

Reachout No. 55 in Athens, Greece

From 7 to 10 January 2020

Hosted by AAIASB, Greece

1. Introduction

1.1 The Hellenic Air Accident Investigation and Aviation Safety Board (AAIASB) hosted a four-day ISASI workshop at the International Airport in Athens, Greece from 7 to 10 January 2020. The focus of the workshop was on accident investigation and aviation safety.

1.2 The ISASI Reachout workshop was sponsored by the Aegean Airlines, Olympic Air, Athens International Airport and Sofitel Hotel at the Athens Airport. ISASI is appreciative of the sponsors' support that made it possible for AAIASB to host and organize the Reachout workshop.

1.3 The 64 participants represented the AAIASB, and management, safety officers and personnel from the aviation industry in Greece (Air Intersalonica, Air Mediterranean, Bluebird Airways, Ellinair S.A., Gainjet Aviation S.A., Helistar, I-Fly, Life Line Aviation, Lumiwings, Olympus Airways, Orange2fly, Sky Express, Swiftair Hellas, Superior Air, Athens International Airport, Goldair Handling, Skyserv Aero, Swissport, Egnatia Aviation, Global Aviation Academy, JetStream Aviation Academy, TAE Aviation, the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority, Fraport Greece, University of Patras, other Academia, and the Hellenic Air Force, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Fire Service and Police).

1.4 The ISASI instructors were Mr. Frank Del Gandio (ISASI President) and the ISASI International Councillor Mr. Caj Frostell. The instructors prepared their training material, and the AAIASB Secretariat arranged for the distribution of the presentations to the participants.

2. The opening of the workshop

2.1 The Chairman of AAIASB Mr. Antonios Athanasiou opened the workshop and thanked ISASI for the opportunity to host an ISASI Reachout workshop in Athens. In addition, Captain Akrivos Tsolakis gave a moving speech about Greece and ISASI. Captain Tsolakis was the recipient of the Jerome F. Lederer Award at the ISASI Annual Seminar 2019 in Hague, the Netherlands.

3. The content of the workshop

3.1 Mr. Frank Del Gandio covered ISASI activities, the investigative process and maintenance records, aging aircraft and data collection, the regulatory process, aircraft parts, technical data and manufacturers, a Boeing 720 impact demo, human factors in maintenance, airworthiness, maintenance training and safety recommendations. He also discussed the MEL and operational accidents, repairs and alterations, ADs, and drugs, lasers, media and unruly pax. His case studies included the Swissair flight 111 and technicians versus inspectors.

3.2 Mr. Caj Frostell dealt with the workshop objectives, the international requirements in ICAO Annex 13, what investigators need to know about SSP and SMS, airport investigations and ATS factors, technical tests and research, crashworthiness and survivability, flight OPS investigation and developing the final report. He also presented a case study based on the COPA B737 accident, as well as a case study to identify the findings, causes and safety

recommendations. And he concluded the workshop with a presentation on investigation management practices.

4. Conclusions

4.1 A number of participants mentioned with appreciation that it was a unique opportunity arranged by the Hellenic AAIASB, in which the aviation industry (CAA, airlines, Air Force, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Fire Service and Police) safety experts came together to discuss safety issues.

4.2 From an ISASI instructor perspective, the ISASI Reachout workshop was a unique opportunity to exchange experiences, different ways of implementing safety strategies, handling of emergency situations, carrying out investigations, implementing safety actions and exchanging ideas for the future.

4.3 The instructors truly appreciated the excellent arrangements, the interactions with AAIASB board members and management and course/workshop participants, as well as the former AAIASB investigators Captain Akrivos Tsolakis, Dr. Nikos Pouliezos and Mr. John Papadopoulos. The outstanding arrangements were invaluable in all aspects, as was the exceptional hospitality.



Participants of ISASI's 55th Reachout Workshop in Athens, Greece from 7 to 10 January 2020.



From left, Odysseas Paxinos (doctor-consultant with AAIASB). Kimon Avgerinos (Jetstream Flight Academy), Caj Frostell (ISASI International Councillor), Frank Del Gandio (ISASI President), Antonios Athanasiou (AAIASB Chairman) and Grigorios Flessas (AAIASB Board member).



Captain Tsolakis addressing the participants.



Mr. Antonios Athanasiou, Chairman of AAIASB, opened the workshop and introduced AAIASB.