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*"Rummaging in the government's attic"*

Description of document: Slide Presentations from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Basic Accident Investigation Course (AS105), 2016

Requested date: August 2020

Release date: 18-May-2022

Posted date: 12-December-2022

Source of document: FOIA Request  
National Transportation Safety Board  
Attention: FOIA Requester Service Center, CIO-40  
490 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20594-2000  
Fax: (240) 752-6257  
[NTSB's FOIA Online Submission Website](#)

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**National Transportation Safety Board**  
**Washington, D.C. 20594**

May 18, 2022

Re: National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)  
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) No. FOIA-2020-00489

This letter responds to your FOIA request for each slide presentations delivered at the Basic Aircraft Accident Investigation Course, of the type given for DOE as AS105 in the Summer of 2016.

The Safety Board located several responsive documents. Enclosed are 999 pages. However, we withheld certain information partially and in full pursuant to the following exemptions specified below.

Personal information, notably autopsy information and graphic photos, social security numbers, and any personal identifying information, is withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6), which exempts from disclosure "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy," to include personal addresses, phone numbers, etc. Pursuant to this exemption, I partially redacted 12 pages with direct business and personal telephone numbers, email addresses, graphic images, and fully withheld 2 pages in full of NTSB staff credentials.

In several documents enclosed with this letter, I determined that exemption(s) to the FOIA required that I redact a limited amount of material. The redactions are clearly marked, and the applicable exemption(s) are noted at the place of the redaction.

The NTSB has concluded processing your FOIA request. If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you have the right to appeal this determination under the FOIA. You may administratively appeal by writing to the NTSB, Attn: Ms. Dana Schulze, Managing Director, 490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, D.C. 20594. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 202-314-6540, for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact



National Transportation and Safety Board

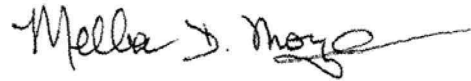
FOIA-2020-00489

May 18, 2022

Page 2 of 2

information for OGIS is as follows: OGIS, NARA, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melba D. Moyer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melba D. Moyer

FOIA Officer

Office of the Chief Information Officer

National Transportation Safety Board

Enclosure



**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

# Investigating Human Factors in Aircraft Accidents Part 1: Concepts

William Bramble, Ph.D. Senior Human  
Performance Investigator

# Part 1: Concepts

- What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world

# Part 1: Concepts

- What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world



# What is Human Factors / Ergonomics?

- Understanding interactions among humans and other elements of a system  
Applying theory, principles, data and methods to design to optimize human well-being and overall system performance. Contributing to the design and evaluation of tasks, jobs, products, environments and systems to make them compatible with the needs, abilities and limitations of people.

# What is Human Factors / Human Performance Investigation?

A process involving: Identification of breakdowns in human performance that contributed to a safety-related event  
Identification of hazards stemming from human, machine, environmental, and organizational elements and their interaction  
The use of human factors knowledge and investigative findings to identify changes that could improve safety

# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world

# Why Bother?

Historically, 60-80% of  
aircraft accidents have  
been attributed to  
human error



# Why Bother?

Data from 20,000 line-oriented safety audits conducted from 1996-2013 indicate an average of 2 errors per flight. Little change from the late 1990's.

## Why Bother?

Swatting Mosquitoes Violated a  
procedure Forgot part of a briefing  
arming of a device Failed to notice a cockpit  
indication Missed cues in the environment Did  
not adequately control the airplane



# Why Bother?

Draining the Swamp  
Incompatible  
demands  
Poorly-designed equipment  
training  
Inadequate procedures  
Inadequate  
supervision  
Inadequate management



# Why Bother?

Digging Deeper



# Why Bother?

Example:...the probable cause of this accident was the captain's cessation of right rudder input, which was needed to maintain directional control of the airplane, about 4 seconds before the excursion, when the airplane encountered a strong and gusty crosswind

*that exceeded the captain's training and experience. Contributing to the accident were the following factors: 1) an air traffic control system that did not require or facilitate the dissemination of key, available wind information to the air traffic controllers and pilots; and 2) inadequate crosswind training in the airline industry due to deficient simulator wind gust modeling.*

# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world

# Who Can Do It?

Investigators with:  
Aviation-related knowledge  
and experience  
Specialized training in Human  
factors  
Engineering psychology  
Systems safety /  
safety engineering



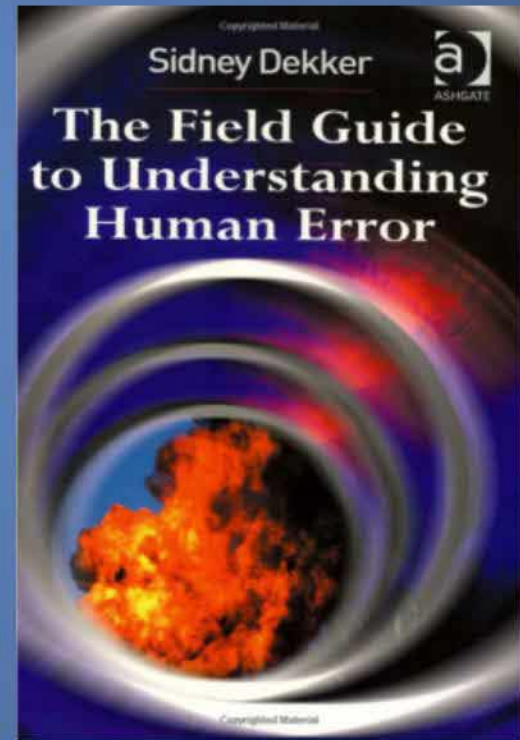
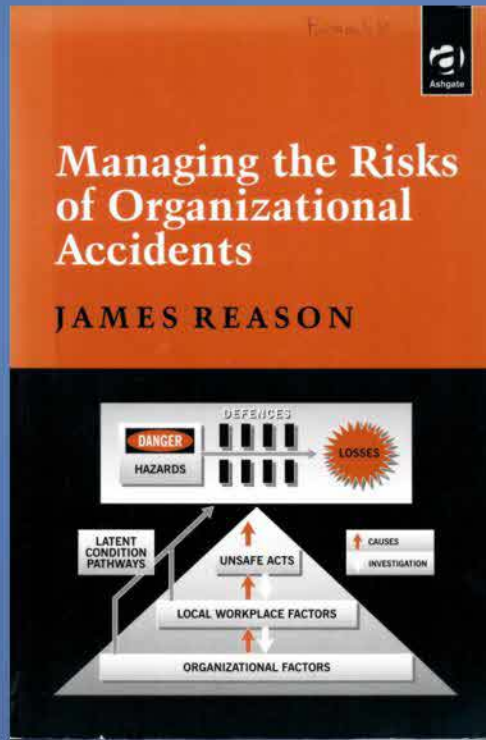
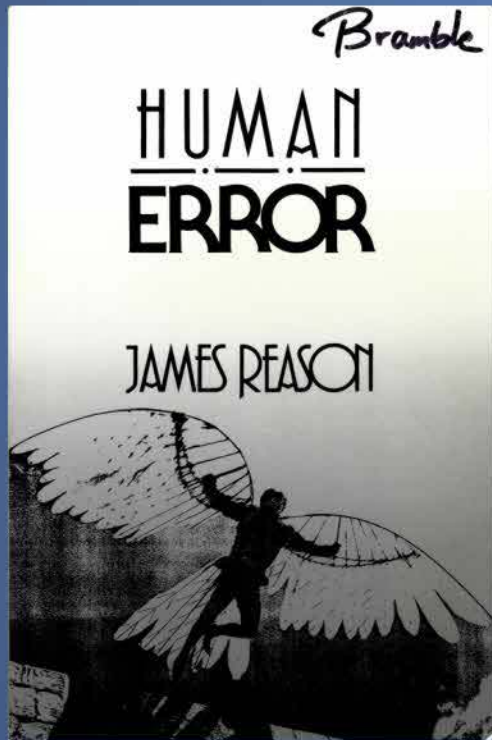
# Who Can Do It?

“The measure of the good human factors investigator is not his or her professional qualifications in behavioral sciences, but rather the ability to determine, with the help of specialists if necessary, what information is relevant, to ask the right questions, to listen to the answers and to analyze the information gathered in a logical and practical way.”



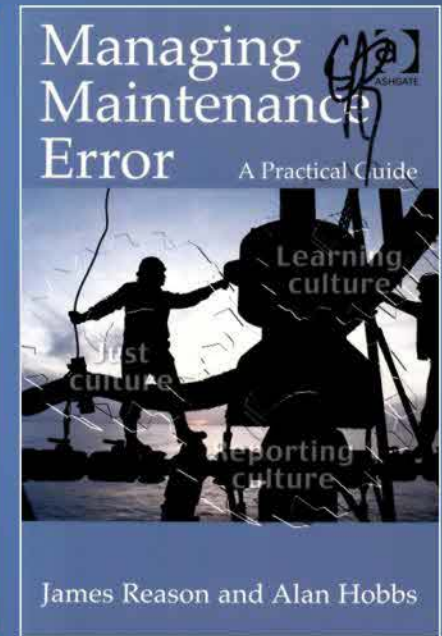
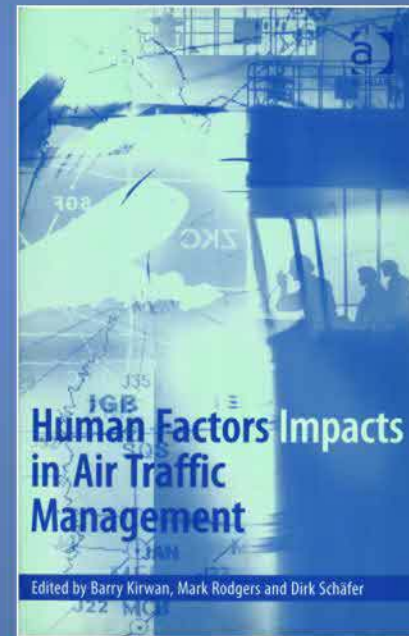
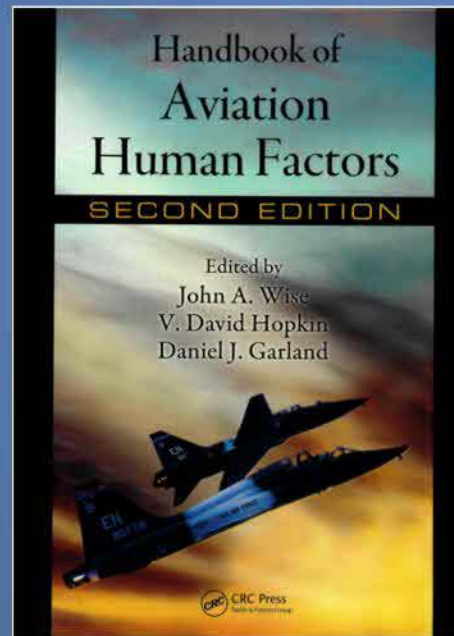
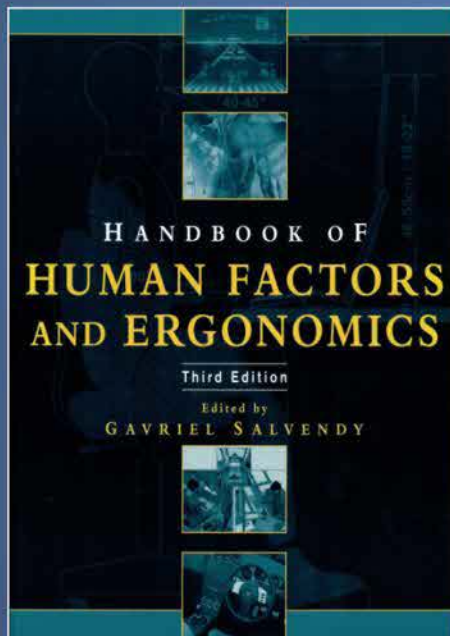
# Who Can Do It?

