures in place, it is unlikely that calculation of future fiscal year departure data will be markedly improved. Lacking complete historical data on a monthly basis and independent sources of verification increases the risk of error in the activity data.

Reliability

Results are considered preliminary based on projected activity data. FAA uses performance data extensively for program management, personnel evaluation, and accountability. Most accident investigations are a joint undertaking. NTSB has the statutory responsibility to determine probable cause, while FAA has separate statutory authority to investigate accidents and incidents in order to ensure that FAA meets its broader responsibilities. FAA's own accident investigators and other FAA employees participate in all accident investigations led by NTSB investigators.

SAFETY

General Aviation Fatal Accident Rate



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Limit the general aviation fatal accident rate to no more than 1.11 fatal accidents per 100,000 flight hours."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 2: Reduce general aviation fatalities.

Performance Target: Reduce the fatal accident rate per 100,000 flight hours by 10 percent over a 10-year period (2009-2018).

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1.11 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

¹ This is a new measure for FY 2009, replacing the numerical general aviation fatal accident reduction measure. No data are available for prior years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of fatal accidents per 100,000 flight hours.

Computation: The number of general aviation fatal accidents divided by the number of flight hours.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Number of general aviation fatal accidents}}{(\text{Number of general aviation flight hours} / 100,000)}$$

Scope of Measure: This measure includes on-demand (non-scheduled FAR Part 135) and general aviation flights. General aviation comprises a diverse range of aviation activities, from single-seat homebuilt aircraft, helicopters, balloons, single and multiple engine land and seaplanes, to highly sophisticated extended range turbojets.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The success of FAA and industry collaborative safety initiatives continues to drive the GA fatal accident rate lower. We have consistently met our GA safety goals and remain on track for FY09. The end of April, 2008, marked a 3-year period that was the safest ever recorded in the history of General Aviation.

The FAA and general aviation community developed the general aviation fatal accident rate rather than the number of fatal accidents as the performance measure because the previous measure was not rate-based and did not reflect fleet activity levels and its relationship to the number of fatal accidents. The new performance measure is a true rate-based metric and tracks changes in the fatal accident rate for a fixed volume of flight hours (per 100,000).

The performance target baseline of 1.12 percent covers the period from May 2005 through April 2008. This 3-year period captures the safest years ever recorded for general aviation. The baseline is substantially more aggressive than the current Flight Plan performance target.

Source of the Data

The data for general aviation fatal accidents comes from the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) [Aviation Accident Database](#). Aviation accident investigators under the auspices of the NTSB develop the data.

Annual flight hours are derived from the FAA's annual *General Aviation and Part 135 Activity Survey*. In order to derive FY09 flight hours, the most recent GA Survey hours (CY2007) will be used as the basis. CY2008 hours will be predicted based on the change in GA and Air Taxi tower counts from 2007 to 2008. The percent change in tower counts will be applied to the 2007 hours to predict 2008 hours. CY2009 hours will be projected from 2008 based on APO forecasts. Annual hours will be distributed into monthly hours based on the 10-year average monthly distribution of towers counts. CY will be converted in FY based on

the monthly hour distribution.

Statistical Issues

The NTSB determines the actual number of general aviation fatal accidents. Since this is a simple count of accidents, there are no statistical issues relevant to this data.

The survey data for activity are highly accurate with a percent-standard error of less than 1 percent. The general aviation community and the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee (GAJSC) of the Safer Skies initiative recommended development of a data collection program that will yield more accurate and relevant data on general aviation demographics and utilization. Improved survey and data collection methodologies have been developed.

As a result of these efforts, the FAA, working with the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, the NTSB, and other aviation industry associations, has made many improvements to the survey. First, the sample size has significantly increased. Second, a reporting form has been created to make it much easier for organizations with large fleets to report. Third, the agency worked with the Aircraft Registry to improve the accuracy of contact information. As a result, a survey was completed in FY 2004 that, for the first time, creates a statistically valid report of activity that the general aviation community agrees on. Each year since 2004, significant improvements have been made which in turn, substantially improved the accuracy of the data.

The GAJSC General Aviation Data Improvement Team has worked closely with the general aviation community and industry to develop this performance measure and target. There is unanimous support and consensus for the measure and target.

Completeness

The number of general aviation fatal accidents, even when reported as preliminary, is very accurate. When final reports are issued, the number of fatal accidents does not change significantly. NTSB classifications are considered final when the Board issues their annual press release. Accidents during a fiscal year are addressed in the NTSB press release issued at the end of the following year.

GA Survey calendar hours are finalized by October 31 of the following year. Hence, the fatal accident rate for FY09 will not be considered final/complete until October 2010.

Reliability

FAA uses performance data extensively for program management, and personnel evaluation and accountability. Most accident investigations are a joint undertaking between FAA and NTSB. NTSB has the statutory responsibility, but, in fact, most of the accident investigations related to general aviation are conducted by FAA Aviation Safety Inspectors without NTSB direct involvement. FAA's own accident investigators and other FAA employees participate in all accident investigations led by NTSB investigators.

As mentioned above, the large sample for FAA's activity survey, along with the ease of data collection, produce highly accurate flight hour data. The low standard error which results ensures the reliability of these data.

SAFETY

Alaska Accidents



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Reduce accidents in Alaska for general aviation and all part 135 operations to no more than 99 in FY 2009."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 2: Reduce general aviation fatalities.

Performance Target: By the end of FY 2009, reduce accidents in Alaska for general aviation and all Part 135 operations from the 2000-2002 average of 130 accidents per year to no more than 99 accidents per year. This measure will be converted from a number to a rate at the beginning of FY 2010.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|
| Target | 120 | 115 | 110 | 104 | 99 |
| Actual | 128 | 101 ¹ | 92 ² | 108 ³ | |

¹ Final result revised from preliminary estimate of 102 in FY 2008.

² Preliminary estimate until March 2009.

³ Preliminary estimate until March 2010.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: The total number of all Part 135 and general aviation accidents in Alaska.

Computation: The number of general aviation and all Part 135 accidents in Alaska during the fiscal year is calculated.

Formula: Count of the number of accidents.

Scope of Measure: This measure includes scheduled and non-scheduled FAR Part 135 accidents, as well as general aviation accidents, including both fatal and non-fatal accidents. This measure is not a sub-measure of the General Aviation Fatal Accidents performance target. Flight operations in Alaska are diverse and they are responsive to the state's challenging aviation environment and unique air transportation requirements.

Part 135 operations in Alaska are dominated by single-engine airplanes powered by a reciprocating engine, operated under visual flight rules (VFR), and crewed by a single pilot. Operating in rough terrain, adverse weather, and in areas of extreme isolation increases the difficulties in conducting safe flight operations. General aviation pilots often use the same types of single-engine airplanes and cope with the same environmental challenges as Part 135 operators.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

This measure was adopted by the FAA in 2004. Although Alaska has a relatively high number of accidents, it also has a low number of fatal accidents. The overwhelming majority of accidents in Alaska results in little or no injuries. Using the same measure as general aviation throughout the NAS (fatal accidents) would result in a random distribution of fatal accidents that would be difficult to base a safety goal on. Expanding the numerator in the Alaska safety metric to include accidents, whether fatal or not, allowed for a large enough data pool to conduct trend analysis, study accident seasonal distribution, and form the basis for a valid safety goal.

Source of the Data

The data on Part 135 and general aviation accidents come from the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB's) Aviation Accident Database. Aviation accident investigators under the auspices of the NTSB develop the data.

Statistical Issues

There is no major error in the accident counts. Random variation in air crashes results in a significant variation in the number of fatal accidents over time. The FAA plans to convert the current measure to a true rate-based measure in FY 2010. Starting in FY 2010, the FAA will use a rate based on accidents involving fatalities and serious injuries. This will shift the focus away from the number of accidents and allow us to target our safety initiatives on accidents that pose the greatest risk to the flying public. A rate-based metric will also allow the FAA to trend safety performance over time regardless of fluctuations in flying activity caused by economic conditions, price of fuel, weather conditions, and other variables.

Unlike commercial aviation activity that is reported regularly to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics by the carriers, general aviation flight hours are based on an annual survey conducted by the FAA and response to the survey is voluntary. The general aviation community and the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee of the Safer Skies initiative recommended development of a data collection program that will yield more accurate and relevant data on general aviation demographics and utilization. Improved survey and data collection methodologies have been developed.

As a result of these efforts, the FAA, working with the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, has made continual improvements to the general aviation survey. First, the sample size has been significantly increased. Second, a reporting sheet has been created to make it much easier for organizations with large fleets to report. Third, the agency worked with the Aircraft Registry to improve the accuracy of contact information. As a result, a survey was completed in FY 2004 that, for the first time, creates a statistically valid report of general aviation activity that the general aviation community agrees on. Each year since 2004, significant improvements have been made which in turn substantially improved the accuracy of the data. Today the data is considered to be highly accurate by both the FAA and a broad range of industry stakeholders.

Completeness

NTSB and FAA's Office of Accident Investigation meet regularly to validate information on the number of accidents. Accident data is initially considered preliminary. The NTSB usually completes investigations and issues reports on accidents that occur during any fiscal year by the end of the next fiscal year. Results are considered final when all those accidents have been reported in the NTSB press release published by March. FY 2008 results will therefore be final after the 2010 press release. In general, however, accident numbers are not likely to change significantly between the end of the fiscal year and the date they are finalized. The FAA considers the numbers stable within 60 days after the end of a fiscal year.

Reliability

FAA uses performance data extensively for program management and personnel evaluation and accountability. Most accident investigations are a joint undertaking between FAA and NTSB. NTSB has the statutory responsibility, but, in fact, most of the accident investigations related to general aviation are delegated by the NTSB to FAA Aviation Safety Inspectors without NTSB direct involvement. The FAA's own accident investigators participate in all accident investigations led by NTSB investigators.

SAFETY
Runway Incursions



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Limit Category A and B (most serious) runway incursions to a rate of no more than 0.472 per million operations.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 3: Reduce the risk of runway incursions.

Performance Target: By 2010, reduce Category A and B (most serious) runway incursions to a rate of no more than 0.45 per million operations, and maintain or improve through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 ¹ | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Target | 36/0.557 | 0.551 | 0.530 | 0.509 | 0.472 |
| Actual | 29/0.460 | 0.507 ² | 0.393 ³ | 0.427 ⁴ | |

¹ For FY 2004, the target was the number of incursions. The target for FY 2005 was the number, but a rate was also reported. In FY 2006, the target became a rate only.

² Actual result revised from preliminary estimate of 0.458.

³ Final result revised in FY07 from preliminary estimate of 0.392. Preliminary estimate revised from original estimate of 0.393 in November 2007.

⁴ Final result revised from preliminary estimate of 0.428 in January 2009.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Rate of Category A & B (most serious) runway incursions per million operations.

Computation: The total number of Category A and B runway incursions is divided by the sum of the number operations divided by 1 million.

Formula:

$$\frac{\text{Number of A \& B Incursions}}{(\text{Operations Count}/1,000,000)}$$

Scope of Measure: A runway incursion is any occurrence at an aerodrome involving the incorrect presence of an aircraft, vehicle or person on the protected area of a surface designated for the landing and takeoff of aircraft. They are grouped in three general categories: operational errors, pilot deviations, and vehicle/pedestrian deviations. Runway incursions are reported and tracked at airports that have an operational air traffic control tower. Operations are defined as total takeoffs and landings.

The FAA tracks four categories of runway incursions - A, B, C, D - but includes only those with the highest risk of collision, Category A and B incursions, in the measure.

- Category A: Separation decreases to the point that participants take extreme action to narrowly avoid a collision.
- Category B: Separation decreases, and there is a significant potential for a collision.
- Category C: Separation decreases, but there is ample time and distance to avoid a collision.
- Category D: There is little or no chance of collision, but the definition of a runway incursion is met.

In FY2002 FAA changed the focus of measurement for runway incursions from all incursions to those incursions with measurable risk of collision, Categories A and B. Since Category C and D incursions were not likely to lead to an accident or a significant risk of an accident, their inclusion in the previous total tended to mask true safety risk. The new measure reflects the focus of FAA's runway safety effort to reduce the rate of the incursions with demonstrable risk.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Runway incursions create dangerous situations that can lead to serious accidents. Reducing the number of runway incursions lessens the probability of accidents that potentially involve fatalities, injuries, and significant property damage.

Source of the Data

Air traffic controllers and pilots are the primary source of runway incursion reports. The data are recorded in the FAA National Incident Monitoring System (NAIMS). Preliminary incident reports are evaluated when received and evaluation can take up to 90 days.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The data are typically not finalized for 90 days following the close of the fiscal year. Surface operational error/deviation, surface pilot deviation, and vehicle/pedestrian deviation reports are reviewed on a daily basis to determine if the incident meets the definition of a runway incursion. Runway incursions are a subset of the incident data collected and the completeness of the data is based on the reporting requirements and completeness for each of the incident types.

Reliability

FAA uses performance data extensively for program management, personnel evaluation, and accountability in prioritizing its facility evaluations and audits. The data is also used on a daily basis to track progress of achieving performance goals. Annual runway incursion incident data are used to provide a statistical basis for research and analysis and outreach initiatives. The FAA verifies and validates the accuracy of the data through reviews of preliminary and final reports. Reconciliation of the databases is conducted monthly and anomalies are explored and resolved. In cases where major problems are identified, a request to re-submit is issued. The FAA conducts annual reviews of reported data and compares the data with data reported from previous years.

