



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Aviation Legislation - Professor Byrnes
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NTSB Board Member

National Transportation Safety



The Mission

The National Transportation Safety Board is an independent Federal agency charged by Congress with investigating **every civil aviation accident** in the United States and **significant accidents in the other modes** of transportation – railroad, highway, marine and pipeline -- and determining the probable cause of the accident.

The NTSB also participates in investigations conducted by other countries when U.S. aviation safety interests are involved.

Lubbock, TX – ATR 42-320 Cargo Aircraft



Gray Summit, MO – bus/vehicle/truck crash



Port Arthur, TX – Eagle Otome Tank Ship



Washington, DC – Washington Metro Transit System



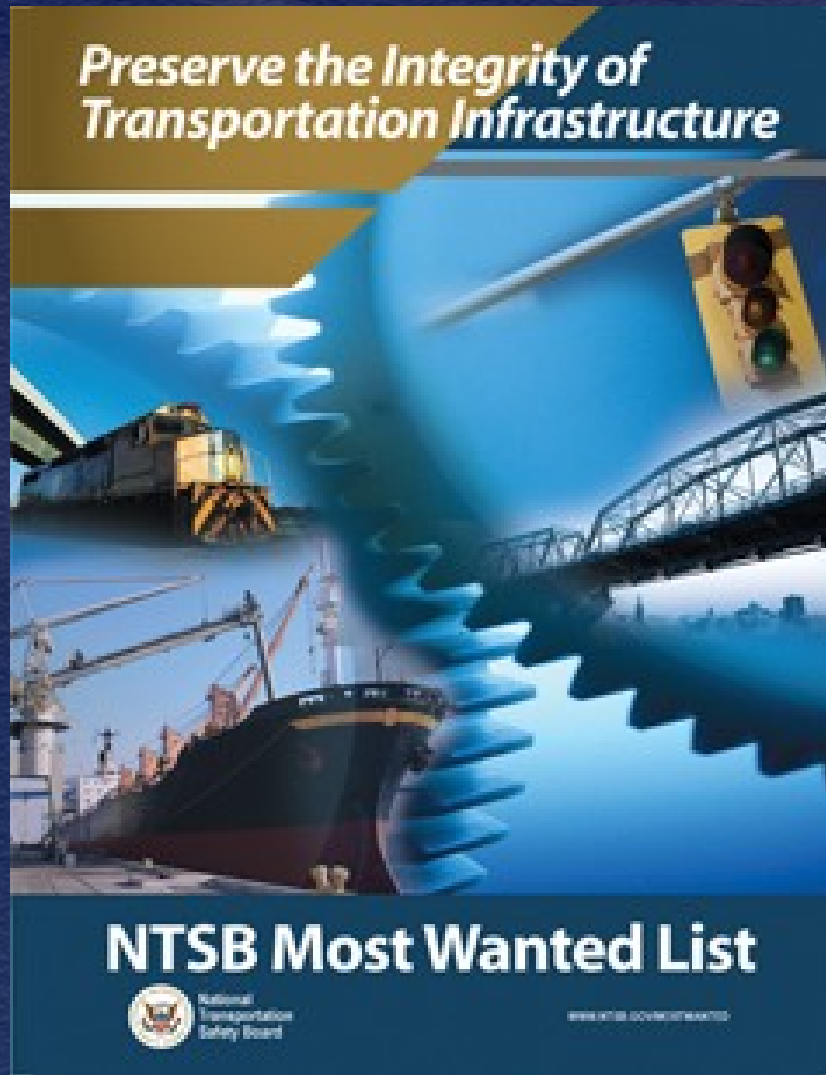
NTSB Responsibilities

- Issues recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents.
- Conducts safety studies.
- Conducts Forums and Symposiums on safety topics.
- Acts as U.S. accredited representative on foreign aviation accident investigations under the provisions of the International Civil Aviation Authority (ICAO) agreements.

NTSB Responsibilities cont'd

- Acts as an administrative appeals court for actions concerning airmen, air carriers and mariners.
- Maintains official civil aviation accident database.
- Provides family assistance following accidents.
- Evaluates the effectiveness of emergency responses to hazardous materials accidents.

NTSB Most Wanted List



Investigation Process

- An NTSB “Go-Team” is dispatched from Washington headquarters to major transportation accidents.
- A full “Go-Team” for a major accident typically includes the following:
 - Board Member
 - Investigative-In-Charge (IIC)
 - Technical specialists
 - Public Affairs/Government Affairs officers
 - Family Affairs Specialists

Arrival On Scene



Arrival On-Scene

- Coordinate with local law enforcement authorities
- Establish our investigative resources at the accident site
- Establish an NTSB Operations Center
- Coordinate with Law Enforcement Command Post
- Confirm security arrangements
- Coordinate biohazard precautions with local authorities



Organization On-Scene

- Conduct an organization meeting
- Managed by the IIC
- Designed to:
 - Coordinate the investigative groups and the overall investigation
 - Identify NTSB participants
 - Establish and organize groups
 - Designate parties and party coordinators if appropriate
 - Specify Rules of Conduct of the NTSB investigation

Briefings

- Provided for both Press and Family (if applicable)
 - Factual information is reported to the media and families at least daily in briefings
 - The NTSB Board Member or IIC are the sole spokespersons for the investigation

Post On-scene

- Additional fact-finding work — including laboratory testing — may continue for several months.



Board Meeting

- The Board Members conduct a public meeting to discuss and approve a final report on the accident. The final report includes conclusions, a statement of probable cause, and recommendations.



Recommendations

- Safety recommendations are a major product of the Safety Board.
- Each Safety Recommendation:
 - Describes the action the board recommends.
 - States the safety need to be satisfied.
 - Designates the party or person expected to take action.



NTSB