## Other Guidance



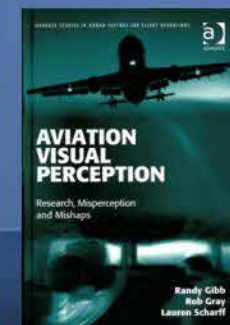
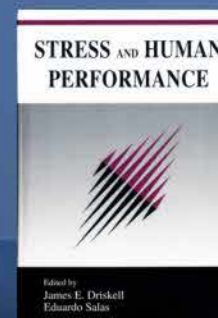
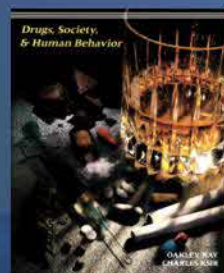
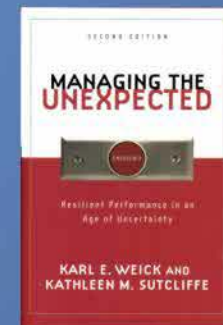
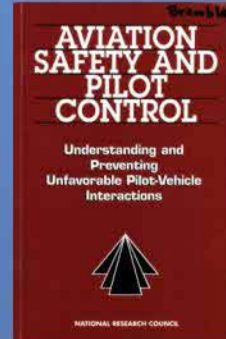
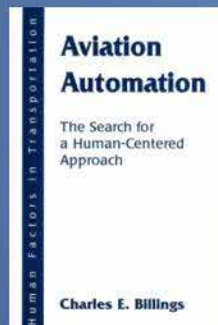
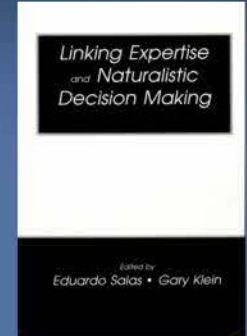
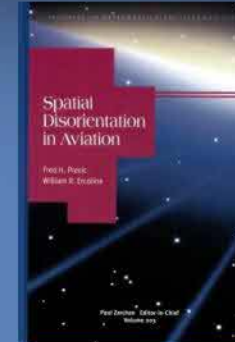
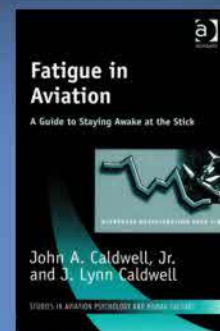
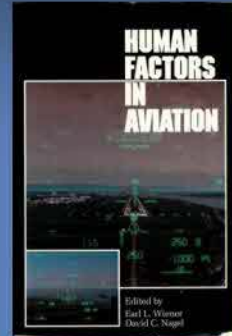
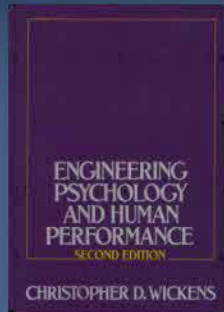
# Who Can Do It?

## Reference Books



# Who Can Do It?

## Additional Reference Books

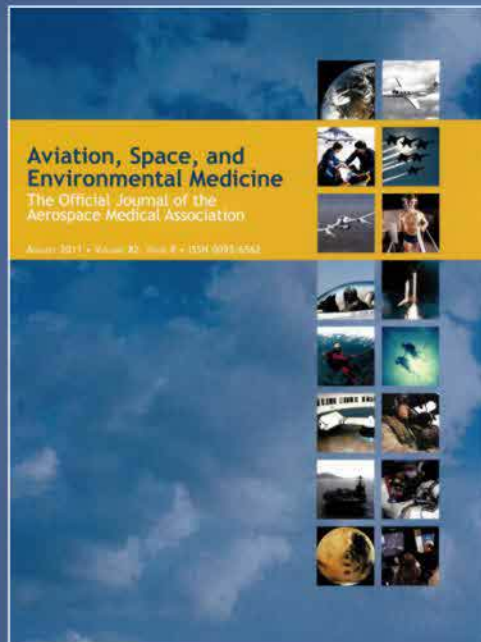


NTSB



# Who Can Do It?

## Key Journals



# Who Can Do It?

Professional Societies  
Human Factors & Ergonomics Society  
Aerospace Medical Association  
Association of Aviation Psychologists  
European Association for Aviation Psychology



# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human ~~performance investigation~~ around the world

# What Should Be Investigated?

- Flight crews  
Med  
controllers  
Super



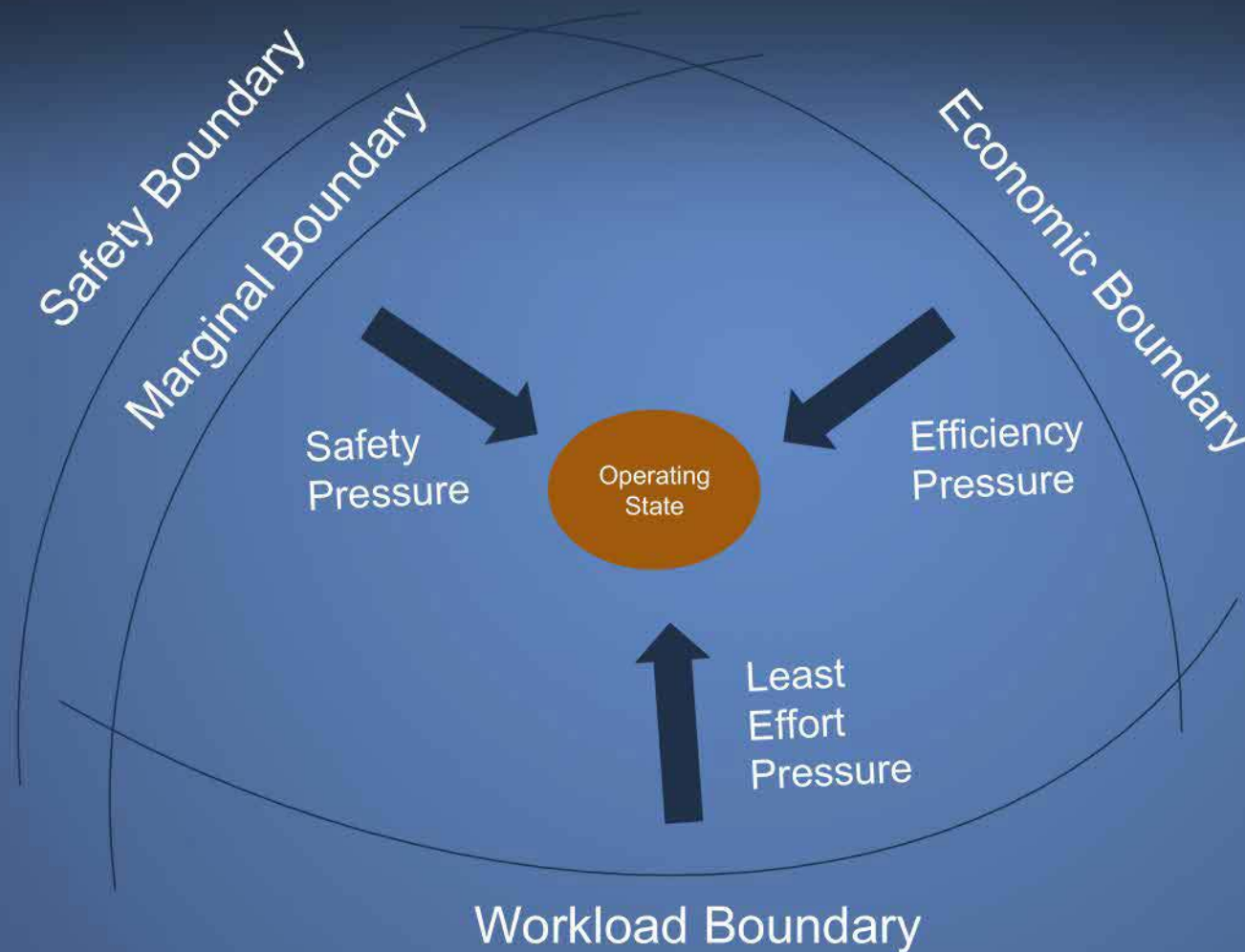


# What Should Be Investigated?

- Fitness for duty Behavioral standards Significant behavioral events Context of the behaviors Individual and organizational goals Local rationality



# What Should Be Investigated?



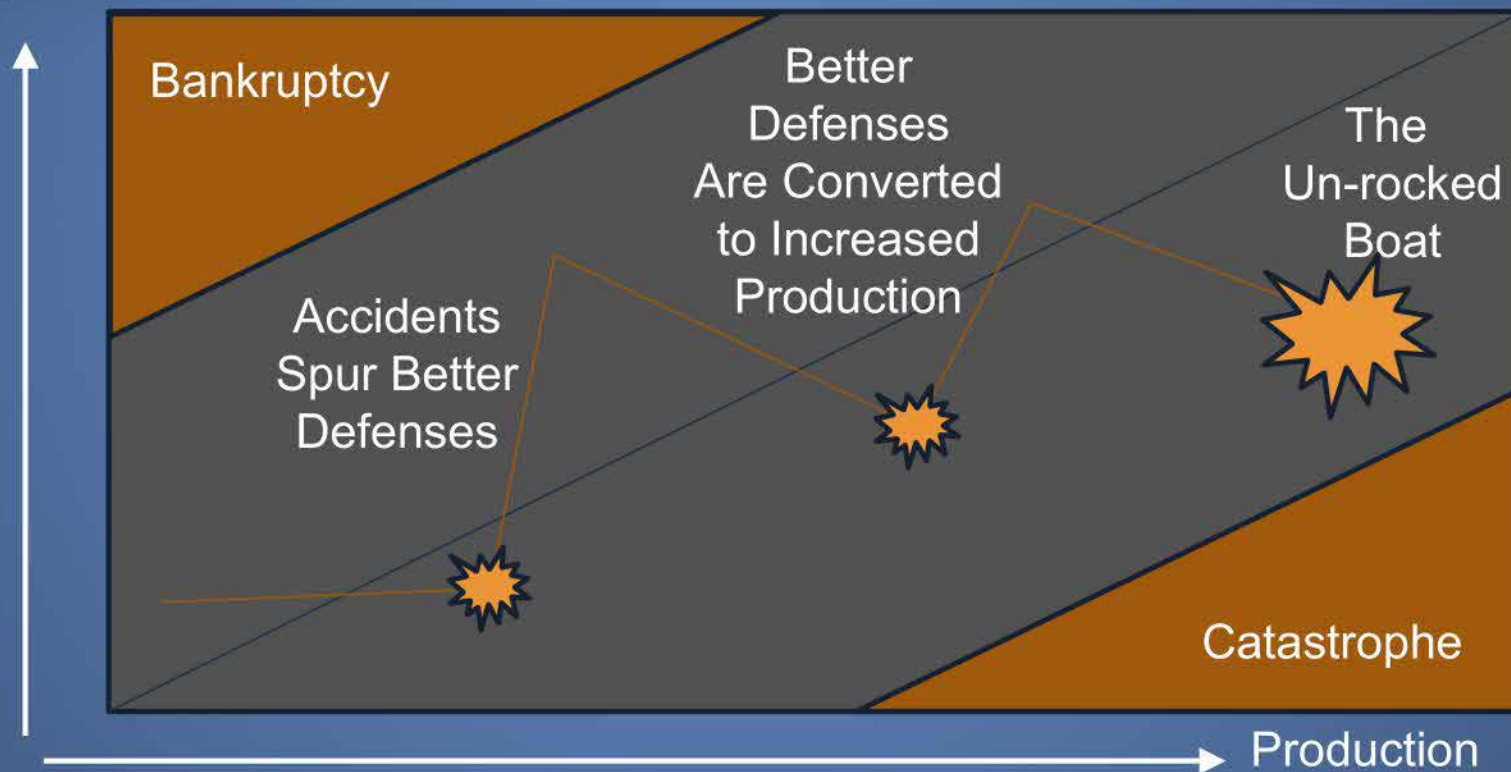
# What Should Be Investigated?