SAFETY
Total Runway Incursions



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“One percent reduction in total number of runway incursions from the FY 2008 baseline of 1009 runway incursions.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 3: Reduce the risk of runway incursions.

Performance Target: By the end of FY 2013, reduce total runway incursions by 10 percent from the FY 2008 baseline.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 ¹ |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1000 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

¹ This is a new measure for FY 2009. No data are available for prior years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Difference between the total number of runway incursions and the FY 2008 baseline, expressed as a percentage. FY 2008 baseline is 1009 – the FY 2009 target is at least a one percent reduction from this baseline.

Computation: The difference between the number of incursions and the baseline is divided by the baseline, and the result is converted to a percentage by multiplying it by 100.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Total Number of Runway Incursions} - \text{FY 2008 Baseline}}{\text{FY 2008 Baseline}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: A runway incursion is any occurrence at an aerodrome involving the incorrect presence of an aircraft, vehicle or person on the protected area of a surface designated for the landing and takeoff of aircraft. They are grouped in three general categories: operational errors, pilot deviations, and vehicle/pedestrian deviations. Runway incursions are reported and tracked at airports that have an operational air traffic control tower. Operations are defined as total takeoffs and landings.

The FAA tracks four categories of runway incursions - A, B, C, D.

- Category A: Separation decreases to the point that participants take extreme action to narrowly avoid a collision.
- Category B: Separation decreases, and there is a significant potential for a collision.
- Category C: Separation decreases, but there is ample time and distance to avoid a collision.
- Category D: There is little or no chance of collision, but the definition of a runway incursion is met.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Runway incursions create dangerous situations that can lead to serious accidents. Reducing the number of runway incursions lessens the probability of accidents that potentially involve fatalities, injuries, and significant property damage.

Source of the Data

Air traffic controllers and pilots are the primary source of runway incursion reports. The data are recorded in the FAA National Incident Monitoring System (NAIMS). Preliminary incident reports are evaluated when received and evaluation can take up to 90 days.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The data are typically not finalized for 90 days following the close of the fiscal year. Surface operational error/deviation, surface pilot deviation, and vehicle/pedestrian deviation reports are reviewed on a daily basis to determine if the incident meets the definition of a runway incursion. Runway incursions are a subset of the incident data collected and the completeness of the data is based on the reporting requirements and completeness for each of the incident types.

Reliability

FAA uses performance data extensively for program management, personnel evaluation, and accountability in prioritizing its facility evaluations and audits. The data is also used on a daily basis to track progress of achieving performance goals. Annual runway incursion incident data are used to provide a statistical basis for research and analysis and outreach initiatives. The FAA verifies and validates the accuracy of the data through reviews or preliminary and final reports. Reconciliation of the databases is conducted monthly and anomalies are explored and resolved. In cases where major problems are identified, a request to re-submit is issued. The FAA conducts annual reviews of reported data and compares the data with data reported from previous years.

SAFETY

Commercial Space Launch Accidents



Federal Aviation Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"No fatalities, serious injuries, or significant property damage to the uninvolved public during licensed or permitted space launch and reentry activities."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 4: Ensure the safety of commercial space launches.

Performance Target: No fatalities, serious injuries, or significant property damage to the uninvolved public during licensed or permitted space launch and reentry activities.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 ¹ | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Target | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Actual | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

¹ This measure was redefined in FY 2007 to include permitted experimental launches as well as licensed commercial launches. The targets and results for prior years are for the original measure.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of accidents resulting in fatalities, injuries, or significant property damage.

Computation: The number of accident occurrences is calculated.

Formula: Count of the number of occurrences.

Scope of Measure: This measure focuses only on commercial space launch or reentry activities licensed or permitted and monitored by the FAA. "Significant" property damage is defined as any damage estimated to exceed \$25,000 to property not associated with flight. On board crew members and space flight participants are NOT considered "uninvolved" members of the public.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Protecting the uninvolved public during launch operations is an FAA safety mission objective. Commercial space transportation is the means by which payloads such as satellites and remote sensing devices are carried to orbit; these payloads have tremendous benefit to our society. Commercial space launch or reentry accidents can potentially have major catastrophic consequences, involving large losses of life and property. The uninvolved public expects to be protected from the potential dangers and hazards associated with commercial space launch and reentry activities. There has not been a single commercial space launch accident since the first DOT licensed launch took place in 1989, and DOT is working to keep this safety record perfect.

Source of the Data

The source of the data is the Office of the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation (AST). Specifically, AST monitors all licensed launch operations and maintains documented reports of each licensed event. These reports are generated by AST's assigned field inspectors and duty officers for each launch event. They include all relevant details pertaining to the outcome of the licensed launch or reentry operation, including the occurrence of any public fatalities, injuries, or property damage. AST will utilize other sources of data such as the launch vehicle operator, and federal, local and State government officials.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

AST's Licensing and Safety Division maintains and verifies reports that an accident resulting from a licensed or permitted launch operation has occurred. The Division supports coordination with other federal agencies,

including the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and the military, on any subsequent investigations.

Reliability

If an accident occurs, the FAA and the NTSB will complete official reports fully documenting circumstances associated with the event.

SAFETY

Operational Errors



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Limit Category A and B (most serious) operational errors to a rate of no more than 2.10 per million activities.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 5: Enhance the safety of FAA’s air traffic systems.

Performance Target: Limit Category A and B (most serious) operational errors to a rate of no more than 1.95 per million activities by FY 2012 and maintain through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 ¹ | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | 2.15 | 2.10 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | 2.25 ² | |

¹ This measure was redefined for FY 2008 – the criteria for rating the seriousness of operational errors were revised. New targets were also set. No data are available for prior years.

² Final result revised from preliminary estimate of 2.31 in January 2009.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Rate of category A & B (most serious) operational errors per million operations.

Computation: The total number of Category A & B operational errors is divided by the sum of the number of activities divided by 1,000,000.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Number of A \& B Errors}}{(\text{Operations Count} / 1,000,000)}$$

Scope of Measure: An operational error is a violation of separation standards that define minimum safe distances between aircraft, between aircraft and other physical structures, and between aircraft and otherwise restricted airspace.

The closest proximity is defined as the point at which the combined lateral and vertical separation results in the lowest slant range, regardless of geometry, as determined by the separation conformance calculator.

The separation conformance of an operational error is determined by the closest proximity of the aircraft at the time of the event and given a rating.

- Category A: A loss of airborne separation where the separation conformance percentage is less than 34. In events with wake turbulence where the lateral separation retained is less than 70 percent.
- Category B: A loss of airborne separation where the separation conformance percentage is 34 or more, but less than 75. In events with wake turbulence where the lateral separation retained is equal to or greater than 70 or more percent, but not including 85 percent.
- Category C: A loss of airborne separation where the separation conformance percentage is 75 or more, but the horizontal and vertical separation retained is less than 90 percent of the required separation. In events with wake turbulence where the lateral separation retained is equal to or greater than 85 percent, but less than 100 percent.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Separation is one of the fundamental principles of aviation safety – the need to maintain a safe distance from other aircraft, terrain, obstructions, and certain airspace not designated for routine air travel. The Separation Conformance measure creates a reliable, rate-based measure of safety that complements the rate-based measures of capacity. Such objective measures will help us better understand the level of risk in the National

Airspace System (NAS) and will allow us to critically assess the effects of changes to the NAS.

Source of the Data

The FAA's air traffic facilities have a software program called Operational Error Detection Patch (OEDP) that detects possible operational errors and sends alert messages to supervisory personnel. In addition, controllers are required to report operational errors. Facility management reviews OEDP alerts and data provided from the National Track Analysis Program (NTAP) to determine if an operational error has occurred. The information is summarized in the FAA Air Traffic Operational Error and Deviation Database.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The data are typically not finalized for 90 days following the close of the fiscal year. The FAA's Air Traffic Order 7210.56 requires all facilities to submit operational error reports within 3 hours of the event. The FAA has implemented procedures that require facilities to conduct random audits of radar data to identify potential unreported operational errors. The FAA Headquarters also conducts random audits of selected facilities based on the identification of unreported events. Facility management and personnel are subject to punitive action for non-compliance in reporting operational errors.

Reliability

FAA uses performance data extensively for program management, personnel evaluation, and accountability in prioritizing its facility evaluations and audits. The data are also used on a daily basis to track progress of achieving performance goals. Annual operational error incident data are used to provide a statistical basis for research and analysis. The FAA verifies and validates the accuracy of the data through reviews or preliminary and final reports. Reconciliation of the databases is conducted monthly and anomalies are explored and resolved. In cases where major problems are identified, a request to re-submit is issued. The FAA conducts annual reviews of reported data and compares the data with data reported from previous years.

SAFETY

Safety Management System



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Complete nine key activities in preparation for full implementation of SMS in all appropriate FAA organizations in FY 2010.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 6: Implement a Safety Management System (SMS) for the FAA.

Performance Target: In FY 2010, implement SMS in the Air Traffic Organization, Office of Aviation Safety, and Office of Airports. In FY 2012, implement SMS policy in all appropriate FAA organizations.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 ¹ | FY 2009 ² |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Target | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 SMS Activities Achieved |
| Actual | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | |

¹ In FY 2008, the original Safety Risk Management (SRM) measure was modified, and the name was changed to Safety Management System. The SRM measure for FY 2005 – FY 2007 was the number of applications of SRM to significant changes in the NAS. This measure was kept in FY 2008, and was expected to continue in FY 2009.

² In FY 2009, the measure is redefined as completion of the key activities required for implementation of SMS in ATO, AVS, and ARP in FY 2010. Beginning in FY 2010, the measure will be defined as the number of organizations implementing SMS.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: For FY 2009, the unit of measure is completion of nine key activities that support the 2010 implementation of SMS in the Air Traffic Organization (ATO), Office of Aviation Safety (AVS), and Office of Airports (ARP) appropriate FAA organizations.

Computation: The total number of successfully completed key activities is calculated.

Formula: Count of key activities completed.

Scope of Measure: Key activities selected by ATO, AVS, and ARP for FY 2009. (See list of key activities at the end of this portfolio page)

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The FAA Safety Management System is a formal, top-down business-like approach to managing safety risk. SMS relies on developing standardized language, processes, and tools to manage safety risk across the aviation industry. Successful implementation of SMS is critical to meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing and expanding aviation system. The traditional methods of analyzing the causes of an accident or incident, after the fact, are not enough. To achieve the next level of safety a more forward thinking approach is required to analyze trends, data, and systems to manage issues before they become incidents or accidents.

The SMS process ensures that safety-related changes are documented; risk is assessed, analyzed and mitigated; hazards are identified and tracked to resolution; and the performance of any change is monitored throughout its lifecycle. Applying SMS prior to implementing changes to the National Airspace System (NAS) will ensure that unacceptable risk is not introduced. It will also improve the documentation of the processes used to ensure the safety of the NAS.

In order to fully implement SMS in FY 2010, key preparatory activities are required to be completed within ATO, AVS and ARP in FY 2009. These activities represent the continuous effort in implementing SMS in the ATO as stipulated in the approved ATO SMS Implementation Plan. They are part of the roadmap to reach the goal of full compliance, and hence are key to this accomplishment.

Source of the Data

In FY 2009 the nine critical activities and associated activity targets are included and defined in the FY 2009 Business Plans of ATO, AVS, and ARP. Status on each activity is reported by ARP/AVS/ATO program managers in the FAA's performance management system and reviewed at the monthly FAA Administrator's Flight Plan meeting.

Some examples of ATO documentation for FY 2009 will include training source documents, SRM training announcements, course registrations, and training sign-in sheets. For tracking actual changes to the NAS, source documents will include the ATO NAS Change Tracking Report and monthly ATO Safety Risk Management Activity Reports. ARP documentation will include a draft ARP SMS Order, and the final ARP SMS Order. Some AVS documentation will include: the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Federal Register, Integrated Rulemaking Management Information System/Cyberdocs Tracking System, records of notes from Committee Meetings, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Audit Reports, and FAA Memoranda from AOV-1 to AJO on approvals and/or acceptance.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

ATO, AVS, and ARP are each responsible for ensuring that the documentation of their activity is complete and accurate. The responsible program offices will collect all pertinent documentation related to the completion of this performance target, and then assesses if the performance target was successfully achieved.

Reliability

The program manager for each organization is responsible for attesting to the reliability of information reported and for maintaining backup documentation. They will monitor the key activities and validate the successful completion of this performance target.

List of Key SMS Activities:

Within AVS these activities are:

- 1) Issuing an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for an Aviation Safety Management System.
- 2) Establishing the Safety Management System Committee in accordance with FAA Order 8000.369.
- 3) Providing safety surveillance and oversight of the ATO to ensure continuous operation safety of the NAS.

Within ATO these activities are:

- 4) Establishing FY2008 safety culture surveys of ATO personnel in order to establish baseline metrics in order to develop lessons learned and implement best practices.
- 5) Completion of the development of Safety Management System (SMS) training materials in order to promote full implementation across the ATO.
- 6) Providing Safety Risk Management (SRM) training to personnel involved with implementing changes within the NAS.
- 7) Monitoring the integration of the SRM process into new system acquisitions to ensure acceptable risk identification and mitigation.
- 8) Developing and conducting the SMS audit process to ensure SMS compliance within the operational ATO Service Units.

