

ISASI PROJECT REACHOUT – REPORT ON REACHOUT 25; BRISBANE 25 – 28 MARCH 2008

Introduction

During 2007 as a follow up to the Reachout Workshop that was conducted in Brisbane in December 2006, ASASI was asked by Boeing Australia if a similar workshop could be staged early in 2008. The training request related to provision of an investigative type background to assist Boeing's own staff as well as officers from several other organisations both to carry out individual incident investigations and to assist in a broader accident investigation process if this should ever prove necessary. As with the December 2006 program, ASASI pursued the request with several Australian ISASI corporate members and Cobham Aviation, and with major support from Boeing Australia, ran a four day training session in Brisbane, Australia from 25 – 28 March 2008.

Technical Content

Fifty nine participants attended the four day workshop which again included a variety of subjects including a legal overview of accident investigation; Annex 13 and the role of the Accredited Representative; witness interviewing; human factors; use of field equipment; photography; wreckage mapping; site survey; graphic reconstruction; and, structural fundamentals. Participants were also introduced to Safety Management Systems, accident investigation history; forensic engineering; material failures and dealing with the media and next of kin. Several case studies were included in the program to assist with imparting actual investigation experiences. Blood borne pathogen training was also provided.

Instructors

A team of eight experienced investigators from ASASI, DDAAFS, DSTO, ATSB and Cobham featured in delivering the program.

Participants

As indicated above, 59 people participated in the workshop from across many sectors of the Australian aviation industry (airlines, small aviation companies, regulator, manufacturers, investigating authority, Defence and others). Welcoming addresses were delivered by Wayne Needs, Boeing Australia's Vice President Operations and Lindsay Naylor, ASASI President. Lindsay's address included a comprehensive introduction to ISASI and what the Reachout program is all about. Once again the seminar generated considerable interest in ISASI, and several new member applications resulted. An informal dinner hosted by Boeing Australia was held on the Thursday evening and this provided further networking opportunities. Feedback on the seminar was again positive and since then, ASASI has received a number of inquiries about attending 'the next one'.

A typical comment received was:

‘We extend our sincere appreciation for the very high calibre of the presentations and the enormous efforts by all presenters to provide a comprehensive coverage of topics. It was also pleasing that without exception, reality video / insert clips were included to provide reality of subject and enlightenment of the session. Obviously thanks to the sponsors.

Whilst this was titled as a Safety Investigator Seminar, it was reassuring that all presenters identified preventative safety management, Reason modeling and Emergency Response preparedness as essential baseline business platforms.

A very worthwhile experience and networking opportunity’.

The difficulty in staging a similar event too soon after the previous workshop is that too many requests to corporate members and other supporting organisations for continued support could result in some unavailability, and hence detracting from the overall coverage of the investigation instruction process. For that reason, ASASI will probably not attempt to host another Reachout until at least 2009.