- Task characteristics (real versus ideal)Equipment characteristicsEnvironmental factorsOrganizational characteristics

# What Should Be Investigated?

## Organizational Drift

Protection



# What Should Be Investigated?

Safety Management Systems  
Safety accountability, policy, resources  
Safety risk management  
Safety assurance  
Safety promotion

# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world
-



# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

Analysis: The core of safety investigation  
A process of converting data into findings  
An iterative process that involves: Questions,  
hypothesis testing Investigator judgment Teams

# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

Some Useful Terminology  
Failure mode: Description of an error in terms of type / level of performance  
Behavioral antecedent: Factor that facilitates a particular failure mode  
Defense/Safeguard: Instituted to protect against a foreseeable hazard  
Precondition: Factor that increases the likelihood of error  
Latent Failure: Flawed management decision, line management deficiency, other preconditions present in the organizational system

# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

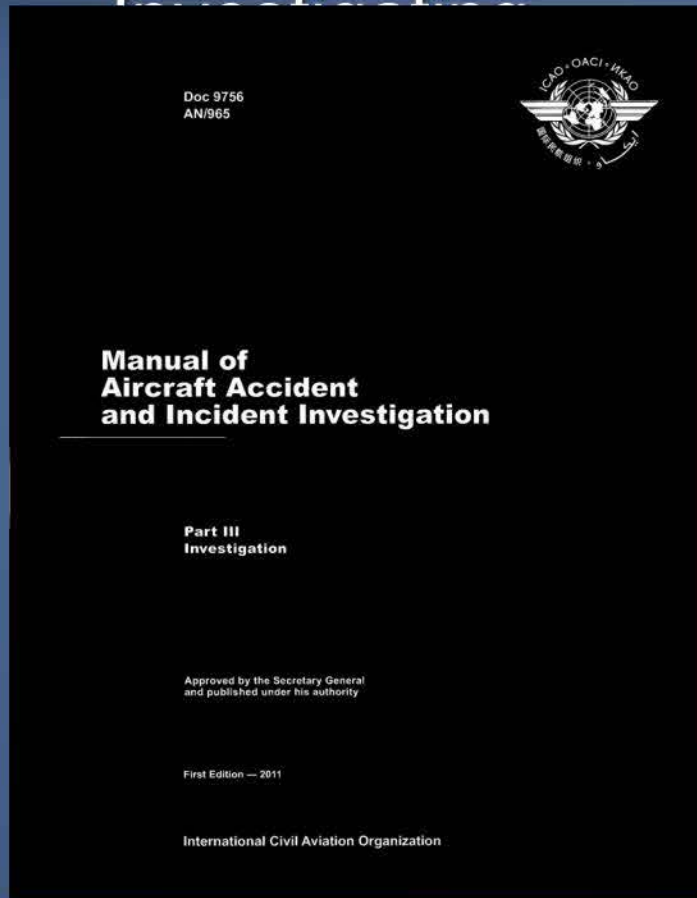
Analysis Paradigms, Taxonomies and Tools  
Levels of cognitive control (Rasmussen)  
“Swiss cheese” model of defenses (Reason)  
Tripod-Beta (Shell)  
Influence Diagrams (Embrey)  
Human Error Assessment and Reduction Technique (Williams)  
Maintenance Error Decision Aid (Boeing)



# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

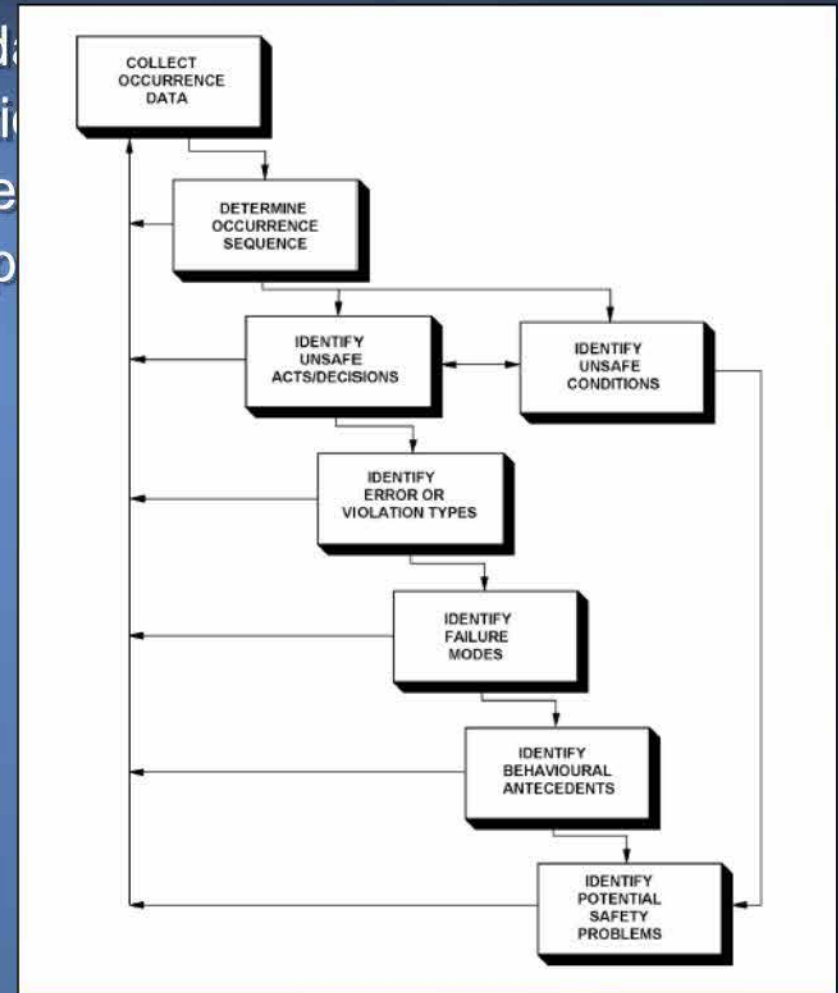
## ICAO Guidance Chapter 16

### Investigation

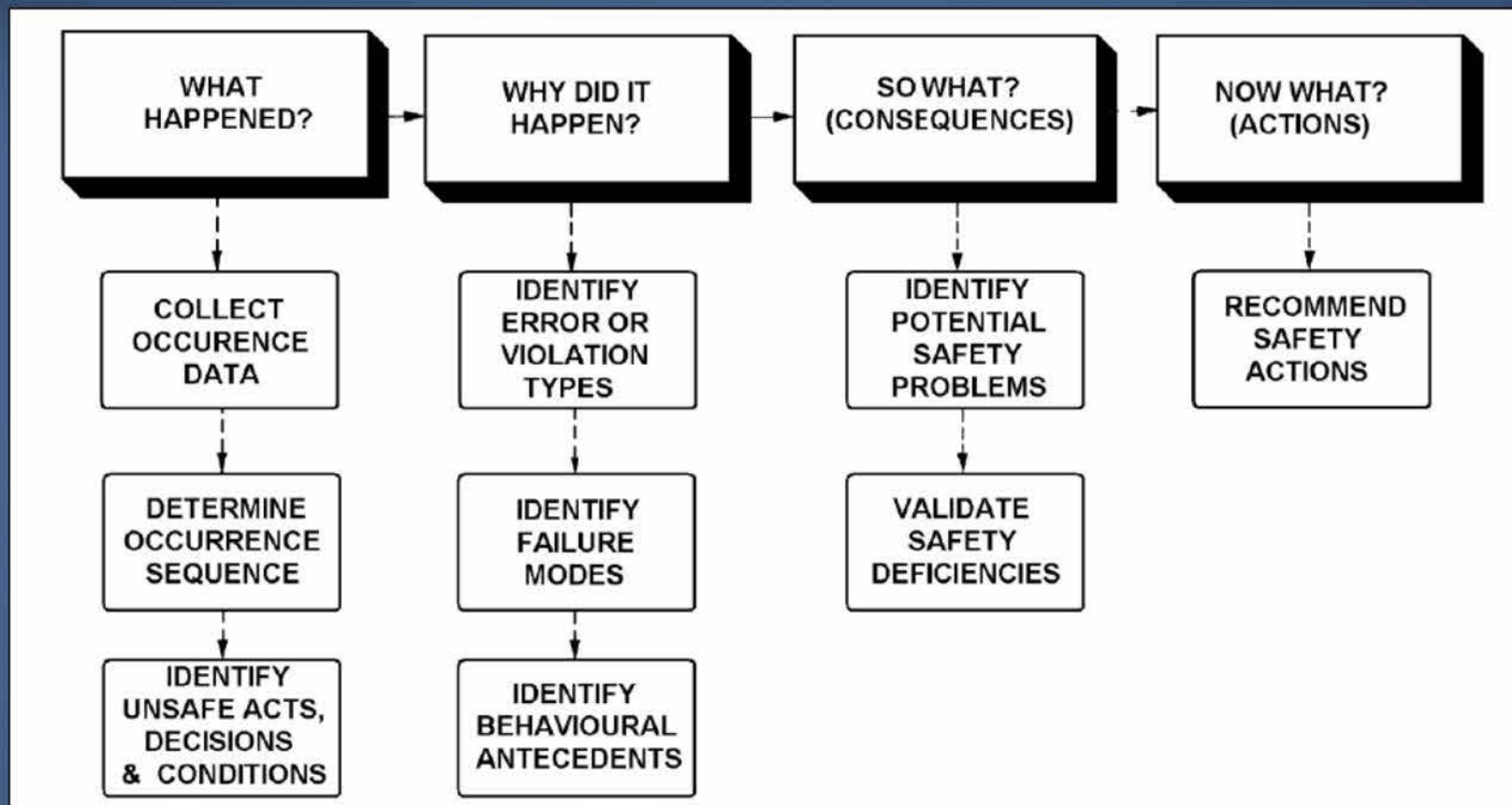


# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

ICAO Guidance: Collect occurrence data  
sequence Identify unsafe acts, conditions  
violation type Identify the failure mode  
antecedents Identify potential safety problems