Within ARP this activity is:

- 9) Designing and implementing SMS for airport regulation and certification.

CAPACITY

Average Daily Airport Capacity (35 OEP Airports)



Federal Aviation Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Achieve an average daily airport capacity for the 35 Operational Evolution Partnership (OEP) airports of 103,328 arrivals and departures per day.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Increase capacity to meet projected demand and reduce congestion.

Performance Target: Achieve an average daily airport capacity for the 35 OEP airports of 103,068 arrivals and departures per day by FY 2011 and maintain through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Target | 99,892 | 101,191 | 101,562 ¹ | 101,868 | 100,707 |
| Actual | 101,463 | 101,932 | 102,545 ² | 103,222 | |

¹ In FY 2007, this target was revised from 102,595.

² Revised preliminary estimate finalized in January 2008. Original estimate was 102,539, revised to 102,545 in November 2007.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Average of daily arrival and departure rates.

Computation: Average Daily Airport Capacity is the sum of the daily hourly-called arrival and departure rates at the relevant airports per month, divided by the number of days in the month. The annual capacity level is the weighted sum of the monthly capacity levels.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Daily Hourly Called Arrival \& Departure Rates}}{\text{Number of Days in the Month}}$$

Scope of Measure: Only the 35 airports in the OEP are included in this measure. Each airport facility determines the number of arrivals and departures it can handle for each hour of each day, depending on conditions, including weather. These numbers are the called arrival and departure rates of the airport for that hour. Data are summed for daily, monthly, and annual totals.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Growth in air travel has generally been accomplished by increasing the number of flights. Measuring the growth of airport capacity indicates the limit at which increased service can be accommodated without affecting delay.

Source of the Data

The Aviation System Performance Metrics (ASPM) database, maintained by the FAA's Office of Aviation Policy and Plans, provides the data for this metric. The individual air traffic facilities for the 35 OEP airports provide arrival and departure rates. APO staff feed this information into the ASPM database.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

Fiscal year data are finalized approximately 90 days after the close of the fiscal year.

Reliability

The reliability of ASPM is verified on a daily basis by the execution of a number of audit checks, comparison to other published data metrics, and through the use of ASPM by over 1500 registered users.

CAPACITY

Average Daily Airport Capacity (7 Metro Areas)



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Achieve an average daily airport capacity for the seven major metropolitan areas of 39,484 arrivals and departures per day.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Increase capacity to meet projected demand and reduce congestion.

Performance Target: Achieve an average daily airport capacity for the seven major metropolitan areas of 39,484 arrivals and departures per day by FY 2009, and maintain through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 ¹ | FY 2006 ² | FY 2007 ³ | FY 2008 ⁴ | FY 2009 |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Target | 43,080 | 68,750 | 63,080 | 33,676 | 39,484 |
| Actual | 44,324 | 69,630 | 62,351 | 35,990 | |

¹ This measure was redefined in FY05 to include departures as well as arrivals.

² In FY 2006, the measure was redefined – Boston was replaced by South Central Florida. The target was revised.

³ In FY 2007, the measure was redefined and the target revised again to remove the Atlanta area.

⁴ In FY 2008, the measure was redefined to remove Washington/Baltimore and South Central Florida and to add Las Vegas and Charlotte. The target was also revised.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Average of daily arrival and departure rates.

Computation: Average Daily Airport Capacity is the sum of the daily hourly-called arrival and departure rates at the relevant airports per month, divided by the number of days in the month. The annual capacity level is the weighted sum of the monthly capacity levels.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Daily Hourly Called Arrival \& Departure Rates}}{\text{Number of Days in the Month}}$$

Scope of Measure: For FY 2009, selected airports in these seven areas are included in this measure: New York, Philadelphia, Charlotte, Chicago, Las Vegas, the Los Angeles Basin, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Each airport facility determines the number of arrivals and departures it can handle for each hour of each day, depending on conditions, including weather. These numbers are the called arrival and departure rates of the airport for that hour. Data are summed for daily, monthly, and annual totals.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Growth in air travel has generally been accomplished by increasing the number of flights. Measuring the growth of airport capacity indicates the limit at which increased service can be accommodated without affecting delay. The selected seven metropolitan areas contain both the most congested airspace and the airports with the greatest constraints on airport expansion. Airport improvements, measured by increases in capacity at these airports, are likely to contribute the most to reduce the causes of system delay.

Source of the Data

The Aviation System Performance Metrics (ASPM) database, maintained by the FAA's Office of Aviation Policy and Plans, provides the data for this metric. The individual air traffic facilities for the 7 major metropolitan areas provide arrival and departure rates. APO staff feed this information into the ASPM database.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

Fiscal year data is finalized approximately 90 days after the close of the fiscal year.

Reliability

The reliability of ASPM is verified on a daily basis by the execution of a number of audit checks, comparison to other published data metrics, and through the use of ASPM by over 1500 registered users.

CAPACITY Annual Service Volume



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Increase the Annual Service Volume (ASV) of the 35 Operational Evolution Partnership (OEP) airports by at least 1% and commission 5 runway/taxiway projects.

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Increase capacity to meet projected demand and reduce congestion.

Performance Target: Commission nine runway/taxiway projects, increasing the annual service volume of the 35 OEP airports by at least 1 percent annually, measured as a five-year moving average, through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| Target | 1.00% 0 runways | 1.00% 4 runways | 1.00% 2 runway projects ¹ | 1.00% 1 taxiway project | 1.00% 5 runway/ taxiway projects |
| Actual | 1.01% 0 runways | 1.67% 4 runways | 1.57% 2 runway projects | 1.06% 1 taxiway project | |

¹ This target was revised from 1 runway in FY 2007.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of additional annual aircraft operations that can be accommodated. Total of runway projects commissioned during the current fiscal year.

Computation: This measure is a 5-year moving average. The 1998 ASV is the base year. ASV is calculated using the Runway Delay Simulation Model (RDSIM). Delay curves are developed for each of the 35 OEP airports for the existing airport layout and with new runways where proposed. A consistent calculation technique to estimate capacity was used for all airports, based on demand schedules and fleet mixes, supplemented with flight counts and standard air traffic control procedures for each airport. For those airports where new runways are to be commissioned, the ASV can be estimated any time in the year that the runway will be opened.

Formula: N/A

Scope of Measure: This measure estimates the benefit, in terms of additional aircraft operations, from runway construction projects. A runway construction project includes new runways, runway extensions, and airfield reconfigurations. Aircraft operations include air carrier, commuter, air taxi, general aviation, and military aircraft. Only the 35 OEP airports are included in this measure.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The ASV measure is intended to estimate and track the increase in airport capacity at airports. This measure is calculated as a five year moving average. It is calculated in this way to smooth out peaks and valleys associated with yearly variability in new runway openings. The 1998 ASV is the base year. There were no new runways opened in FY 1999, and one new runway in each of the fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002, which added 0.78% to the overall capacity total of those years. The FAA did not begin reporting on the increase until FY 2004. The moving average from FY 1998 through FY 2002 was an increase of 0.28%. In 2003, three new runways opened adding 2.51% more capacity resulting in a five year moving average of 0.67%. Two additional runways opened in FY 2004, adding an additional 1.91% to the Nation's total and resulting in a five year moving average of 1.07%. Four runways opened in FY 2006, adding 3.27% more capacity and resulting in a 5-year moving average of 1.67%. In FY 2007, one new runway opened and one

relocated runway opened resulting in a 5-year moving average of 1.57%. While no new runways were commissioned in FY 2008, a new center taxiway opened and the 5-year moving average was 1.06%.

Source of the Data

Demand schedules and fleet mixes are developed from recent Official Airline Guide (OAG) information Flight counts are obtained from airport traffic control tower logs. In addition, standard air traffic control procedures are used for each airport.

Statistical Issues

This measure is derived from model estimates that are subject to errors in model specification.

Completeness

The Capacity Analysis Group (AJP-27) continues to provide technical support to develop a consistent method of calculating the individual airport ASV through the Operations Planning Service at the FAA Technical Center, Atlantic City, NJ.

Reliability

Recalculations of the original ASV studies have not been necessary. Once developed, the delay curves remain accurate unless a major change in fleet mix or operational characteristics occurs at an airport.

CAPACITY

Adjusted Operational Availability



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Sustain adjusted operational availability at 99.70% for the reportable facilities that support the 35 Operational Evolution Partnership (OEP) airports."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Increase capacity to meet projected demand and reduce congestion.

Performance Target: Sustain adjusted operational availability at 99.70 percent for the reportable facilities that support the 35 OEP airports through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 ¹ | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Target | 99.00% | 99.50% | 99.70% | 99.70% | 99.70% |
| Actual | 99.76% | 99.79% ² | 99.83% ³ | 99.82% | |

¹ This measure was redefined in FY 2005 to exclude outages due to scheduled improvements. The result for FY 2004 has been recalculated.

² Final result revised from preliminary estimate of 99.78% in FY 2007.

³ Final result revised from preliminary estimate of 99.82% in FY 2008.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Ratio of total available hours minus outage time to total available hours.

Computation: Adjusted Operational Availability is calculated by dividing the maximum facility/service hours minus all outage time except for improvements (cause code 62 outages) by the total maximum facility/service hours, and multiplying by 100 to express the ratio as a percentage.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Total Available Hours} - (\text{Total Outage Time} - \text{Code 62 Outage Time})}{\text{Total Available Hours}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: The National Airspace Performance Reporting System (NAPRS) facilities necessary to maintain the provision of service in the NAS overall have been determined and are monitored. For this measure, those NAPRS reportable facilities necessary for the provision of service at the 35 OEP airports have been separately measured. Time out of service is adjusted to exclude hours when equipment is unavailable due to scheduled improvement (cause code 62) down time.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The availability of the equipment necessary to provide service directly affects the performance of the NAS. Loss of radar or communications equipment will affect the speed and number of aircraft that can be handled where that loss occurs. The ability of the NAS to continually provide guidance is crucial, and affects both safety and capacity. The adoption of this metric has the additional advantage of linking three capacity measures. NAS On-Time Arrivals are affected by the airport and en-route capacity, which are directly impacted by the availability of the equipment and facilities supporting that capacity.

Source of the Data

The National Airspace System Performance Analysis System (NASPAS). NASPAS was developed to analyze outages of the Air Traffic Control Facilities in the NAS maintained by the FAA. NASPAS receives monthly updates of outage data from the National Outage Database (NODB). The Maintenance Management System (MMS) contains individual equipment outage data as recorded by the system specialist.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The FAA's Quality Assurance and Performance Team, under ATO-W, conducts a monthly review of all Log Interrupt Reports (LIRs) that are entered into the MMS to ensure the data, which resides in the NODB, are as complete and accurate as possible.

Reliability

The National Airspace System Performance Analysis System is the official source of equipment and service performance data for the Federal Aviation Administration.

CAPACITY

NAS On-Time Arrivals



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Achieve a NAS On-Time Arrival rate of 88.00 percent at the 35 Operational Evolution Partnership (OEP) airports.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 2: Increase reliability and on-time performance of scheduled carriers.

Performance Target: Achieve a NAS on-time arrival rate of 88.00 percent at the 35 OEP airports and maintain through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 ¹ | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Target | 87.40% | 87.40% | 87.67% | 88.00% | 88.00% |
| Actual | 88.44% | 88.36% | 86.96% ² | 87.29% | |

¹ This measure was redefined in FY 2005 to exclude delays not related to the operation of the NAS – see Computation section below. The target and result for FY 2004 are for the original measure.

² Final result revised from preliminary estimate of 86.71% in FY 2008. Estimate revised from original estimate of 86.32% in November 2007.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Percentage of flights arriving no more than 15 minutes late.

Computation: NAS On-Time Arrival is the percentage of all flights arriving at the 35 OEP airports equal to or less than 15 minutes late, based on the carrier flight plan filed with the FAA, and excluding minutes of delay attributed by air carriers to weather, carrier action, security delay, and prorated minutes for late arriving flights at the departure airport. The number of flights arriving on or before 15 minutes of flight plan arrival time is divided by the total number of completed flights, and the result is multiplied by 100 to convert it to a percentage.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{NAS On - Time Flights}}{\text{Total Flights}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: A flight is considered on time if it arrives no later than 15 minutes after its published, scheduled arrival time. This definition is used in both the DOT Airline Service Quality Performance (ASQP), and Aviation System Performance Metrics (ASPM) reporting systems. Air carriers, however, also file up-to-date flight plans for their services with the FAA that may differ from their published flight schedules. This metric measures on-time performance against the carriers' filed flight plan, rather than what may be a dated published schedule.

The time of arrival of completed passenger flights to and from the 35 OEP airports is compared to their flight plan scheduled time of arrival. For delayed flights, delay minutes attributable to extreme weather, carrier caused delay, security delay, and a prorated share of delay minutes due to a late arriving flight at the departure airport are subtracted from the total minutes of delay. If the flight is still late, it is counted as a delayed flight attributed to the National Aviation System (NAS) and the FAA.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

On-Time performance is a measure of the ability of the FAA to deliver services. A major weakness of using air carrier scheduled on-time performance as a metric is that it contains flight delays caused by incidents outside the FAA's control. However, the air carriers have supplied the causation of flight delay, by flight, since June 2003 under revised Part 234 instructions. Removal of delays not attributable to the FAA provides a more accurate and equitable method of measuring the FAA's performance.