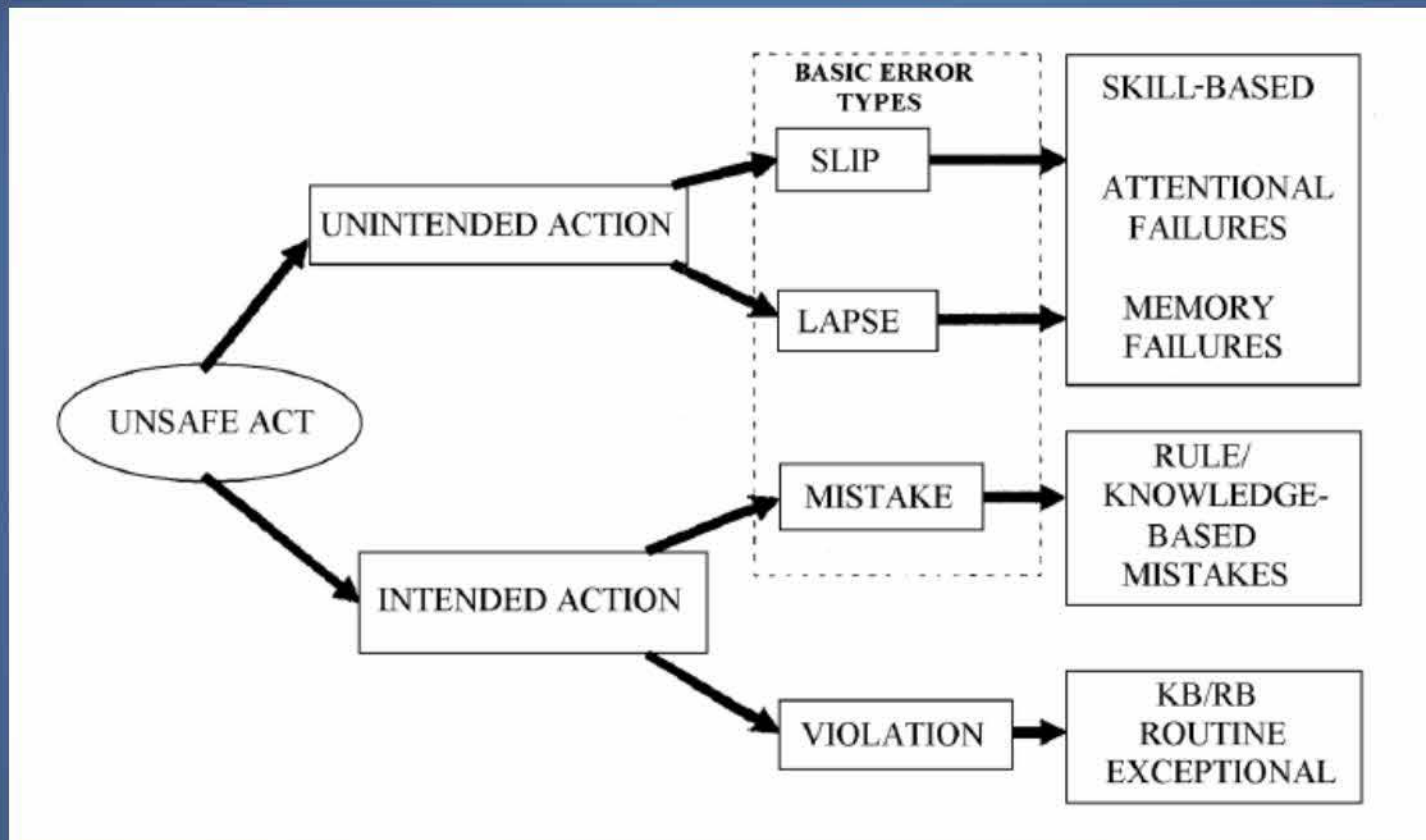


# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?



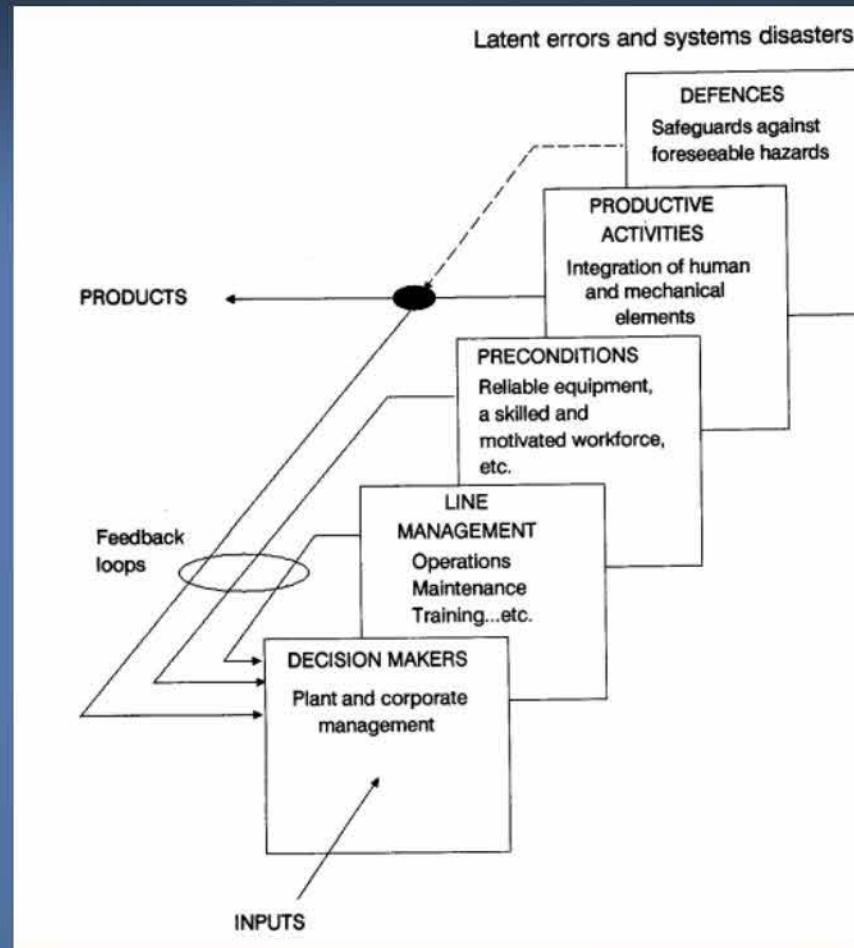
# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

## Error Types



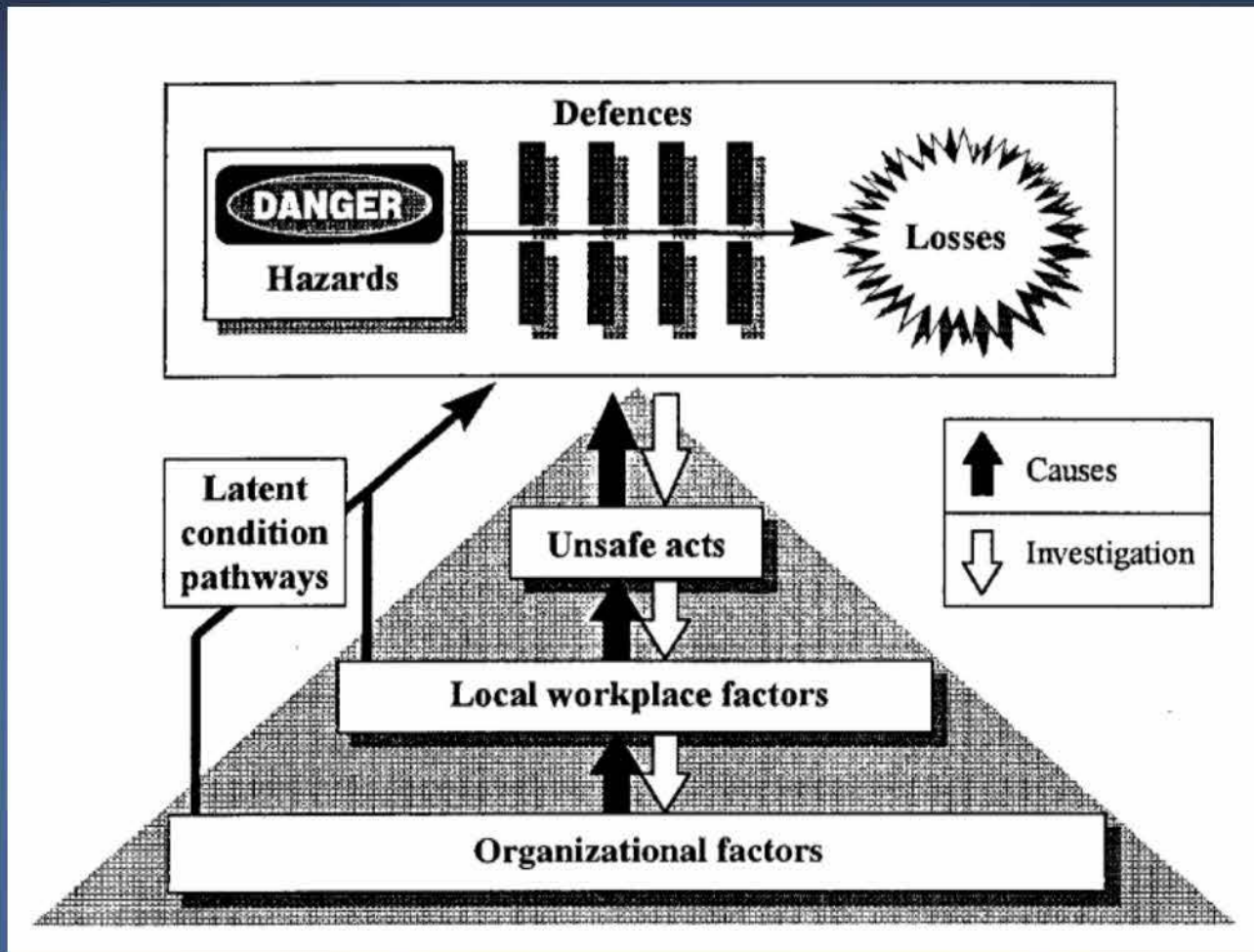
# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?

Cultural  
Factors





# How Are the Data Developed / Analyzed?



# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world
-

# How Are the Findings Reported?

- Group chair's factual report (public)
- Group chair's analysis report (not public)
- Human factors in the final report
- 1.1 History of flight
- 1.5 Personnel information
- 1.13 Medical and pathological information
- 1.17 Organizational & management info
- 1.18 Additional Information
- 2. Analysis
- 3. Conclusions
- 4. Safety Recommendations

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Office of Aviation Safety  
Washington, D.C. 20594  
January 3, 2005

Group Chairman's Factual Report

**HUMAN PERFORMANCE**

DCAO12M814

A. ACCIDENT

Operator: Federal Express Corporation (FedEx)  
Location: Tallahassee, Florida  
Date: July 26, 2002  
Time: 0537 eastern daylight time  
Aircraft: Boeing B-727-200, N497BE

B. HUMAN PERFORMANCE GROUP

Group Chairman William J. Brashers, Jr., Ph.D. National Transportation Safety Board 400 L'Enfant Plaza East, SW Washington, D.C. 20594	Malcolm Brinson, Ph.D. National Transportation Safety Board 400 L'Enfant Plaza East, SW Washington, D.C. 20594
Thomas Vesthus, Ph.D. Federal Aviation Administration Civil Aerospace Medical Institute 6800 S. MacArthur Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73169	Captain Robert Welsh FedEx Master Executive Council Airline Pilot Association 1669 Kirby Parkway, Suite 202 Memphis, TN 38120
Donald A. Groves FedEx CRM Flight Training 3131 Democrat, Bldg C Memphis, TN 38118	





# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? How are the findings reported? How are safety recommendations developed? Human performance investigation around the world



# Problems Identified... Now What?

Easier,  
Less Effective

Harder,  
More  
Effective




- Incorporate signage, procedures, training  
Provide warning devices  
Incorporate engineered features or safety devices  
Reduce risk by design alteration  
Eliminate the hazard

(MIL-STD-882D System Safety)

# Problems Identified... Now What?

Reprimand / fire / prosecute? Modify Personnel selection criteria? Enhance / modify personnel training? Change company SOPs / regulations? Increase supervision / oversight of personnel? Re-allocate personnel functions, redesign jobs? Modify hardware / software / workplace / environment?

Easier,  
Less Effective  
Harder,  
More  
Effective



# Part 1: Concepts

- ✓ • What is human factors investigation? Why bother? Who can do it? What should be investigated? How are the data developed / analyzed? Problems have been identified... Now what? How are the findings reported? Human performance investigation around the world



# Human Factors Investigation Around the World (Updated 2015)

Number of Specialists Identified by Country	USA	National Transportation Safety Board (7)
	France	Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'Analyses (10)
	Canada	Transportation Safety Board (7)
	Australia	Australian Transport Safety Bureau (7)
	Norway	Accident Investigation Board Norway (1)
	UK	Air Accidents Investigation Branch (0)
	Germany	Bundesstelle für Flugunfalluntersuchung
	Taiwan	Aviation Safety Council
	NZ	Transport Accident Investigation Commission



# Human Factors Investigation Around the World (2005)

## Boeing Survey of Human Performance Guidance Materials Used by 12 Accident Investigation Agencies

4 agencies	Detailed guidance materials
4 agencies	Human performance checklist(s)
4 agencies	No HP guidance materials

# Part 1: Concepts

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# National Transportation Safety Board



**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

# Investigating Human Factors in Aircraft Accidents Part 2: Methods

William Bramble, Ph.D. Senior Human  
Performance Investigator



# NTSB Human Performance Investigators (Aviation)



Evan Byrne, Chief, Human Performance and Survival Factors Division

## Human Performance

## Survival Factors



Katherine Bramble  
Senior Human Performance Investigator



Katherine Wilson  
Senior Human Performance Investigator



Sally Silva  
Human Performance Investigator



# Guidance Materials

- Primary guidance is an NTSB major investigations manual appendix Human performance investigators use various other formal and informal job aids Practice depends heavily on office lore and tradition, investigator ingenuity and initiative

# Initial Notification

- What size investigation? Major team Regional



# Travel to the Scene

- FAA airplane (major launch)  
Commercial jumpseat





# Arrival On Scene

Organizational Meeting  
(Investigator in Charge): E  
Identify participants Design  
party coordinators Establish



# Parties

- NTSBFAA Operator



# Formation of Groups

- StructuresSystemsPowerplantsMaintenanceOperationsSurvival factors
- AirportsAir traffic controlAirplane performanceFlight data recorderCockpit voice recorderMeteorology

# Where Does Human Factors Belong?

- StructuresSystemsPowerplantsMaintenanceOperationsSurvival factors
- AirportsAir traffic controlAirplane performanceFlight data recorderCockpit voice recorderMeteorology
- (Human Performance)



# Human Performance Responsibilities

Collect perishable information first!



Overlapping responsibilities  
Retrieve cockpit paperwork  
Interview crew  
Interview other witnesses  
Request company, FAA records

Unique responsibilities  
Examine bags for meds  
Arrange for toxicological testing  
(if crew are deceased)  
Collect electronic devices  
(if left behind)  
Request hotel and other activity records (if relevant)  
Arrange next of kin interviews  
(if crew are deceased)

# Human Performance Investigator Initial Goals

- Find out what happened / what went wrong in enough detail for errors to be placed in context  
Collect information about the goals, thoughts, perceptions, and understandings of those involved  
Collect sufficient data for later assessment of various aspects of fitness for duty (fatigue, medications, stress, etc.)

# Human Performance Investigator Initial Goals

## MINIMUM DATA

Actions..... Event circumstances  
and person's **actions**

Lookback..... **Activities** in days before  
event & toxicology

Personnel..... Professional, personal  
& medical **background**

**Environment**

**Standards**



# Human Performance Investigator Initial Goals

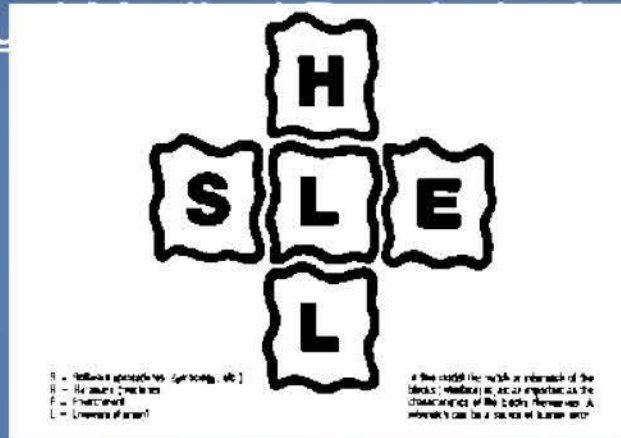




# Beyond the Initial Launch

## Use the SHEL Model for Inspiration

Liveware- Perceptual  
management



al Training Experience  
controls Automation

Liveware-Software Po  
procedures Comput

Liveware-Environment Lighting Temperature Vi

# Beyond the Initial Launch

More  
Urgent  
Less  
Urgent



Priority of Interviews  
Those directly involved in the event  
Other witnesses (airborne, on the ground)  
Those who recently interacted with the person  
Next of kin / roommates / close friend  
Those who recently flew / worked with crew  
Those who recently used the same equipment  
Supervisor(s), Instructor(s)  
Coworkers who know them well  
Other employees who hold the same job  
Company managers  
Former employers

# Beyond the Initial Launch

More  
Urgent  
Less  
Urgent



Priority of Other Tasks

<u>Arrange for collection of toxicological specimens</u>	<u>Help secure personal belongings, cockpit papers, cameras</u>
<u>Collect activity evidence (hotel data, etc.)</u>	<u>Document equipment / work space / environment</u>
<u>Observe normal operations</u>	<u>Review CVR / FDR / Video / Radar / Radio / Photo</u>
<u>Review simulation studies / perform re-enactments</u>	<u>Review certification records (technical, medical)</u>
<u>Obtain driver / criminal history</u>	<u>Review training records</u>
<u>Review personnel files</u>	<u>Review regulations, company policies, SOPs</u>
<u>Review operating handbooks</u>	<u>Review training materials</u>



# NTSB Major Investigations Manual

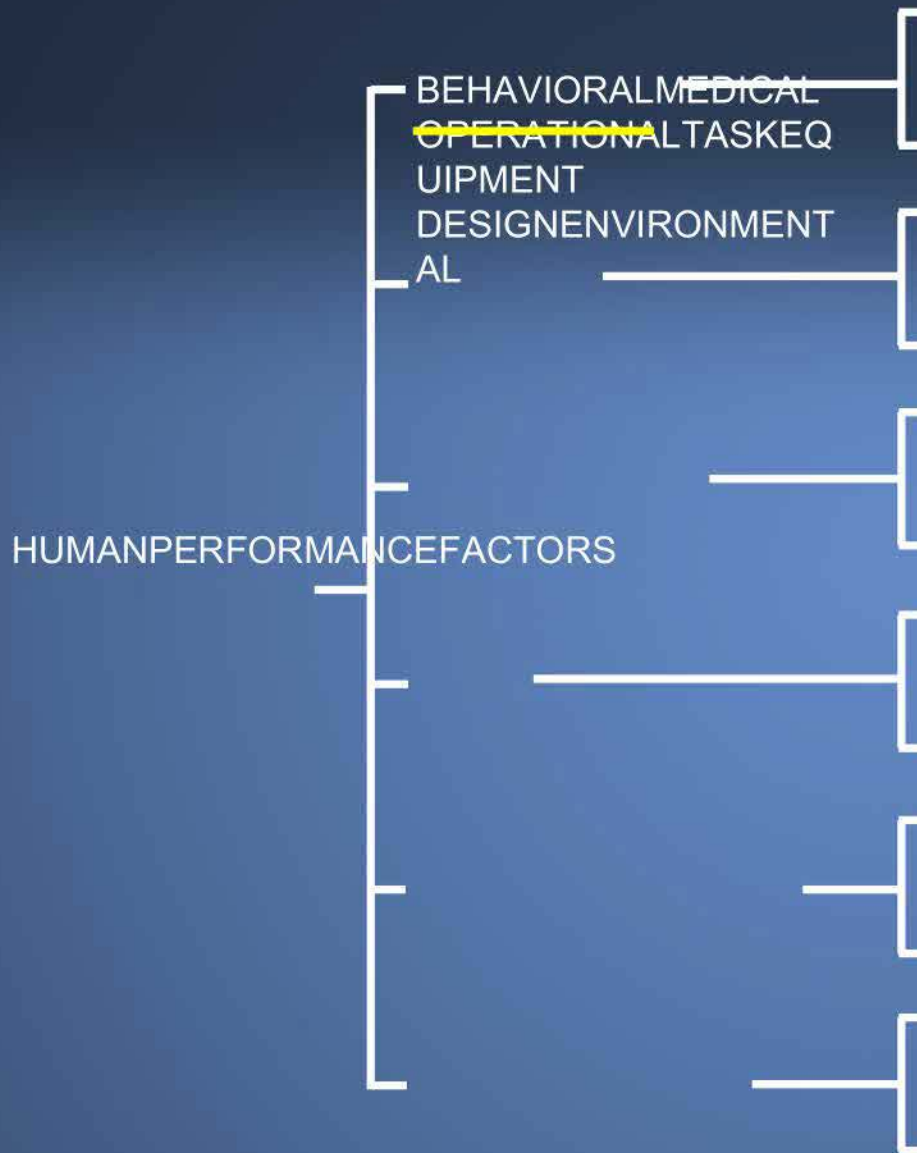
HUMAN PERFORMANCE FACTORS

BEHAVIORAL MEDICAL  
OPERATIONAL TASK EQ  
UIPMENT  
DESIGN ENVIRONMENT  
AL

- Behavior during the event  
24-72 hour history  
General habit patterns  
Recent events  
General Health  
Sensory Acuity  
alcohol ingestion  
Fatigue  
Training  
Experience  
familiarity / habits  
Operating procedures  
Company policy  
Task information  
components  
Task-time relation  
Workload  
Workspace interface  
instrument panel design  
Control design  
design / configuration  
External conditions  
illumination / visibility  
Noise / motion

(Not Included are  
cognitive, organizational,  
crew interaction aspects)

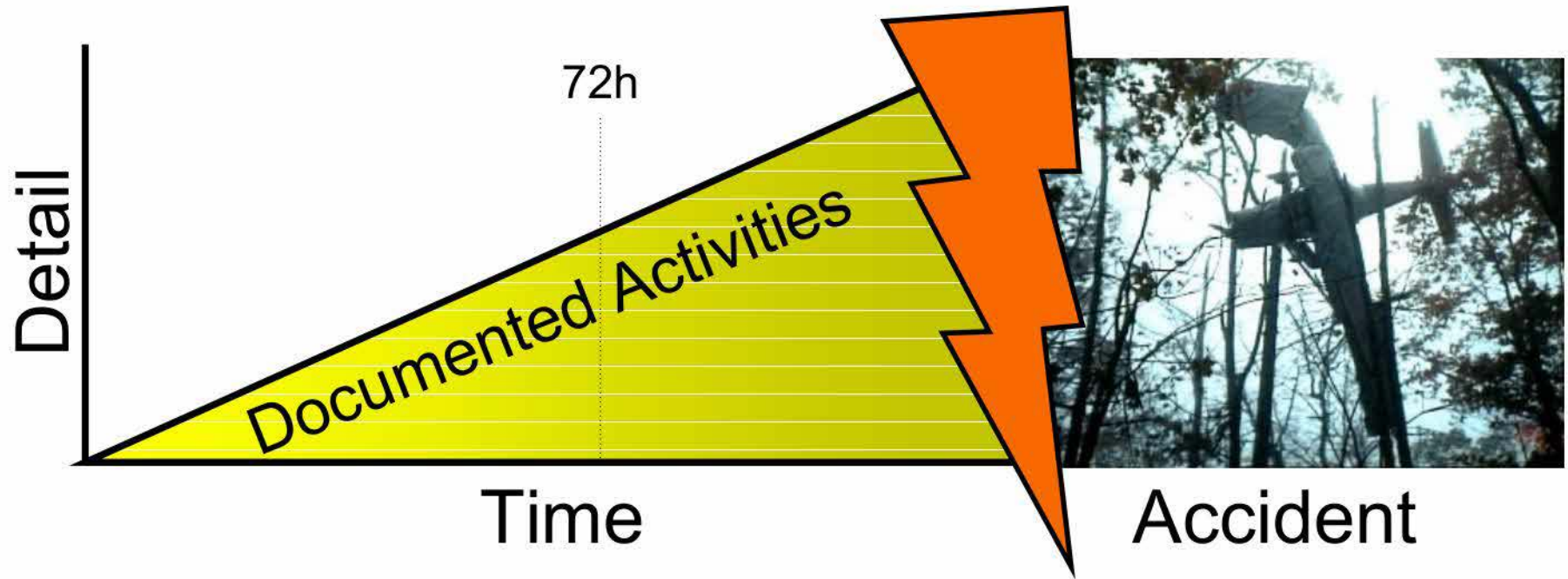




- Behavior during the event  
24-72 hour history  
General habit patterns  
Recent life events  
General Health  
Sensory Acuity  
Drug / alcohol ingestion  
Fatigue  
Training  
Experience / familiarity / habit patterns  
Operating procedures  
Company policy  
Task information  
Task components  
Task-time relation  
Workload  
Workspace interface  
Display / instrument panel design  
Control design  
Seat design / configuration  
External conditions  
Internal conditions  
Illumination / visibility  
Noise / vibration / motion