Source of the Data

The ASPM database, maintained by the FAA's Office of Aviation Policy and Plans, in conjunction with DOT's ASQP causation database, provides the data for this metric. By agreement with DOT, certain major carriers file ASQP flight data for all flights to and from most large and medium hubs. Flight records contained in the Traffic Flow Management System (TFMS) and flight movement times provided by Aeronautical Radio, Inc. (ARINC) supplement the flight data.

Statistical Issues

Data are not reported for all carriers, only the 20 carriers reporting monthly into the ASQP reporting system.

Completeness

Fiscal year data are finalized approximately 90 days after the close of the fiscal year.

Reliability

The reliability of ASPM is verified on a daily basis by the execution of a number of audit checks, comparison to other published data metrics, and through the use of ASPM by over 1500 registered users. ASQP data is filed monthly with DOT under 14 CFR Part 234, Airline Service Quality Performance Reports, which separately requires reporting by major air carriers on flights to and from all large hubs.

CAPACITY

Noise Exposure



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Reduce the number of people exposed to significant noise, as measured by a three-year moving average, to 16% below the three-year average for calendar years 2000-2002."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 3: Address environmental issues associated with capacity enhancements.

Performance Target: Reduce the number of people exposed to significant noise by 4 percent per year through FY 2013, as measured by a three-year moving average, from the three-year average for calendar years 2000-2002.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Target | - 3.00% | - 4.00% | - 8.00% ² | - 12.00% | - 16.00% |
| Actual | - 35.00% ¹ | - 36.00% ¹ | - 37.00% ³ | - 38.00% ⁴ | |

¹ Revised from original result due to improvement in noise exposure model in FY 2008.

² The target was revised in FY 2007 from a 1% annual decrease from the baseline to a 4% decrease, lowering the cumulative target for FY 2007 from 5% to 8.00%.

³ Revised from projection of -27.00% in FY 2008.

⁴ Projection from trends, to be revised in May 2009.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Percent reduction in the number of people in the U.S. exposed to significant aircraft noise levels as measured by a three-year moving average from the base year average of 2000 to 2002. In FY 2007, the noise exposure target was revised from a 1% to a 4% cumulative reduction per year in the number of people exposed to significant aircraft noise.

Computation: The estimates of the number of people exposed to significant noise are calculated from the Model for Assessing Global Exposure to the Noise of Transport Aircraft (MAGENTA). The computational core of MAGENTA is FAA's Integrated Noise Model (INM), the most widely used computer program for the calculation of aircraft noise around airports. Major assumptions on local traffic utilization come from obtaining INM datasets that were developed for an airport.

The MAGENTA model calculates individual DNL contours for the top 96 US airports using INM. The contours are superimposed on census data to calculate the number of people within the DNL 65 dB contour at each airport. For smaller airports, a procedure is used where contour area is calculated from airport operations data using a statistical relationship. The contours areas are then used to calculate people exposed using 2000 census population densities projected to the current year. The projection is used to account for population growth between 2000 and the current year. The individual airport exposure data is then summed to the national level. Finally, the number of people relocated through the Airport Improvement Program is subtracted from the total number of people exposed.

The noise exposure results for 2008 show a larger percent change in the number of people exposed from the three year average from 2000-2002. This is due to several factors. The upgrade of U.S. MAGENTA to INM version 7.0 produced changes to the airport noise contours due to the new lateral attenuation algorithm. In addition, military operations for the KC-135 were updated based on more accurate information from the Air Force. Older, louder KC-135's are being phased out of service, producing smaller contours at some airports. Finally, errors were detected in the aircraft fleet beginning in 2004, resulting in noise contours that were larger than they should have been. Because of these changes, the U.S. noise exposure

results from 2000 to 2007 were re-estimated so that percent changes for 2008 could be calculated against historical values in a consistent manner.

Formula:

The number of people exposed to significant aircraft noise is calculated as follows:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{261} POP65_i - \sum_{j=1}^9 POPREL_j$$

Where, POP65_i is the number of people residing in the DNL 65 dB contour at the *i*th MAGENTA airport as of the current year projected from the 2000 Census. POPREL_j is the number of people relocated from the DNL 65 dB contour in the *j*th FAA region since the year 2000.

Scope of Measure:

The measure tracks the residential population exposed to significant aircraft noise around U.S. airports. Significant aircraft noise is defined as aircraft noise above a Day-Night Sound Level (DNL) of 65 decibels. Exposure in a given year is reported as a three-year historical average. For example, exposure in 2003 is reported as the three-year average of 2001 to 2003. In 1981, the FAA issued 14 CFR Part 150, Airport Noise Compatibility Planning, and as part of that regulation, formally adopted Day Night Sound Level. Day Night Sound level, abbreviated as DNL and symbolized as Ldn, is the 24-hour average sound level, in decibels (dB), obtained from the accumulation of all events with the addition of 10 decibels to sound levels in the night from 10 PM to 7 AM. The weighting of the nighttime events accounts for the increased interfering effects of noise during the night when ambient levels are lower and people are trying to sleep. In the promulgation of 14 CFR Part 150, the FAA also published a table of land uses that are compatible or incompatible with various levels of airport noise exposure in DNL. This table established that levels below DNL 65 dB are considered compatible for all indicated land uses and related structures without restriction.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Mitigating noise directly impacts our ability to increase capacity. Although building new runways is the best way to increase capacity, communities and local government are reluctant to build them if they impose increased aircraft noise exposure. By mitigating and reducing exposure to excessive noise, FAA can help communities accept more runways in their areas.

The number of people exposed to significant noise levels was reduced by about 90 percent between 1975 and 2000. This is due primarily to the legislatively mandated transition of airplane fleets to newer generation aircraft that produce less noise. Most of the gains from quieter aircraft were achieved by FY 2000. The remaining problem must be addressed primarily through airport-specific noise compatibility programs. The FAA pursues a program of aircraft noise control in cooperation with the aviation community. Noise control measures include noise reduction at the source, i.e., development and adoption of quieter aircraft, soundproofing and buyouts of buildings near airports, operational flight control measures, and land use planning strategies. The FAA is authorized to provide funds for soundproofing and residential relocation, but each project must be locally sponsored and be part of a noise compatibility program prepared by the airport sponsor and approved by the FAA.

The FAA increased the noise exposure target in 2007 to a 4% cumulative reduction per year. The target is still calculated using a three year moving average from the 2000 to 2002 base average years. The FAA increased the noise exposure target after reviewing historical reductions and taking into account recent trends that remain well below the previous noise target. The significant reduction in noise exposure since the 2000 to 2002 base year average has been driven by air carrier fleet and operational changes that took place in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. It was expected that a return to more typical fleet compositions and a return to air traffic growth would narrow the “positive gap”. However, the return of fleet composition and air traffic to pre 9/11 levels has not occurred at the pace expected. In addition to noise trends, the new noise target reflects the relocation of people away from areas of significant noise exposure through grant funding. The target is also influenced by market forces that drive changes in commercial aircraft fleets and operations.

Environmental trends based on expansion of the U.S. air transportation system show that noise exposure is likely to move upwards as traffic growth continues – even taking into account forecasted fleet changes and implementation of beneficial new air traffic procedures. The agency’s ability to develop next generation

technologies and have the broadest possible array of available noise mitigation approaches at its disposal will affect FAA's ability to continue making significant improvements in aviation noise exposure. The FAA has proposed to Congress in its reauthorization legislation, provisions to create a research consortium whose purpose would be to accelerate the development of lower noise and emissions technologies for airframes and aircraft engines and to provide additional support for noise abatement flight procedures and land use planning and projects. It will be important for state and local land use planning to include appropriate consideration of noise-compatible land uses near airports.

Source of the Data

The Model for Assessing Global Exposure from Noise of Transport Airplanes, MAGENTA, is used to track airport noise exposure. MAGENTA uses updated population data from the 2000 Census projected to the current year to account for population growth. The data source for airport traffic is the FAA Enhanced Traffic Management System (ETMS). This database has replaced the original source, the Official Airline Guide (OAG). Unlike the OAG, the ETMS database includes unscheduled air traffic, which allows for more accurate modeling of freight, general aviation, and military operations. The ETMS also provides more details on aircraft type for a more accurate distribution of aircraft fleet mix.

Since ETMS does not provide current data on flight operations, the FAA uses the Terminal Area Forecast (TAF). TAF provides current and accurate information on how operations will increase on an airport specific basis. Therefore, the current year's result is classified as preliminary until the following year when projected data is finalized. Data on the number of people relocated through the Airport Improvement Program are collected from FAA regional offices. Local traffic utilization data are collected from individual airports and updated periodically.

A task group formed to develop MAGENTA by the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP) under the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has thoroughly reviewed the model's population exposure methodology and has validated it for several airport specific cases. MAGENTA played an important role in the setting of new international aircraft noise standards by CAEP in 2001. CAEP has used MAGENTA to assess the benefits (reduction in number of people exposed to aircraft noise) of several noise stringency proposals.

Statistical Issues

This measure is derived from model estimates that are subject to errors in model specification. The FAA has replaced the actual number of people exposed to significant noise with the percent decrease in the number of people exposed, measured from the three-year average for calendar year 2000-2002. Moving to the 3-year average stabilizes noise trends, which can fluctuate from year to year and are affected by unusual events such as the 9/11 attacks and the subsequent economic downturn. The 2000-2002 base time periods includes these events and is the same 3-year period used for the emissions goal.

The move from actual numbers to percent helps avoid confusion over U.S. noise exposure trends caused by annual improvements to the noise exposure model. A major change to MAGENTA (Model for Assessing the Global Exposure of Noise because of Transport Airplanes) resulted in a significant improvement in the estimate of the number of people exposed to significant noise levels around US airports. Until now, the scope of the measure included scheduled commercial jet transport airplane traffic at major U.S. airports. With access to better operational data sources, the scope of the MAGENTA calculation has expanded to include unscheduled freight, general aviation, and military traffic. The expanded scope of operations results in an increase in the estimate of the number of people exposed to significant noise.

The growth in the number of people exposed to significant noise results from improvements in measurement, not a worsening in aviation noise trends. Planned improvements to MAGENTA will continue to increase the estimate of the number of people exposed to aircraft noise, giving the false impression that aircraft noise exposure is increasing. Changing the noise performance goal to an annual percent change in aircraft noise exposure will better show the trend in aircraft noise exposure. The change will also make the Government Performance Review Act (GPRA) goal consistent with FAA's *Flight Plan* goal.

Completeness

No actual count is made of the number of people exposed to aircraft noise. Aircraft type and event level are current. However, some of the databases used to establish route and runway utilization were developed from 1990 to 1997, with many of them now over seven years old. Changes in airport layout including expansions may not be reflected. The FAA continues to update these databases as they become available. The benefits of federally funded mitigation, such as buyout, are accounted for.

The noise studies obtained from U.S. airports have gone through a thorough public review process; either under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements or as part of a land use compatibility program.

Performance measure data for the current year (forecasted data) are calculated and reported during the period of July and August, and the data are finalized by May of the following reporting year.

Reliability

The Integrated Noise Model (the core of the MAGENTA model) has been validated with actual acoustic measurements at both airports and other environments such as areas under aircraft at altitude. External forecast data are from primary sources. The MAGENTA population exposure methodology has been thoroughly reviewed by an ICAO task group and was most recently validated for a sample of airport-specific cases.

CAPACITY

Aviation Fuel Efficiency



Federal Aviation Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Improve aviation fuel efficiency per revenue plane-mile by 7 percent, as measured by a three-year moving average, from the three-year average for calendar years 2000-2002."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 3: Address environmental issues associated with capacity enhancements.

Performance Target: Improve aviation fuel efficiency by another 1 percent over the FY 2008 level (for a total of 7 percent) through FY 2009, and 1 percent each subsequent year through FY 2013 to 11 percent, as measured by a three-year moving average of the fuel burned per revenue mile flown, from the three-year average for calendar years 2000-2002.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|--------|---------|---------|----------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Target | - 2.00% | - 5.00% | - 5.00% | - 6.00% ² | - 7.00% |
| Actual | - 5.84% | - 8.23% | - 9.52% ¹ | - 10.17% | |

¹ Result revised in FY 2008 from original result of -10.82% to align data analysis methodology for the whole time series.

² Target revised in FY 2008 from -5.00%.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Cumulative reduction in fuel burned per mile flown.

Computation: Measuring and tracking fuel efficiency from commercial aircraft operations allows FAA to monitor improvements in aircraft/engine technology and operational procedures, as well as enhancements in the airspace transportation system. The FAA measures performance against this target using the Aviation Environmental Design Tool (AEDT)/System for assessing Aviation Global Emissions (SAGE). AEDT/SAGE is a FAA-developed computer model that estimates aircraft fuel burn and emissions for variable year emissions inventories and for operational, policy, and technology-related scenarios. For this target, AEDT/SAGE is used to generate annual fuel burn and total distance flown data for all U.S. commercial operations.

FY 2008 performance was calculated based upon full year operational data for the three calendar year period of 2005, 2006, and 2007, dividing average fuel burn by average total distance to determine the three year efficiency average of (73.03Tg/17.58Bk = 4.15 Tg/Bk). This efficiency average was compared against the baseline efficiency (from 2000, 2001, 2002) of 4.62 Tg/Bk. With the baseline considered to be 100%, the three-year efficiency average for each performance period is compared to determine the percentage improvement of aviation fuel efficiency.