# Beyond the Initial Launch

## Documenting Recent Activities



Why Document Recent Activities?  
Inadequate rest  
breaks  
Inadequate sleep  
Recent personal conflicts  
Recent stress  
Use of alcohol or drugs  
Recent injury or illness



— BEHAVIORAL

- Behavior during the event  
24-72 hour history  
General habit patterns  
Recent life events

- Interviews  
Work so  
records  
(keycards, phone,  
Video, Radar, Rad





# Recent Activities

PIC	Wednesday, March 30	Thursday, March 31	Friday, April 1	Saturday, April 2
0:00	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
0:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
1:00	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
1:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
2:00	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
2:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
3:00	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
3:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
4:00	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
4:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
5:00	0508 1-min call			
5:30	Seen in hotel lobby area	Seen in hotel lobby area	Seen in hotel lobby area	Seen in hotel lobby area
6:00			0559 1-min call	
6:30				0641 entered the cockpit
7:00	0701 block start	0707 block start	0744 block start	
7:30			Flying	
8:00				
8:30	0833 block end		0842 block end	0857 Break
9:00				0900 Resume
9:30		0948 block end		Accident
10:00				
10:30				
11:00				
11:30				
12:00		1225 block start		1200
12:30				
13:00			Preflight briefing	
13:30		Flying		
14:00				1400
14:30		1447 block end		
15:00			Preflight briefing	
15:30				
16:00				
16:30		1658 Last call		
17:00				
17:30				
18:00				
18:30	1830 outgoing text			
19:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
19:30	1952-1955 outgoing texts	Dinner	Dinner	
20:00			2000 Return hotel check VM	
20:30		0.5	0.5	
21:00	2122 outgoing text	0.5	0.5	
21:30	2159 outgoing text	0.5	0.5	
22:00	2201 outgoing text message	0.5	0.5	
22:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	
23:00	0.5	0.5	0.5	
23:30	0.5	0.5	0.5	

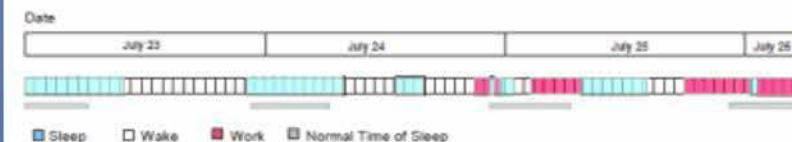
1478 Captain Sleep/Work Schedule



1478 First Officer's Sleep/Work Schedule



1478 Second Officer's Sleep/Work Schedule



NTSB

# Beyond the Initial Launch

Other Behavioral Info  
scheduleDaily sleep  
characteristics



NTSB



- Behavior during the event24-72 hour historyGeneral habit patternsRecent life eventsGeneral HealthSensory AcuityDrug / alcohol ingestionFatigueTrainingExperience / familiarity / habit patternsOperating proceduresCompany policyTask informationTask componentsTask-time relationWorkloadWorkspace interfaceDisplay / instrument panel designControl designSeat design / configurationExternal conditionsInternal conditionsIllumination / visibilityNoise / vibration / motion



## MEDICAL

- General HealthSensory Ac ingestionFatigue

- Toxicological testsAutopsy resultsAviation



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

THESE RECORDS MAY BE RELEASABLE UNDER THE FOIA REQUEST 15  
DAYS AFTER SIGNATURE DATE UNLESS WE HEAR OTHERWISE FROM  
FAA NTSB COUNSEL

Mike Monroney  
Aeronautical Center

P.O. Box 25082  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73125

Tuesday, November 30, 2004

National Transportation Safety Board  
1515 W. 190th St., Suite 555  
Gardena, CA 90248

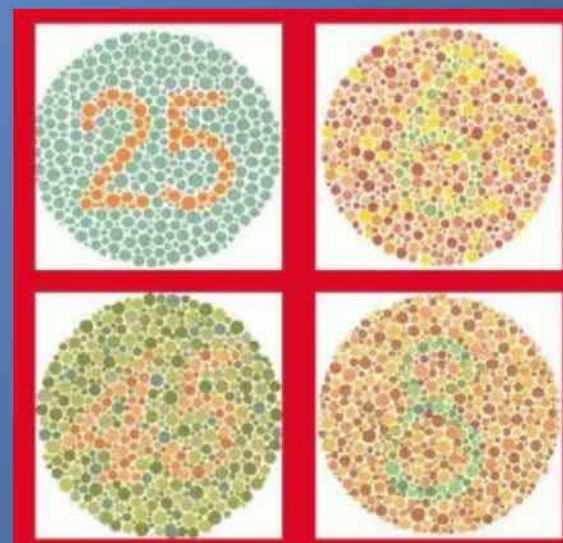
ACCIDENT # [REDACTED] INDIVIDUAL# 001 NAME [REDACTED]  
DATE OF ACCIDENT [REDACTED] DATE RECEIVED [REDACTED]  
N # [REDACTED] NTSB # [REDACTED]

LOCATION OF ACCIDENT [REDACTED]

SPECIMENS Blood, Brain, Gastric, Heart, Kidney, Liver, Lung, Muscle, Spleen

MODE: AVIATION  
PUTREFACTION: Yes  
CAMI REF # [REDACTED]

FINAL FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY FATAL ACCIDENT REPORT



**NTSB**



— MEDICAL

• General Health  
Sensory Acuity  
Drug / alcohol ingestion  
Fatigue

## Toxicological Testing

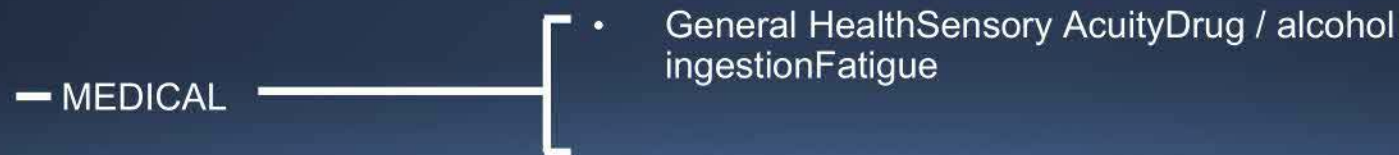
Carbon monoxide  
Cyanide  
Ethanol  
Amphetamine  
Opiates  
Marijuana  
Cocaine  
Phencyclidine  
Benzodiazepines  
Barbiturates  
Antidepressants  
Antihistamines  
Meprobamate  
Methaqualone  
Nicotine



Note: Analysis of vitreous fluid from the eyeball is the most effective means of testing for alcohol because it is not contaminated by post-mortem ethanol production resulting from decomposition

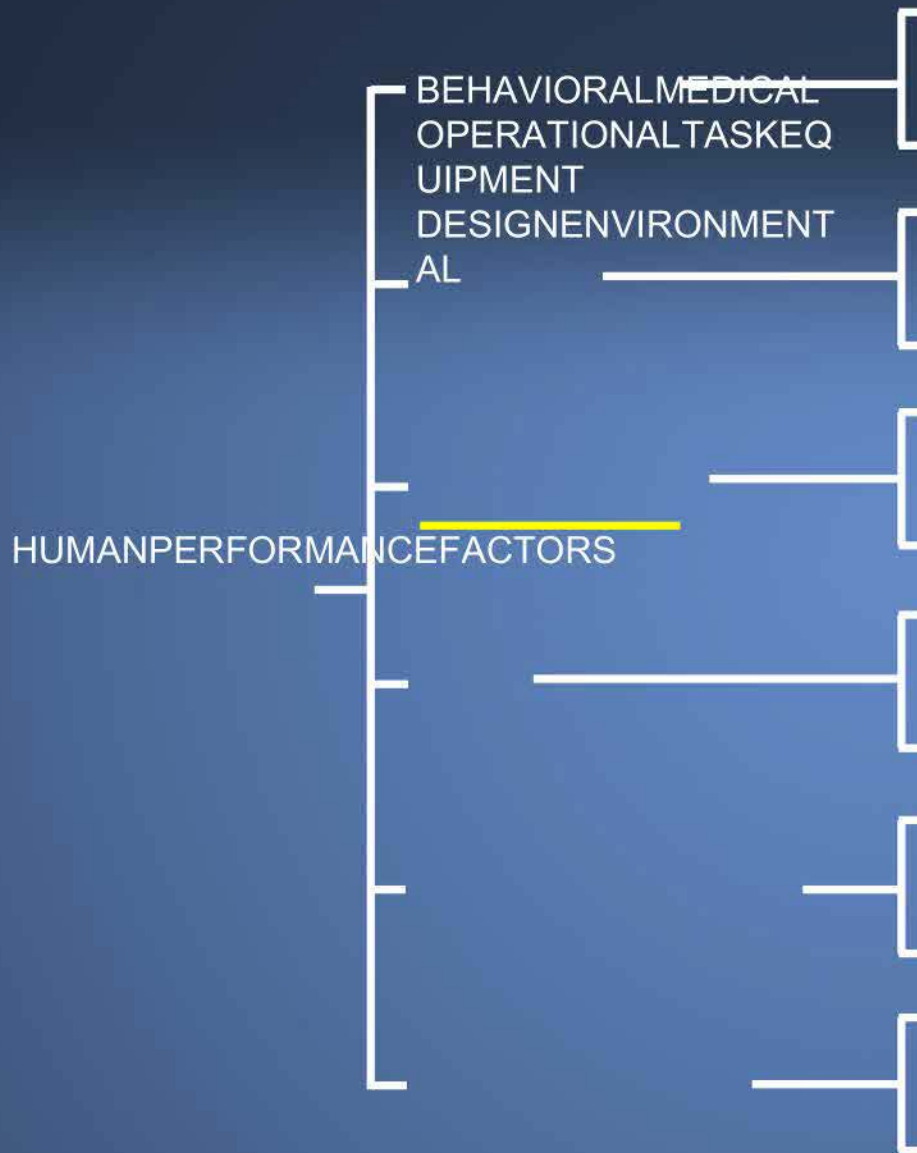


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Other Sources of Medical  
Information  
Interviews  
Personal medical  
records (Subpoena)  
Prescription records  
(Subpoena)  
Post-accident testing of various  
kinds





- Behavior during the event
  - 24-72 hour history
  - General habit patterns
  - Recent life events
  - General Health
  - Sensory Acuity
  - Drug / alcohol ingestion
  - Fatigue
  - Training
  - Experience / familiarity / habit patterns
  - Operating procedures
  - Company policy
  - Task information
  - Task components
  - Task-time relation
  - Workload
  - Workspace interface
  - Display / instrument panel design
  - Control design
  - Seat design / configuration
  - External conditions
  - Internal conditions
  - Illumination / visibility
  - Noise / vibration / motion