Formula:

$$\frac{\text{Average Fuel Burn (Tg)}}{\text{Average Distance (billions of kilometers)}}$$

(Fuel Burn values in Tg where 1 Tg = 10¹² g)

Scope of Measure: This measure focuses on all U.S. commercial operations.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Although today's aircraft are up to 70% more efficient than early commercial jet aircraft, there is growing attention being given to aviation's impact on the environment. Aviation is currently viewed as a small contributor to those greenhouse gas emissions that have the potential to influence global climate. However the science involved with these emissions in the upper atmosphere is still evolving and many uncertainties

still exist. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions are a primary greenhouse gas and are directly related to the fuel burned during the aircraft's operation.

Measuring and tracking fuel efficiency from aircraft operations allows FAA to monitor improvements in aircraft/engine technology and operational procedures, and enhancements in the airspace transportation system. This information provides an assessment of their influence on reducing aviation's emissions contribution.

Source of the Data

The AEDT/SAGE system uses radar-based data from the Enhanced Traffic Management System (ETMS) and Official Airline Guide (OAG) schedule information to generate annual inventories of fuel burn and total distance flown data for all U.S. commercial operations.

Statistical Issues

Potential seasonal variability and variability from year to year can be expected when analyzing air traffic data and commercial operations. Use of the statistical measure of a three-year moving average based upon analysis of annual operations should address this variability.

The extent to which enhancements are incorporated to improve model accuracy, via more robust aerodynamic performance modeling algorithms and database of aircraft/engine fuel burn information, will impact the overall results and thus the performance target. This could create some statistical variability from year to year if not properly taken into account. In cases where such enhancements have the potential to create a significant shift in baseline, annual inventories may need to be re-processed and/or adjusted to ensure consistency and accuracy of results.

The extent to which aircraft fleet improvements cannot be sufficiently modeled because of a lack of manufacturer proprietary data may also influence the performance target results. In this case, attempts will be made to characterize such aircraft with the best publicly available information, recognizing that newer aircraft types in the fleet will likely exist in significantly lesser numbers, thus minimizing the influence upon the results.

Completeness

Data used to measure performance against the target is assessed for quality control purposes. Input data for the AEDT/SAGE model are validated before proceeding with model runs. Radar data from the ETMS are assessed to remove any anomalies, check for completeness, and pre-processed for input to the AEDT/SAGE model. ETMS data are verified against the OAG information in order to avoid any duplication of flights in the annual inventory.

In some cases ETMS data lack appropriate fields to conduct quality control and in these cases the data is removed. Data from the AEDT/SAGE model is verified by comparing output from previous years and analyzing trends to ensure that they are consistent with expectations. In other cases monthly inventories may be analyzed to validate the results. Model output is subsequently post-processed through excel worksheets to perform the calculations for the performance target. Formulae and calculations are checked in order to ensure accuracy.

Full documentation of this target is determined when the annual inventories have been accomplished and the post-processing calculations have been completed, resulting in a percentage reduction in fuel efficiency relative to the baseline. The standard for this documentation is set by the FAA Office of Environment and Energy, which is separate from the organization (DOT Volpe National Transportation Systems Center) responsible for input and output associated with the AEDT/SAGE model runs and annual inventories.

Reliability

The measuring procedure used for this performance target is highly reliable. That is to say that the processing of data through the AEDT/SAGE model including the performance of algorithms is not subject to random factors that could influence the results. However, this performance target is potentially influenced by factors outside the control of the FAA. For example, a major sustained disruption or enhancement in air traffic and/or a significant shift in commercial operations amongst airlines, including changes in fleet composition and missions could have a profound impact upon achieving the performance target. The three-year moving average is intended to allow assessment of performance while minimizing to some extent the over-emphasis of any such anomaly in a given year.

We do not expect increases in fuel burn or decreases in distance traveled or both to degrade the fleet fuel

efficiency significantly. Further, we do not expect this to prevent us from meeting the FY 2009 target. However, we do expect that in the coming years aircraft and engine technology improvements or air traffic management improvements or both may not be enough to offset traffic growth, congestion and delays. The metric for measuring and tracking fuel efficiency may not adequately capture performance to the degree that would allow future decisions on technological and operational considerations. Thus, we are continuing to review the impact of improvements on air traffic management and changes in operational trends to assess whether we should use a revised performance metric for future targets.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CAST Safety Enhancements



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Assist China with the adoption of at least five of the mutually agreed upon Commercial Aviation Safety Team (CAST) safety enhancements to maintain China’s safety performance during rapid growth of the aviation system.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Promote improved safety and regulatory oversight in cooperation with bilateral, regional, and multilateral aviation partners.

Performance Target: Work with the Chinese aviation authorities and industry to adopt 27 proven Commercial Aviation Safety Team (CAST) safety enhancements by FY 2011. This supports China’s efforts to reduce commercial fatal accidents to a rate of 0.030 fatal accidents per 100,000 departures by FY 2012.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 ¹ | FY 2008 | FY 2009 ³ |
|---------------|---------|---------|--------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | 7 CAST SEs | 5 CAST SEs | 5 CAST SEs |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | 10 CAST SEs ² | 5 CAST SEs | |

¹ In FY 2007, this measure replaced the Aviation Safety Leadership measure for FY 2006, the commercial air carrier fatal accident rate in China. No prior year data are available for the new measure.

² Nine of the 10 CAST SEs completed in FY 2007 were from the original list of 27; the 10th CAST SE (SE-164) was not.

³ In FY 2009, the name of this measure changed from Aviation Safety Leadership to CAST Safety Enhancements.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of CAST SEs implemented by China.

Computation: The completion of each separate CAST SE. A total of 27 SEs have been selected for China through the end of FY 2011.¹ When this measure was added to the Flight Plan in FY 2007, a yearly estimate was developed only to assist in the measuring of success; there is no agreement with China that a specific number be completed on an annual basis. The initial estimates were as follows:

FY 2007: 7, FY 2008: 7, FY 2009: 5, FY 2010: 4, FY 2011: 4.

These estimates will be adjusted annually to ensure that by the end of FY 2011, the agreed on 27 SEs will be completed, per agreement with China. Based on the completion of 14 of the 27 by the end of FY 2008, the updated annual estimate is:

FY 2009: 5, FY 2010: 4, FY 2011: 4.

Formula: A count of the number of CAST SEs implemented by China during the fiscal year.

Scope of Measure: The 27 CAST safety measures that have been selected for China. CAST has many more to choose from, but China agreed to start with these 27 in FY 2007.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Initially, FAA used a commercial fatal accident rate in China to measure this objective. This was a five-year rolling average. There were several problems with this measure. First, there was very little the United States and the FAA could do to influence this rate. The rate was so low, with relatively little traffic, that any accident at all would cause the FAA to fail. Second, the FAA felt it was a mistake to impose accident rate targets onto other sovereign nations. Finally, with a rate target, there was little the FAA could measure that was in its control.

Therefore, after much research, we believe that the selection of CAST SEs is a better choice. CAST identifies

precursors and contributing factors to ensure that resources address the most prevalent categories of accidents. These SEs have contributed significantly to the safety improvement of the United States commercial aviation system. Therefore, we believe that China's adoption of these standards will enhance safety over time. Second, this is easily measurable. There is a universe of 27 enhancements that China has selected.

Source of the Data

Proof of implementation will come from a variety of sources, including, but not limited to: email from US officials who have attended meetings with Chinese aviation officials, minutes of meetings with the Chinese Aviation Administration (CAA), and pronouncements by senior Chinese officials.

Statistical Issues

Because China is a sovereign nation, we do not have the means to independently verify implementation of these initiatives throughout China. However, the Chinese in the past have been very conscientious about commercial aviation safety. As the fastest growing commercial fleet in the world, China has maintained an impressive accident rate.

Completeness

There are no completeness data issues associated with this measure since it is a simple count of the projects completed.

Reliability

Again, we are relying on the words and deeds of Chinese officials. Over time, verification will come when the accidents that the Chinese do have do not display the precursors that the CAST SEs are designed to prevent.

¹The 27 CAST SEs are:

1. SE-1, TAWS (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
2. SE-2, SOP's (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
3. SE-3, Precision-like approach
4. SE-11, CRM (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
5. SE-12, CFIT training (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
6. SE-14 Safety Culture
7. SE-15, Safety Culture
8. SE-16, Safety Culture
9. SE-23, Approach and Landing training (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
10. SE-26, Loss of Control SOP's (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
11. SE- 27, Risk Assessment
12. SE-28, Safety Information
13. SE-30, Human Factors (awaiting development of material by CAST)
14. SE-31, Airplane Upset Recovery training
15. SE-10, Proactive Safety Programs
16. SE-29, Safety Information (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
17. SE-9, MSAW (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
18. SE-13, ATC training - CFIT prevention (completion in FY 2008)
19. SE-46, Runway Incursion - ATC
20. SE-47, Runway Incursion - ATC
21. SE-49, Runway Incursion – SOP template (completion in FY2008)
22. SE-50, Runway Incursion - SOP GA operations (low priority in NARAST)
23. SE-51, Runway Incursion - SOP 'best practices' (completion in FY 2008)
24. SE-52, Runway Incursion - SOP vehicle operations (completion in FY 2008)
25. SE-55, Runway Incursion – ATC situational Awareness (completion in FY 2008)
26. SE-59, Runway Incursion – ATC 'read-back' (Implementation completed in FY 2007)
27. SE-60, Runway Incursion - Pilot Training

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP International Aviation Development Projects



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Arrange external funding commitments for at least 7 international aviation development projects.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Promote improved safety and regulatory oversight in cooperation with bilateral, regional, and multilateral aviation partners.

Performance Target: By 2013 arrange commitment for external funding for at least 35 aviation development projects (7 per year).

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 ¹ |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 7 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

¹ Measure redefined in FY 2009. No data are available for prior years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of projects for which funding is arranged.

Computation: The total number of projects per year is calculated.

Formula: Count of the projects.

Scope of Measure: This measure includes aviation infrastructure and capacity building projects relating to aviation safety and air traffic management. Projects are planned activities that have a beginning and an end, a scope of work, a final product or report and an outcome. They are funded by sources external to the FAA. There are 3 categories of sources:

- 1) U.S. government departments and agencies that provide foreign economic assistance;
- 2) Multilateral development banks that provide loans to developing countries;
and
- 3) Foreign economic assistance agencies of foreign governments.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Often countries that could benefit the most from FAA technical assistance are the least able to afford it. This Flight Plan initiative seeks to leverage the limited resources that FAA is able to contribute and provides program management of additional support from third party providers. Using this measure allows FAA to show the benefits of the international aviation development (IAD) program. This places importance on work carried out and the number of countries and regional organizations aided. Emphasis placed on international involvement and outreach makes the target a meaningful contribution to the International Leadership goal area of the Flight Plan.

Source of the Data

Sources of data will include correspondence with donor organizations, announcements, press releases, letters, contracts and memorandums of agreement.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

Projects will be counted once funds are committed to fund the project with an agreement by all parties

involved. Committed funds are not necessarily obligated.

Reliability

The Office of International Aviation will closely monitor projects, meet regularly with lines of business, program staff and funding organizations to maintain reliable records of IAD projects and their implementation.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Developing Aviation Leaders



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Work with at least 2 countries in FY 2009."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Promote improved safety and regulatory oversight in cooperation with bilateral, regional, and multilateral aviation partners.

Performance Target: By 2013, work with at least 18 countries or regional organizations to develop aviation leaders to strengthen the global aviation infrastructure.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 ¹ |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 2 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

¹New measure for FY 2009. No data are available for prior years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of countries or regional organizations that participate in training for leaders. A regional organization is a chartered organization that represents the aviation interests of a particular geographic region of the world.

Computation: The total number of countries or regional organizations per year for five years is calculated.

Formula: Count of countries or regional organizations.

Scope of Measure: The number of countries or regional organizations that participate in targeted developmental training in management, technical and organizational skills. A regional organization counts as one unit of measure; a country will count as one unit of measure. A country will not count if it has already been included in a training event with participants from a regional organization.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

To keep FAA's strategic vision representative of our international aviation leadership, this Flight Plan measure showcases opportunities the Office of International Aviation (API) arranges for foreign civil aviation leaders to strengthen their aviation leadership skills through participation in specific programs. For example, the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program, FAA's the Executive Management Development Training, and management courses at the FAA academy are all venues providing developmental opportunities for potential and current civil aviation leaders. Working with foreign aviation professionals to develop solid aviation leadership skills is an integral component of development of civil aviation administrations worldwide.

Source of the Data

Data sources will include: FAA Academy training records, International Visitors Leadership Program tracking sheet, Department of State notification of candidates accepted and Aviation Cooperation Program documentation.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

Countries will be counted in the fiscal year in which the developmental opportunity is completed.

Reliability

API Representatives and Regional staff is involved in the planning and executing of these programs will have well-founded knowledge of program completion. The Representatives have in-country knowledge of foreign civil aviation personnel and access to Department of State programs residing at U.S. Embassies in host countries. API staff arranges travel and training for these programs and also works with the FAA Academy and LOBs in preparing these programs. The Airports and International Training Division staff at the FAA Academy arranges and executes managerial and executive training courses for foreign civil aviation personnel both in-country and in the U.S. This staff maintains course completion records.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP NextGen Technologies



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Expand the use of Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) performance-based systems to one priority country.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 2: Promote seamless operations around the globe in cooperation with bilateral, regional, and multilateral aviation partners.