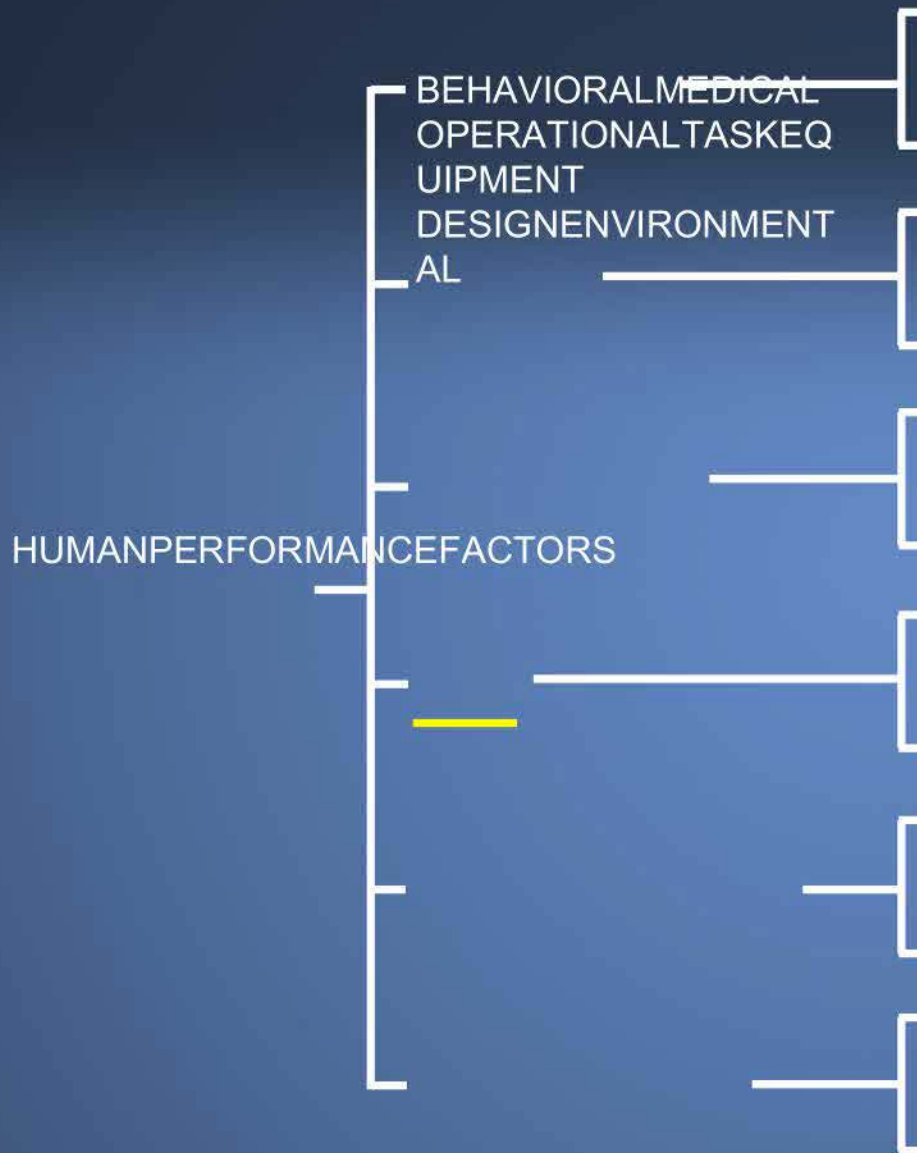
— OPERATIONAL — [ • Training Experience / familiarity / habit  
patterns Operating procedures Company policy

- Logbooks Certification records  
Personnel files Inter



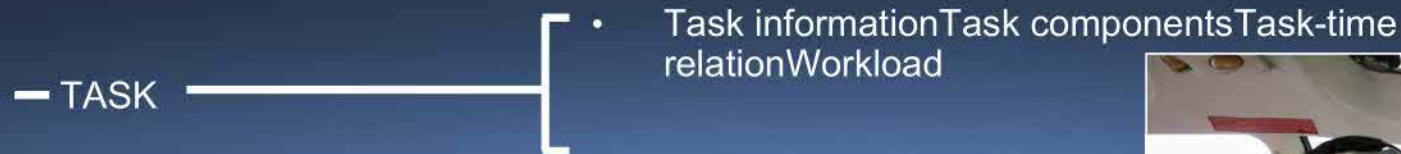
NTSB





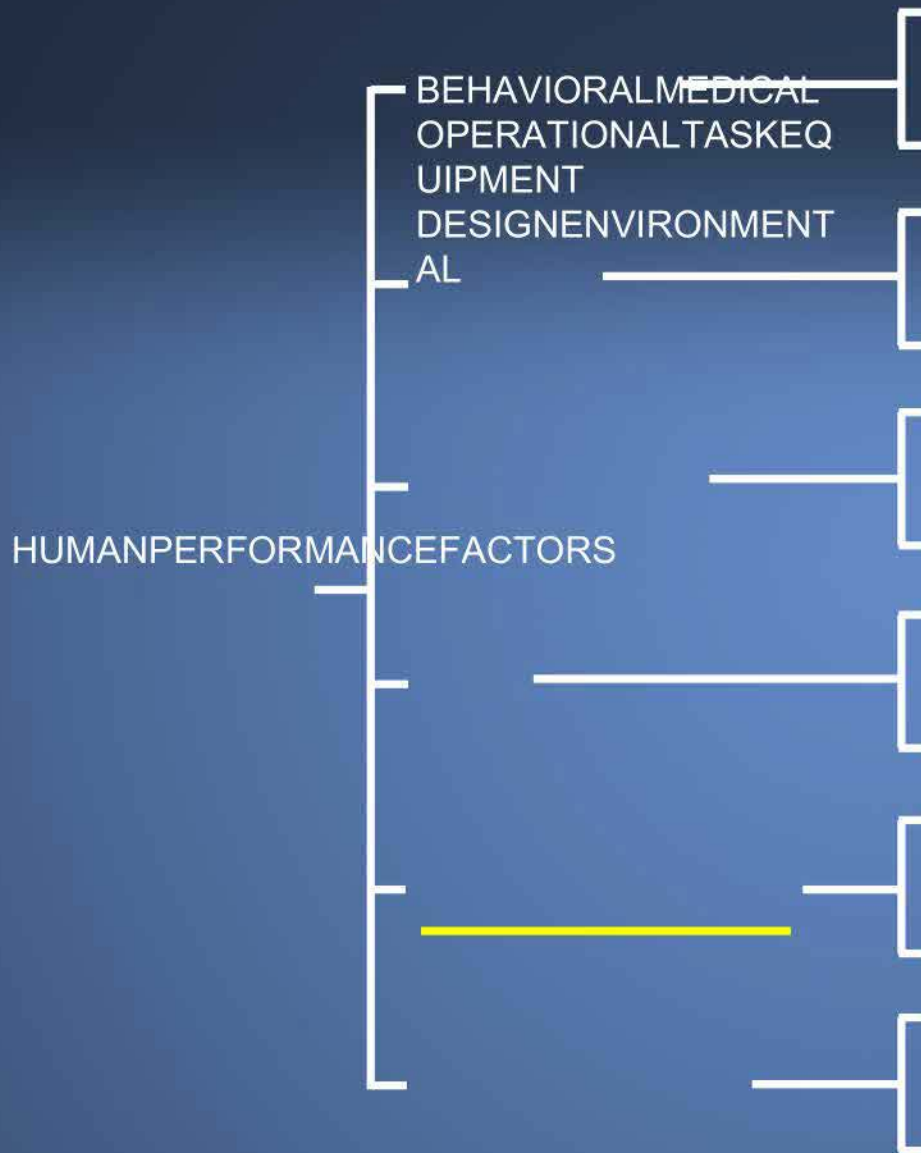
- Behavior during the event
  - 24-72 hour history
  - General habit patterns
  - Recent life events
  - General Health
  - Sensory Acuity
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  - External conditions
  - Internal conditions
  - Illumination / visibility
  - Noise / vibration / motion





- Interviews  
Simulations / re-enactment  
studies  
Regulations  
Company guidance  
materials  
Company training materials





- Behavior during the event
  - 24-72 hour history
  - General habit patterns
  - Recent life events
  - General Health
  - Sensory Acuity
  - Drug / alcohol ingestion
  - Fatigue
  - Training
  - Experience / familiarity / habit patterns
  - Operating procedures
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  - External conditions
  - Internal conditions
  - Illumination / visibility
  - Noise / vibration / motion





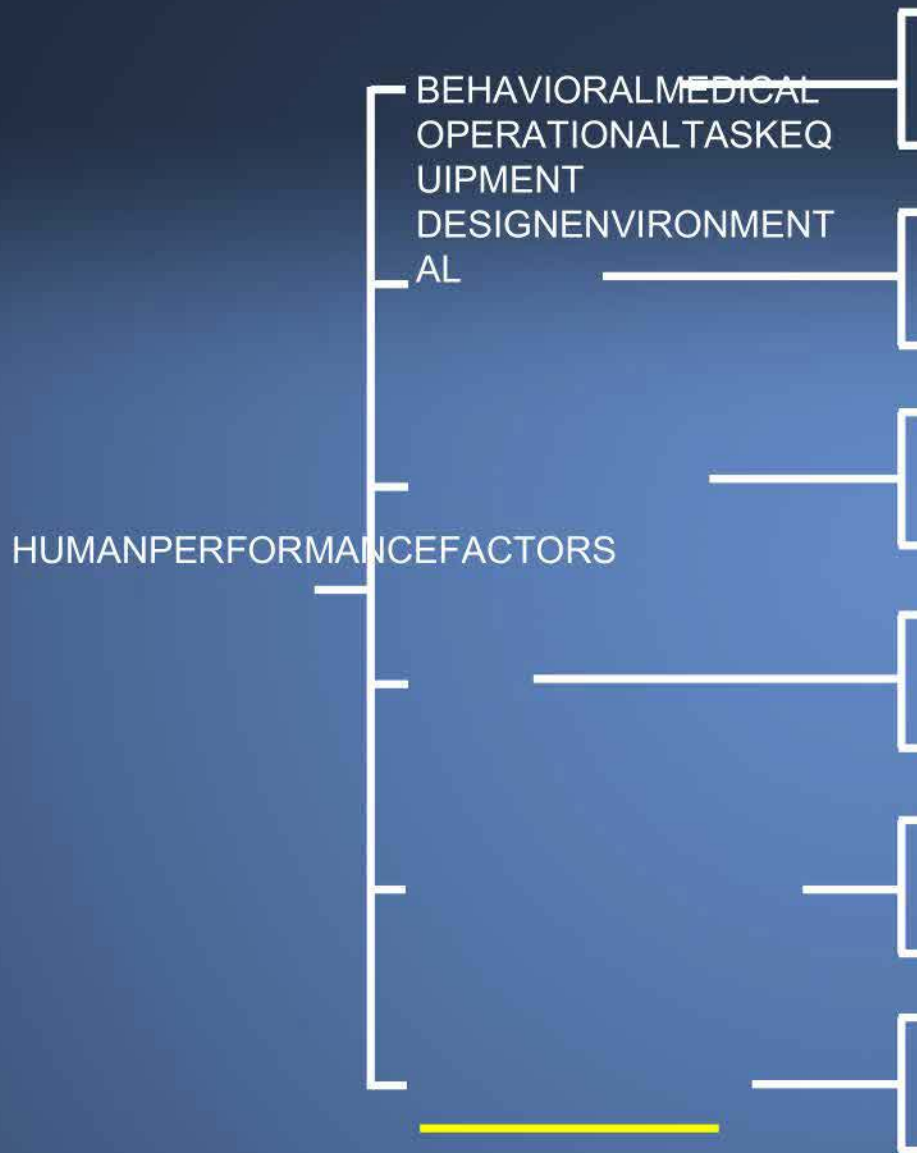
## — EQUIPMENT DESIGN —

- Workspace interface  
Display / instrument design  
Control design  
Seat design / comfort
- Interviews  
Examination of equipment / work space  
normal operations  
Airplane / equipment manuals  
Manufacturer