Performance Target: By FY 2013, expand the use of NextGen performance-based systems and concepts to five priority countries.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target¹ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Actual | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |

¹ The focus of this measure changed from U.S. NAS technologies to GPS-based technologies and procedures in FY 2006, and then to NextGen technologies in FY 2007. The targets and results for FY 2005 and FY 2006 are for the measures in effect during those years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Total number of countries taking a significant step, as a result of FAA assistance and collaboration, to implement the operational use of NextGen technologies, procedures, or concepts.

Computation: A count of the countries involved with FAA on technical assistance or general cooperation that have achieved significant implementation milestones on NextGen technologies, procedures, or concepts. Note that a single country could meet this performance target in different years as long as the specific NextGen technology, procedures or concept is different from what was accounted for in previous years.

Formula: Count of the countries.

Scope of Measure: Priority countries are those countries viewed by the FAA as strategic partners in global aviation. These countries include Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Japan, India, China, and Australia, just to name a few. NextGen supporting technologies include, but are not limited to, the basic GPS system and its capabilities, Wide and Local Area Augmentation Systems (WAAS/LAAS), Performance Based Navigation (RNAV/RNP), Performance Based Communications, Performance Based Surveillance, Automatic Dependent Surveillance - Broadcast (ADS-B), Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM), Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (RVSM) and System Wide Information Management (SWIM).

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

By working with international civil aviation authorities, organizations and States, the FAA can continue to enhance its international leadership role and ensure harmonization of U.S. NextGen technologies, procedures and concepts with global, regional and State-level air traffic management (ATM) modernization efforts. These same NextGen technologies, procedures, and concepts are currently being explored and implemented in the U.S. National Airspace System (NAS) and are critical to the success of the NextGen to handle the projected demands on the U.S. airspace system in the future. This global harmonization of aviation systems will increase the safety, capacity and efficiency of international aviation not only for U.S. carriers, but also for U.S. citizens traveling on foreign flag carriers.

Source of the Data

The Air Traffic Organization (ATO) Strategy and Performance - International Office manages and oversees ATO international cooperation, and is also actively engaged in defining and managing the activities of the

Joint Planning and Development Office (JPDO) NextGen Global Harmonization Working Group. As such, the ATO Strategy and Performance - International Office will monitor all activity progress underway related to NextGen supporting technologies, procedures and concepts, and determine which country/State cooperative activity will ultimately close out this performance target for FY 2009. Data will then be collected to justify completeness.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The FAA ATO Strategy and Performance - International Office, as the owner of this initiative and performance target, is the office that monitors international activity throughout the fiscal year, collects all pertinent documentation related to the completion of this performance target, and then assesses if the performance target was successfully achieved.

Reliability

The FAA ATO Strategy and Performance - International Office will coordinate with other supporting offices related to the management, monitoring and close-out of this performance target, mainly the different ATO Service Units, the FAA Office of International Aviation, and the JPDO to cross-check and validate the successful completion of this performance target.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

OPM Hiring Standard



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"By FY 2009, 65 percent of FAA external hires will be filled within OPM's 45-day standard for government-wide hiring."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Implement human resource management practices to attract and retain a highly skilled, diverse workforce and provide employees a safe, positive work environment.

Performance Target: By FY 2010, 80 percent of FAA external hires will be filled within OPM's 45-day standard for government-wide hiring.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 ¹ | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | 50.00% | 65.00% |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | 79.00% | |

¹ This is a new measure for FY 2008, replacing Mission Critical Positions, which measured the reduction in hiring time for selected positions. No data are available for prior years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: The unit of measure is the percentage of external-hire job offers made within 45 business days

Computation: Using the Office Of Personnel Management (OPM) definition, OPM's 45-day hiring process measure is defined as beginning one day after a vacancy announcement closes and ending the day a tentative job offer is made to an applicant.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Number of external hire job offers made within the 45 - day standard}}{\text{Total number of external hire job offers}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: The measure assesses hiring time, defined as the percentage of external hire job offers made within the OPM 45-day standard. Air Traffic Controllers (2152s) and Executive Service positions are not included in this target, but are tracked separately.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Throughout government and industry, there is fierce competition to attract a skilled workforce. The FAA must hire adequate staff with the requisite competencies in a timely manner. Using the OPM 45-day hiring standard as an Organizational Excellence performance target, the FAA will achieve greater efficiencies when it comes to hiring the agency's most valuable asset, its people. In anticipation of the forthcoming retirement bubble, with more employees becoming retirement-eligible each year, it is in the agency's best interest to ensure that the hiring process nets qualified individuals needed to achieve mission results and that the hiring is accomplished in a timely manner. Measuring hiring time is a critical step in improving this process.

Source of the Data

To compute hiring time, FAA uses data extracted from its Automated Staffing and Application Process (ASAP) system. ASAP was developed by the agency to automate the application and hiring process. AHR staffing specialists across the country fill jobs through external sources using ASAP. ASAP tracks pertinent steps in the hiring process and can be used to record the time it takes to fill positions. This enables the office to locate delays in the process steps, as well as to examine how the FAA is doing. Note: the ASAP name is now being changed to AVIATOR - Automated Vacancy Information Access Tool for On-Line Referral. All operational functions however will remain the same.

Statistical Issues

There are several factors that can potentially influence hiring standard performance variability and impact results. Hiring fluctuations due to agency budget constraints may significantly influence the hiring standard.

Completeness

AHR has implemented several practices to ensure the integrity of data in ASAP. For example, monthly teleconferences with regional staffing personnel have provided a forum for discussions around efficiencies in hiring processes, resulting in more standardization and streamlined practices. In addition, monthly and quarterly monitoring of the hiring standard ensures more proactive management of hiring processes.

Reliability

ASAP is a dynamic system, with hiring actions entered continually by field and headquarters staffing specialists. Because the system is constantly updated, monthly reports only reflect the data entered before the report's cut-off date. The job offer data are finalized and stabilized for the year-end status report.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Reduce Workplace Injuries



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Reduce the total workplace injury and illness case rate to no more than 2.60 per 100 employees.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Implement human resource management practices to attract and retain a highly skilled, diverse workforce and provide employees a safe, positive work environment.

Performance Target: Reduce the total workplace injury and illness case rate to no more than 2.44 per 100 employees by the end of FY 2011, and maintain through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Target | N/A | 2.85 per 100 | 2.76 per 100 | 2.68 per 100 | 2.60 per 100 |
| Actual | N/A | 2.17 per 100 ¹ | 2.43 per 100 ² | 2.10 per 100 ³ | |

¹ FY 2006 actual result revised from projection of 2.21 per 100.

² FY 2007 actual result revised from projection of 2.56 per 100.

³ FY 2008 actual result revised from projection of 2.25 per 100.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Rate of work-related injuries and illnesses per 100 employees.

Computation: The case rate is determined by dividing the total number of cases of work-related injuries and illnesses for the entire year by the total number of employees, and multiplying by 100. (The rate is expressed in cases per 100 employees).
For the intermediate quarterly reporting, the targets are to have less than the following cumulative rates:

- 1st Quarter: 0.65
- 2nd Quarter: 1.30
- 3rd Quarter: 1.95

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Total Cases}}{\text{Total Number of Employees}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: This measure includes work-related injuries and illnesses to FAA employees only. It excludes off-duty, non-work-related incidents. It also excludes injuries or illnesses of aviation employees, passengers and the general public. Consistent with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) initiatives, we will move toward using OSHA recordkeeping analysis, which is not identical to incidents reported under the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs regulations.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The total case rate is a standard measure of safety program performance. We will continue to use the goal of reducing the total case rates by 3% per year, measured against the FY 2003 baseline. This measure shows progress in reducing workplace injuries and illnesses, which in turn leads to improved productivity and quality of life for the FAA workforce and lower costs for the FAA.

Source of the Data

The data source for the number of cases is the Department of Labor (DOL) SHARE Initiative web site (currently <http://www.dol.gov/esa/owcp/share/>), which summarizes injuries and illnesses reported by the various agencies. These data will be analyzed with a view toward determining OSHA recordability. Supplemental sources include the Workers' Compensation Information System and the FAA Safety Management Information System.

The data source for the number of employees is the Department of Transportation Workforce Demographics

website (currently <http://dothr.ost.dot.gov/workforceinfo/demographics.htm>). The Department of Labor website uses slightly different population counts. Those counts generally run slightly higher than the DOT counts. As a result, DOL generally reports slightly lower case rates than FAA. (FY 2008 was an exception, with the DOL population counts being lower. The case rate for FY-08 using the DOL population count was 2.14, still well below the not-to-exceed target.) The SHARE data reports are available quarterly, with an approximate one-month lag time. FAA will report the case rates quarterly, with the same approximate one-month lag time.

Statistical Issues

There may be delays in the submission of claims. Also, sometimes multiple claims may result from a single workplace incident such as, chemical vapors and odors. Because of this variability, FAA provides a 10 percent margin to declare the performance status as green for the intermediate reporting (Quarters 1-3), just as is used for aviation safety targets. Thus the effective intermediate targets for reporting as green are:

| | |
|--------------|------|
| 1st Quarter: | 0.59 |
| 2nd Quarter: | 1.17 |
| 3rd Quarter: | 1.76 |

If there are major delays in filing claims with the Department of Labor, or if there are unforeseen incidents that injure large numbers of people, the performance measure could change suddenly. However, based on historical data, the magnitude of such changes would likely be small.

Completeness

Data quality is expected to be high, since the computation follows a well-established formula from the Department of Labor, and the primary data sources for each variable in the formula are federal departmental level databases.

Reliability

As noted in the Completeness section, data quality is expected to be high, since the computation follows a well-established formula from the Department of Labor, and the data sources for each variable in the formula are Federal Departmental level databases. The key source of possible inaccuracy in the data is the data entry for the injury and illness reports. FAA has consolidated Workers' Compensation case management for Headquarters, Regions and both Centers, using employees with extensive specialized experience. One benefit of this consolidation should be increased data accuracy. In addition, some FAA safety professionals use the Safety Management Information System (SMIS) to cross-check mishap reports against Workers' Compensation claims to improve data accuracy.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Grievance Processing Time



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Reduce average grievance processing time by 25 percent to 110 days from the 2006 baseline of 146 days.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Implement human resource management practices to attract and retain a highly skilled, diverse workforce and provide employees a safe, positive work environment.

Performance Target: Reduce grievance-processing time by 30 percent (to an average of 102 days) by FY 2010 over the FY 2006 baseline of 146 days, and maintain the reduction through FY 2013.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Target | N/A | Set Baseline | - 10.00% | - 15.00% | - 25.00% |
| Actual | N/A | Baseline Set | - 61.64% | - 63.69% | |

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: The average number of days to process a grievance.

Computation: Grievance-processing time will be monitored and measured against the baseline (146 days) in FY 2007 through FY 2013. Incremental targets have been set for every fiscal year. Progress toward the overall 30 percent reduction in processing time is cumulative and should be evident in each of the 4 out years.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Current Average Processing Time} - \text{Baseline}}{\text{Baseline}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: All union grievances nationwide filed or in process during the fiscal year in question, *except those grievances filed under the NATCA CPC contract with an incident date starting from 3 Sept 06 onward that are procedurally-deficient because they are not filed under the correct contract and/or are pre-empted by the filing of unfair labor practices charges.*

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

To ensure a consistent and corporate labor management program, the FAA focuses on providing effective and efficient processes to train managers and supervisors, and handle grievances, negotiations, and contract administration.

Source of the Data

Grievance Electronic Tracking System (GETS) is a proprietary FAA system for tracking and processing grievances. The data are entered and updated by authorized users in regions, centers and headquarters. Personnel in the National Labor Management Relations Programs and Policy Division, AHL-400, manage the system.

Statistical Issues

GETS is pre-programmed to calculate the number of “Days in Process” for each step in each grievance record. These data can then be sorted, totaled, and averaged for further analysis.

Completeness

Grievances are identified and tracked by way of a unique identifying number that is assigned by GETS only after critical information is entered into the system. Similarly, to close a record requires the entry of a decision date. AHL-400 produces monthly reports for AHR management to use to verify completeness, accuracy, consistency, and timeliness of GETS data.

Reliability

The GETS database has built-in control elements that must be populated before a record can be accepted in the database. Completed records are not deleted. Both current records and completed records can be measured.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Air Traffic Controller Workforce Plan



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Maintain air traffic control workforce at, or up to 2% above the projected annual totals in the Air Traffic Controller Workforce Plan."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Implement human resource management practices to attract and retain a highly skilled, diverse workforce and provide employees a safe, positive work environment.

Performance Target: Maintain the air traffic control workforce at, or up to 2 percent above, the projected annual totals in the Air Traffic Controller Workforce Plan.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 ¹ | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | 0% to 2% over Plan | 0% to 2% over Plan | 0% to 2% over Plan |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | 0.45% over Plan | 1.66% over Plan | |

¹ This was a new measure in FY 2007, replacing the measure for FY 2006, the percentage of the Workforce Plan hiring target met. No prior year data are available.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Percentage variance of actual workforce level to Workforce Plan target published in current ATC Workforce Plan at:

http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/air_traffic/controller_staffing/media/CWP_2008.pdf

Computation: The controller workforce level adherence to plan is calculated as the variance of actual controller workforce to target, expressed as a percentage. A negative percentage of variance does not meet the target. A 0 percent to 2 percent variance to plan is acceptable.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Actual End of Year ATC Workforce Level} - \text{Workforce Plan Target}}{\text{Workforce Plan Target}} \times 100$$

Scope: Air Traffic Controller workforce level for fiscal year.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The FAA's goal for maintaining the air traffic controller workforce was established after publication of the December 2004 report, *A Plan for the Future: The Federal Aviation Administration's 10-year Strategy for the Air Traffic Control Workforce*, and subsequent annual updates. This report outlines the agency's plan to hire, staff and train controllers to ensure an adequate air traffic control workforce to meet future requirements.

Source of the Data

Data on the total number of air traffic controllers are collected by the Financial Metrics group within the Office of Finance for the Air Traffic Organization. The staffing targets are generated by the Financial Analysis and Process Re-engineering group within the Office of Finance for the Air Traffic Organization. The source of the ATO staffing data is the Office of Human Resources (AHR) Management Programs and Policies Office - Information Systems Division (AHP-100). The data are obtained from the AHR Federal Personnel and Payroll System Datamart.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The staffing data are collected and compiled monthly. Completeness is guaranteed by obtaining the data from the same source each month and validation of the reports generated from the AHR data.

Reliability

The reliability of these reports is ensured by 1) obtaining the staffing data from the same source each month; 2) the availability of resources in the Financial Metrics Team to produce reports when the data are available; and 3) a review of the staffing data to assure that all controllers are coded correctly and are included in the controller staffing level. Data fields requiring corrections are directed to the appropriate ATO Vice President for action.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Aviation Safety Critical Positions Workforce Plan



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Maintain the aviation safety workforce within 1% of the projected annual totals in the Aviation Safety Workforce Plan."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 1: Implement human resource management practices to attract and retain a highly skilled, diverse workforce and provide employees a safe, positive work environment.

Performance Target: Maintain the aviation safety workforce within 1 percent of the projected annual totals in the Aviation Safety Workforce Plan.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | +/- 1% of annual target |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

¹The Aviation Safety Workforce Plan was added in FY 2009. No prior year data for the Aviation Safety Workforce Plan is available.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Percentage variance of actual workforce level to workforce plan targets

Computation: The workforce level adherence to plan is calculated as the variance of the AVS workforce to their individual targets, expressed as a percentage. A percentage above or below the target, meets the target. A zero percent to three percent variance on a monthly basis is acceptable but may not be above or below 1% at the end of the fiscal year.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Actual AVS Workforce Plan} - \text{AVS Workforce Plan Target}}{\text{AVS Workforce Plan Target}} \times 100$$

Scope: Aviation Safety workforce levels for fiscal year.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The FAA's goal for maintaining the aviation safety workforce was established to ensure an adequate workforce to meet future requirements.

Source of the Data

Data on the total number of aviation safety personnel is collected by the Finance and Budget Division within the Quality, Integration and Executive Service (AQS) for the Aviation Safety Organization. The aviation safety staffing targets are also generated by the Finance and Budget Division within the Quality, Integration and Executive Service (AQS). The source of the staffing data is the Office of Human Resources (AHR) Management Programs and Policies Office, Information Systems Division (AHP-100). The data are obtained from the Federal Personnel and Payroll System Datamart.

Statistical Issues

Calculations are based on ending bi-weekly data which can create fluctuations in months that contain 3 ending pay periods. Therefore, some months may have three ending pay periods while most months have two.

Completeness

The staffing data are collected and compiled monthly. Completeness is guaranteed by obtaining the data from the same source each month and validation of the reports generated from the Federal Personnel and Payroll System Datamart.

Reliability

The reliability of these reports is ensured by 1) obtaining the staffing data from the same source each month; 2) the availability of resources in the Budget and Finance Division to produce reports when the data are available; and 3) a review of the staffing data to assure that all AVS personnel are coded correctly and are included in the staffing levels. Data fields requiring corrections are directed to the appropriate senior executive for action.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Cost Control



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“One activity per approved organization and achievement of 90% of the targeted savings.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 3: Improve financial management while delivering quality customer service.

Performance Target: Organizations throughout the agency will continue to implement cost efficiency initiatives such as:

- 10-15 percent savings for strategic sourcing for selected products and services;
- By the end of FY 2009, reduce leased space for Automated Flight Service Stations from approximately 510,000 square feet to approximately 150,000 square feet;
- Annual reduction of \$15 million in Information Technology operating costs;
- By FY 2010, reduce overhead costs 5-10 percent through automation of invoice processing.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Target | Implement Program | 1 Activity per Organization | 1 Activity per Organization | 1 Activity per Approved Org. & Achievement of Targeted Svgs. | 90% of targeted savings |
| Actual | Program Implemented | 1 Activity per Organization | 1 Activity per Organization | 1 Activity and Savings | |

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Achievement of 90% of targeted savings. Targeted savings for FY 2009 are all cost control targets identified and agreed upon as of November 15, 2008.

Computation: Actual savings are divided into the annual target and the result is multiplied by 100 to convert it to a percentage. The FY 2008 target is 90% of \$67,891, or \$61,102.

Formula:

$$\frac{\text{Total FY 2009 Savings Achieved}}{\text{Total Targeted FY 2009 Savings}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: Reduction or avoidance of costs associated with agreed upon actions (activities) that save money, avoid incurring additional costs or streamline a process. Examples include reduced staffing levels, reduced travel, reduction of contract support, contracts for acquisition of goods and services, and consolidation of similar activities that may have been performed at more than one location within the agency.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

FAA's operating costs have increased significantly over the past decade and oversight authorities such as the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office have raised concerns regarding FAA's escalating costs. In addition, in most fiscal years the agency must fund tens of millions of dollars of unfunded pay raises and absorb millions more in unspecified budget cuts. To address these concerns, the agency is taking aggressive steps to stem the growth of operating costs. Cost Control is a centrally developed and managed initiative under the executive direction of FAA's Chief Financial Officer. It provides the necessary impetus for implementing sustained and successful cost control activities. Organizations' participation and progress is reported to the Administrator and the Executive Management team at monthly Flight Plan meetings.

Source of the Data

Line of Business and Staff Offices (LOB/SO) utilizes a financial template designed by the Office of Financial Services (ABA) to propose general or information technology related cost saving and/or cost avoidance activities. Once submitted, the templates are reviewed by ABA analysts who validate the proposals and associated financial computations. Cost control activities are then tracked and reported on a monthly basis through an Excel spreadsheet maintained by ABA. Organizations provide monthly status updates on progress toward their annual goals.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

Each completed template and monthly status spreadsheet is retained on an ABA shared drive.

Reliability

ABA verifies organizations' activities, milestones, and dollars saved/avoided using a template completed by the organizations. In addition to ABA's monthly financial tracking, individual organizations are responsible for maintaining files and spreadsheets containing supporting calculations and documentation on their activities to ensure verification by audit.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Clean Audit



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Obtain an unqualified opinion on the agency’s financial statements (Clean Audit with no material weaknesses [NMW]).”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 3: Improve financial management while delivering quality customer service.

Performance Target: Obtain an unqualified opinion on the agency’s financial statements (Clean Audit with no material weaknesses) each fiscal year.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 ¹ | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Target | N/A | Clean Audit w/NMW | Clean Audit w/NMW | Clean Audit w/NMW | Clean Audit w/NMW |
| Actual | Clean Audit | Clean Audit WITH a MW ² | Clean Audit WITH a MW | Clean Audit w/NMW | |

¹ Beginning in FY 2006, the new Flight Plan target specified not only a clean audit but also no material weaknesses (NMW).

² Result revised from Qualified to Unqualified Opinion following a comprehensive review of FAA’s construction in progress balance and restatement of the FY 2006 financial statements in FY 2007. The material weakness in property accounting remained.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Unqualified independent auditors’ opinion rendered on FAA’s annual financial statements, with no material weaknesses.

Computation: N/A

Formula: N/A

Scope of Measure: The scope of this measure includes FAA’s annual audited financial statements, related footnotes, and required supplementary information – all of which are published by FAA in its annual Performance and Accountability Report.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The FAA chooses this measure because it is an independent assessment of FAA’s internal control environment over financial reporting, FAA’s compliance with certain laws & regulations, and FAA’s ability to fairly present the results of its financial position and activities during the year.

Source of the Data

The data used to evaluate FAA’s measure against this target comes from the independent auditors’ report, issued as a result of their audit of FAA’s annual financial statements. The auditors’ report is published annually in FAA’s Performance and Accountability Report.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

N/A

Reliability

N/A

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Critical Acquisitions On Budget



Federal Aviation
Administration

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Make sure 90 percent of critical acquisition programs are within 10 percent of annual budget as reflected in the Capital Investment Plan (CIP)."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 4: Make decisions based on reliable data to improve our overall performance and customer satisfaction.

Performance Target: By FY 2009, 90 percent of Major System Investments are within 10 percent variance of current baseline total budget estimate at completion.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | 80.00% | 85.00% | 87.50% | 90.00% | 90.00% |
| Actual | 97.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% | 96.08% | |

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Percentage of programs within a 10 percent variance of the investment's total established budget at the beginning of the fiscal year performance period.

Computation: Cost performance for each program is measured by comparing the total F&E budget-at-completion amount established in the January FAA Capital Investment Plan (CIP) against the projected budget-at-completion amount published in the August CIP. Any program with a total budget-at-completion variance of more than 10% is considered to not have met the established fiscal year cost performance goal.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{January Budget at Completion Amount}}{\text{August Budget at Completion Projection}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: FAA's Air Traffic Organization (ATO) Service Units select specific programs that are determined to provide a capital asset to the NAS. For FY 2009, 40 acquisition programs will be tracked and monitored. Most of the programs selected are considered "major" and must submit an exhibit 300. Those that do not provide exhibit 300s are included because they contribute an asset to the NAS with a useful life of more than two years. The designation of "critical acquisition programs" in the title of this performance target expresses the critical value of the program to the NAS. The budget measure is set to the January 2009 CIP.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The Critical Acquisitions on Budget target represents a progressive measure for each fiscal year of the performance of critical FAA acquisition programs. The performance measure began in FY 2003 and will continue each fiscal year through the acquisition of the selected programs. The performance target increased each year until it reached 90 percent in FY 2008. This progressive increase from 80 percent in FY 2003 to 90 percent in FY 2008 ensures that the FAA's Acquisition performance is consistent with targets set in *The Department of Transportation Strategic Plan 2006-2011*. Maintaining the 90 percent target reached in FY 2008 ensures that FAA performance goals meet the *Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994, Title V (FASA V)*. This Act requires agencies to establish cost and schedule performance goals for all major acquisition programs and to achieve 90 percent of those goals.

Source of the Data

ATO tracks and reports status of all schedule and cost performance targets using an automated database. ATO Service Units provide a monthly Red, Yellow, or Green assessment that indicates their confidence level in meeting their established milestones. Comments are provided monthly that detail problems, issues, and

corrective actions, ensure milestones and cost are maintained within the established performance target. The performance status is reported monthly to the ATO Executive Committee through the ATO Strategic Management Process (SMP) and to the FAA Administrator through FAA Flight Plan meetings.

Statistical Issues

The programs that are selected each fiscal year represent a cross section of programs within the ATO. They include programs that have an Exhibit 300 as well as what is referred to as “buy-by-the-pound” programs. The latter typically do not undergo a standard acquisition life cycle process.

Completeness

This measure is current with no missing data. Each DOT organization maintains its own quality control checks for cost, schedule, and technical performance data of each major systems acquisition in accordance with OMB Circulars A-11, A-109, and A-130, Federal Acquisition Regulations, and Departmental orders implementing those directives and regulations.

Reliability

Each DOT organization having major system acquisitions uses the data during periodic acquisition program reviews, for determining resource requests. They are also used during the annual budget preparation process, for reporting progress made in the President's budget and for making key program management decisions. The monthly status is reported through the SPIRE database and included in monthly high-level management reviews. Once the program is selected and approved for tracking purposes it is reported on with detailed commentary each month, and assigned a Red, Yellow, or Green Confidence indicator that the cost is within the 10% threshold. These detailed reports are reviewed at all levels of the appropriate Service Unit, Executive levels within the ATO, and the FAA Administrator.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Critical Acquisitions On Schedule



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

"Make sure 90 percent of critical acquisition programs are on schedule."

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 4: Make decisions based on reliable data to improve our overall performance and customer satisfaction.

Performance Target: In FY 2009, 90 percent of Major System Investments selected annual milestones are achieved.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | 80.00% | 85.00% | 87.50% | 90.00% | 90.00% |
| Actual | 92.00% | 97.44% | 97.00% | 93.88% | |

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Percentage of programs meeting 90 percent of milestones.

Computation: Schedule performance is measured by dividing the total number of milestones for the current fiscal year that actually met their scheduled dates by the total number of milestones planned for the current fiscal year. The total number of milestones that can be missed and remain within the 90.0 percent performance measure will vary each fiscal year.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Total Number of Milestones Met}}{\text{Total Number of Milestones Tracked}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: FAA's Air Traffic Organization (ATO) Service Units select specific milestones and completion dates against programs that are determined to provide a capital asset to the NAS. For FY 2009, 64 selected critical milestones will be tracked against 40 acquisition programs. Fifty-eight milestones must meet their targeted date to be within 90 percent of the performance goal. Most of the programs selected are considered "major" and must submit an Exhibit 300. Those that do not provide Exhibit 300's are included because they provide an asset to the NAS with a useful life of more than two years. The designation of "critical acquisition programs" in the title of the performance target expresses the critical value of the program to the NAS. The schedule measure is set to only those milestones selected at the beginning of the current fiscal year. Once the selected milestones are approved, no milestones are added or deleted during the year. Beginning in FY 2009, the FAA National Airspace System Capital Investment Plan will address program performance against the total program acquisition baseline. This report will document the agency's performance in compliance with the *Federal Aviation Reauthorization Act of 1996*, PL 104-264, Section 252 - Air Traffic Control Modernization Reviews.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

The Critical Acquisitions on Schedule target represents a progressive measure for each fiscal year of the performance of critical FAA acquisition programs. The performance measure began in FY 2003 and will continue each fiscal year through the acquisition of the selected programs. The performance target increased each year until it reached 90 percent in FY 2008. This progressive increase from 80 percent in FY 2003 to 90 percent in FY 2008 ensures that the FAA's acquisition performance is consistent with targets set in *The Department of Transportation Strategic Plan 2006-2011*. Maintaining the 90 percent target reached in FY 2008 ensures that FAA performance goals meet the *Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994, Title V (FASA V)*. This Act requires agencies to establish, cost, schedule, and measurable performance goals for all

major acquisition programs and achieve 90 percent of those goals.

Source of the Data

ATO tracks and reports status of all schedule and cost performance targets using an automated database. ATO Service Units provide a monthly Red, Yellow, or Green assessment that indicates their confidence level in meeting their established milestones. Comments are provided monthly that detail problems, issues, and corrective actions to ensure milestones and cost are maintained within the established performance target. The performance status is reported monthly to the ATO Executive Committee through the ATO Strategic Management Process (SMP) and to the FAA Administrator through FAA Flight Plan meetings.

Statistical Issues

The programs that are selected each fiscal year represent a cross section of programs within the ATO. They include programs that have an Exhibit 300 as well as what is referred to as “buy-by-the-pound” programs. The latter are typically not required to undergo a standard acquisition life cycle process. There is no bias with the selection of milestones. The milestones selected represent the program office’s determination as to what effort they deem “critical” or important enough to warrant inclusion in the Acquisition Performance goal for the year. Typically there are anywhere from two to four milestones. Interim milestones are also tracked but not included in the final performance calculation.

Completeness

This measure is current with no missing data. Each DOT organization maintains its own quality control checks for cost, schedule, and technical performance data of each major systems acquisition in accordance with OMB Circulars A-11, A-109, and A-130, Federal Acquisition Regulations, and Departmental orders implementing those directives and regulations.

Reliability

Each DOT organization having major system acquisitions uses the data during periodic acquisition program reviews, for determining resource requests. They are also used during the annual budget preparation process, for reporting progress made in the President’s budget and for making key program management decisions. The monthly status is reported through the SPIRE database and included in monthly high-level management reviews. Since the Acquisition Performance target is a fiscal year performance measure the specific milestone and date selected is set at the beginning of each fiscal year and not changed. The ATO Executive Council must approve all requested changes. Once the milestone is approved it is reported on with detailed commentary each month, and assigned a Red, Yellow, or Green confidence indicator that the milestone will be met on schedule. These detailed reports are reviewed at all levels of the appropriate Service Unit, Executive levels, within the ATO and up to FAA Administrator.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Customer Satisfaction



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Achieve an average score for the FAA surveys on the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) at or above the FY 2008 average Federal Regulatory Agency score of 61.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 4: Make decisions based on reliable data to improve our overall performance and customer satisfaction.

Performance Target: Maintain the annual average of FAA surveys on the American Customer Satisfaction Index at or above the average Federal Regulatory Agency score.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 ¹ | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | 60 | 61 |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | 60.24 | |

¹ This is a new measure for FY 2008, replacing the Customer Satisfaction survey for Commercial Pilots. No prior year data are available for the new measure.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: ACSI scores are reported on a scale of 0 to 100 at the national level, with 0 representing the worst possible performance and 100 the best performance.

Computation: The ACSI model is a set of causal equations that link customer expectations, perceived quality, and perceived value to customer satisfaction. Scores are calculated by the University of Michigan by using the methodology of the ACSI. The FAA’s average annual score of the actual surveys conducted will be measured against the Federal Regulatory Agency annual average ACSI score for the previous fiscal year (excluding the FAA) to determine if the agency’s goal has been met. Once all surveys are baselined and validated (expected in FY 2011), even numbered years will have six surveys to average for a target score, odd numbered years will have five surveys to average. Surveys beyond the baselined year will be equally weighted for a target average, with the exception of the FAA Web survey, which will hold a lesser weight (approximately 50% of the weight of the other included surveys for the year). For FY 2009, the target score will be 61, based on the Federal regulatory agency average for FY 2008. The two surveys included in the FY 2009 metric will be Air Traffic Services (weighted at 67%) and the FAA web survey (weighted at 33%). The scores will be weighted together to calculate the overall actual FAA score. In the years a biennial survey is not conducted, the responsible offices will be held accountable for identifying an action plan to either improve or maintain customer satisfaction scores from the prior year’s survey.

Formula: Weighted average of all scheduled customer satisfaction scores.

Scope of Measure: This measure includes the scheduled and weighted average customer satisfaction scores out of a population of nine FAA ACSI surveys: commercial pilots; general aviation pilots; aviation maintenance technicians; repair stations; air carriers; manufacturers; Air Traffic Control Organization Services; Airport Industry; and FAA Web. Two surveys are conducted annually (Air Traffic Organization Services and FAA Web), all others are biennial.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Established in 1994, the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) is a uniform and independent measure of household consumption experience. The ACSI tracks trends in customer satisfaction and provides benchmarking insights of the consumer economy for companies, industry trade associations, and

government agencies. The ACSI is produced by the Stephen M. Ross Business School at the University of Michigan, in partnership with the American Society for Quality (ASQ) and the international consulting firm, CFI Group. This measure provides a recognized, independent source of customer satisfaction information that can be used to benchmark against other ACSI scores for regulatory and federal government satisfaction indices. Using a weighted average of customer satisfaction scores as a measure allows us to broaden the FAA's indicators of customer satisfaction to include nine customer bases: commercial pilots, general aviation pilots, mechanics, repair stations, air carriers, and customers of the Air Traffic Organization's services, manufacturers, airports, and web users.

Source of the Data

Results for the ACSI are produced by the National Quality Research Center at the University of Michigan Business School in partnership with the American Society for Quality (ASQ), Foresee Results, and the Claes Fornell International (CFI) Group. Four FAA offices (including the Office of Aviation Safety, the Air Traffic Organization, the Office of Airports, and the Office of Communications) are responsible for conducting the surveys and providing their final results to the Office of Planning, Policy and Environment, who are responsible for calculating the score for the FAA average. Each responsible organization will also report monthly on the status and progress of their action plan for improving or maintaining their customer satisfaction.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

N/A

Reliability

The FAA annual target for this measure is based on the national results for federal regulatory government agencies. The annual national average is released by the National Quality Research Center at the University of Michigan Business School.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Information Security



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Zero cyber-security events that significantly disable or degrade FAA services.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 4: Make decisions based on reliable data to improve our overall performance and customer satisfaction.

Performance Target: Achieve zero cyber-security events that disable or significantly degrade FAA services.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Target | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Actual | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: Number of successful cyber attacks as determined by DOT/FAA’s Cyber Security Management Center (CSMC).

Computation: A count of the number of successful cyber-attacks in the current fiscal year.

Formula: N/A

Scope of Measure: The measure is applicable to the DOT/FAA Information Technology assets, defined by TCP/IP systems, which contribute to the delivery of FAA services.

The FAA’s information security infrastructure protects the agency’s IT assets in accordance with numerous executive and legal requirements, including the Computer Security Act, Executive Order 13231, and the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), as well as in accordance with DOT and FAA policy.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Hackers seek to disrupt, or exploit critical infrastructure across the United States. One critical infrastructure, as identified by the President in Homeland Security Presidential Directive/ HSPD-7, is our transportation system, including aviation. Accordingly, the FAA, whose mission is to ensure the safe and efficient movement of aircraft, must be protected against the threat of cyber-attacks. The Office of Information Services (AIO) has the agency lead for ensuring that these attacks do not significantly disable or degrade FAA services.

Source of the Data

The data on cyber-security attacks are collected by the DOT/FAA Cyber Security Management Center (CSMC), which is part of AIO.

Statistical Issues

None.

Completeness

The DOT/FAA’s CSMC works collaboratively to validate cyber incidents on FAA and departmental systems. This process provides the most accurate and up-to-date measure. The FAA and DOT use current and historical data to validate trends, which indicate an increase in the number and complexity of cyber-attacks.

AIO has sensors on the DOT/ FAA’s networks. AIO is the primary focal point of incident reporting to the DOT and USCERT.

Reliability

The DOT/FAA's CSMC collaborate with other ISS components in the federal government. The CSMC has the responsibility, as outlined in FAA Order 1370.82A, of being the focal point for all cyber incidents in the FAA.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Continuity of Operations



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FY 2009 Performance Target

“Exceed Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) continuity readiness levels by 5 percent.”

Flight Plan Objective and Performance Target

Objective 5: Enhance our ability to respond to crises rapidly and effectively, including security-related threats and natural disasters.

Performance Target: Exceed Federal Emergency Management Agency continuity readiness levels by 5 percent.

| | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 ¹ |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------|
| Target | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 5% ahead of requirements |
| Actual | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | |

¹ New measure in FY 2009. No data are available for prior years.

Definition of Measure

Unit of Measure: This measure tracks FEMA continuity readiness levels as measured by activation response time. The unit of measure is the number of hours within which the FAA is fully operational at the continuity facility after notification of a FEMA readiness level change. If required, this measure will also include the number of hours within which, after achieving a readiness level change, the FAA must attain the next higher readiness level.

Computation: The amount of time in which FAA achieves readiness levels ahead of FEMA requirements is expressed as the percentage difference between the actual time and the requirements. The number of hours within which the FAA becomes fully operational, based on a readiness level in response to an event, is subtracted from the FEMA target, and the difference is then divided by the target. The result is then multiplied by 100 to convert it to a percentage.

Formula:
$$\frac{\text{Actual Time to Achieve FAA Readiness} - \text{FEMA Target}}{\text{FEMA Target}} \times 100$$

Scope of Measure: This measure tracks responses to changes in continuity readiness levels in the National Capital Region, only, as ordered by FEMA. To maintain proficiency, it also includes training and drills.

Why the FAA Chooses this Measure

Achieving readiness levels earlier than FEMA requires demonstrates to other federal agencies and the public that the FAA stands ready to respond in a timely fashion to any issue or event. Use of this measure provides a clear measurable objective for the FAA.

Readiness levels are established and designed to place departments and agencies in a readiness posture that will ensure minimal disruptions, if any, in functions that are essential to its mission.

Source of the Data

Readiness level attainment results are recorded in a timeline table that is maintained by the Office of Emergency Operations (AEO-200) at FAA Headquarters and at the continuity facility. The timetable records participation in attaining readiness levels by AEO-200, the Lines Of Business (LOBs), and other Staff Offices (SO). The timeline for receipt of information is based on the readiness level attainment requirement timeline as defined by AEO-200. Data reports are available daily or as required. Once readiness levels have been achieved a readiness level report is sent to the appropriate internal or external department, organization, or

agency. The documentation (timeline table) for this measure is obtained from AEO-200. AEO-200 is responsible for maintaining and ensuring completeness of the records.

Statistical Issues

No obvious statistical issues are identified. Reporting is strictly based on physical presence, email, and/or telephonic reporting on the specific time of achievement of identified objectives. No known external factors impact measurement results.

Completeness

The collected data defines whether or not a readiness level has been achieved. AEO-200 establishes a specific timeline for achievement of objectives then polls/observes/records, via checklists and/or sign-in sheets, LOB and SO arrival times (if appropriate for readiness level) at the continuity facility and/or task completions times. If a required LOB or SO does not arrive at the facility and/or complete a required task, within the specified timeframe, a member from AEO-200, prior to expiration of allotted timeframe, contacts the appropriate LOB for a status update on progress or for corrective action. The achievement objective responses on the checklists are simple yes or no; the objective was either achieved or not achieved.

To fully document achievement or non-achievement of objectives, findings are recorded by name, organization of participant, and time of arrival or completion of tasks. Possible limitations to data collection and achievement results are directly tied to AEO-200, LOB's, and SO's. However, to ensure accuracy and to fairly depict achievement or non-achievement of objectives, if a participant organization fails to report to the facility and/or complete a required task and AEO-200 is unable to contact the participant organization to resolve the issue, that objective is not achieved and the agency does not attain the desired readiness level. Once readiness levels have been achieved a readiness level report is sent to the appropriate internal or external department, organization, or agency.

Reliability

Measures are reliable and random factors are removed through use of simplified response requirements. Objectives are clearly defined and responses to inquiry about achievement of objectives are simple yes or no answers. This approach eliminates subjectivity.