NTSB





- Behavior during the event
- 24-72 hour history
- General habit patterns
- Recent life events
- General Health
- Sensory Acuity
- Drug / alcohol ingestion
- Fatigue
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- Display / instrument panel design
- Control design
- Seat design / configuration
- External conditions
- Internal conditions
- Illumination / visibility
- Noise / vibration / motion



## — ENVIRONMENTAL —

- External conditions  
Internal conditions  
Illumination / visibility  
Noise / motion



- Interviews  
Site visit  
Direct observations of operational area  
Photos taken before or after an event  
CVR / FDR / Video / Radar / Radar forecasts, observations, radar, PIREPs  
Computer model position



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# Organizational Factors

Organizational

structurePoliciesProceduresTrainingOversightSafety

y

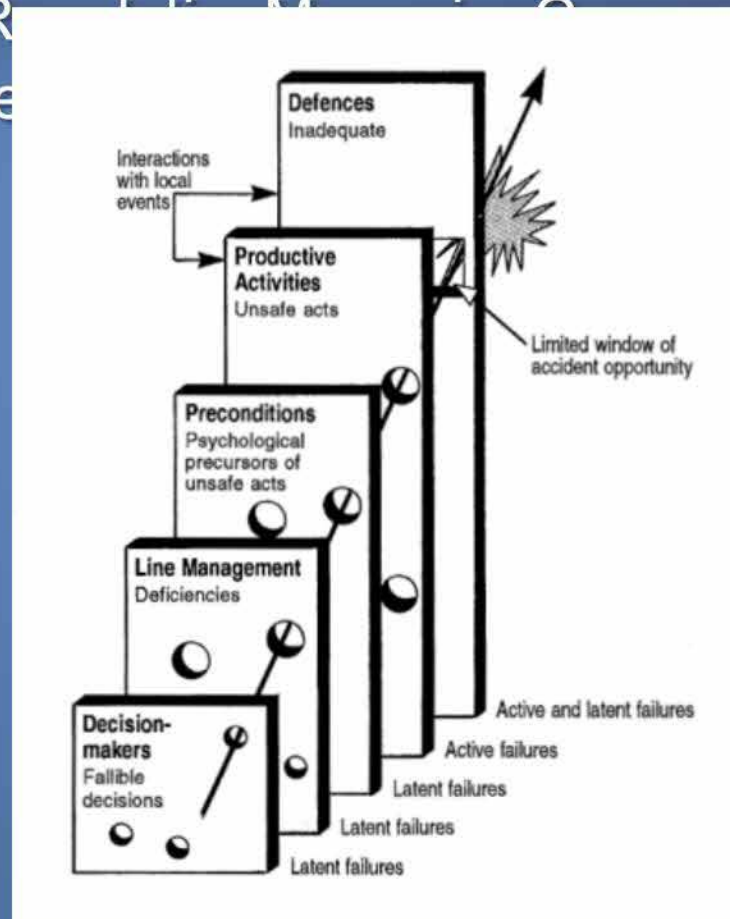
ManagementINTERVIEWS



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# Organizational Factors

Organizational Factors – “Latent Failures” Setting goals Organizing Resources Planning Communicating Designing Building Operating

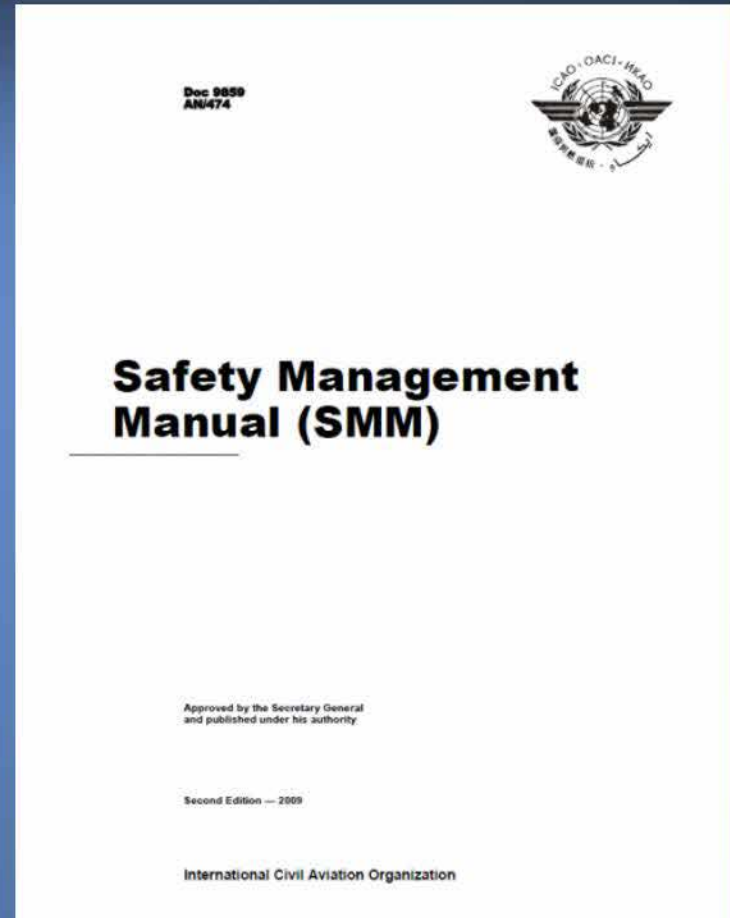


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# Organizational Factors

Safety Management  
Guidance ICAO Doc 9859,  
Safety Management  
Manual FAA Advisory Circular  
120-92A, Safety  
Management Systems  
for Aviation Service  
Providers



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# Safety Management

- Safety Policy Safety Risk  
Management Safety Assurance Safety  
Promotion

# Safety Management

Did the company Have an executive who was accountable for safety performance? Dedicate resources to managing safety? Have safety policies & procedures in place? Investigate accidents, incidents? Proactively collect safety-related information? Encourage openness and safety reporting (just culture)? Reward employees for making safe choices? Try to address known safety issues?





# National Transportation Safety Board

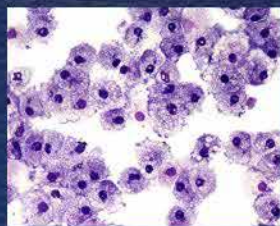




**NTSB** National Transportation Safety Board

# **CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, & EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS**

## **23-June-2016**



Dr. Paul F. Schuda Director, NTSB  
Training

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



# TRAINING vs. EDUCATION

Training: The goal of workforce "training" is to teach people to follow prescribed procedures and to perform in a standardized manner. It is designed to ensure standardized responses to predicted (expected) situations. It addresses the current needs and problems.



# TRAINING vs. EDUCATION

Education: Education is concerned with the development of mind and intellectual capabilities. The goal of education is to create independent problem solvers who have sufficient depth of understanding to figure out what to do when the predicted breaks down and addresses the unexpected occurring.



# TRAINING vs. EDUCATION RESTATED

IN SHORT: You train for things that you know are going to happen. You educate yourself for everything else.



QUIZ!!! The original Phantom Jet was the McDonnell Aircraft FH-1 Phantom. Only 62 were produced (but they led to the more powerful F2H Banshee). But the McDonnell USAF F4-Phantom 2 was not called by that name! What was the original USAF designation?



# The Ghostly Answers: 😊

A. The F4 Spook  
The FH-2 Phantom  
The F110 Spectre  
The F4H Spirit



**ANSWER:**

The F110  
SPECTRE!!!



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# WHY, YOU MIGHT ASK (or not!) DID THEY CHANGE IT?

- The F4-Phantom 2 was first designed as a USN Fighter under that name. When the USAF decided to procure it (or it was decided for them😊), they designated it the F110 Spectre. Robert McNamara (SECDEF) asked in a briefing if it was the same aircraft. When it was answered affirmatively, he then asked why the different name. No good answer came forth so he declared that they would all (USAF, USN, Marines) be designated the F4-Phantom 2.



# ACCIDENT SCENE

- Charlotte, NC – 2003 Typical Damage...Atypical debris field





# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- As with normal vehicular accidents, overheated brakes and inflated tires can also be a hazard





# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Beryllium oxides will also be present if the aircraft has been exposed to fire. Beryllium is used in hundreds of components and its oxides are 20 times more toxic than arsenic. Plastics such as viton and teflon which contain fluorine when exposed to fire will produce hydrofluoric acid.



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# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Hydrofluoric Acid Burns





# RESPONDER HAZARDS



**Beware of electrical hazards  
including downed power lines.  
Do not approach until power has  
been turned off**



# RESPONDER HAZARDS - TERRAIN



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# RESPONDER HAZARDS



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# RESPONDER HAZARDS



NTSB





# RESPONDER HAZARDS



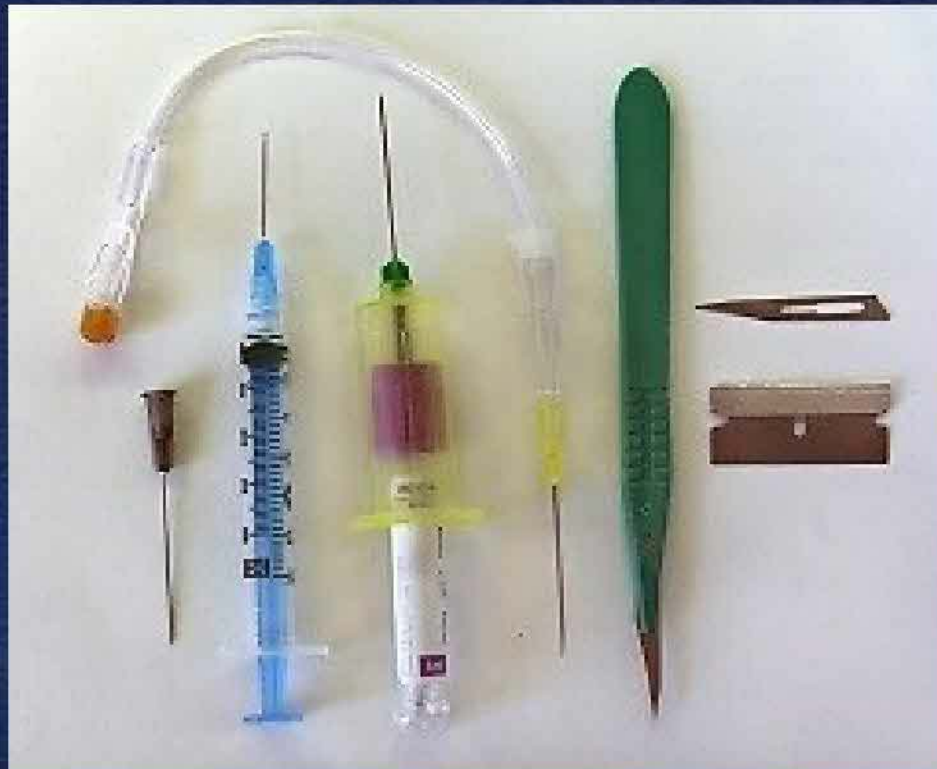
NTSB





# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Sharps! Work with local ER, Hospitals, ME's to remove



# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Strobe light units can also be on site  
Sufficient energy can be stored to injure and or kill the would be rescuer  
Do not touch or handle these units





# Ballistic Recovery Systems



NTSB



# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Pressure? Container Compromised?



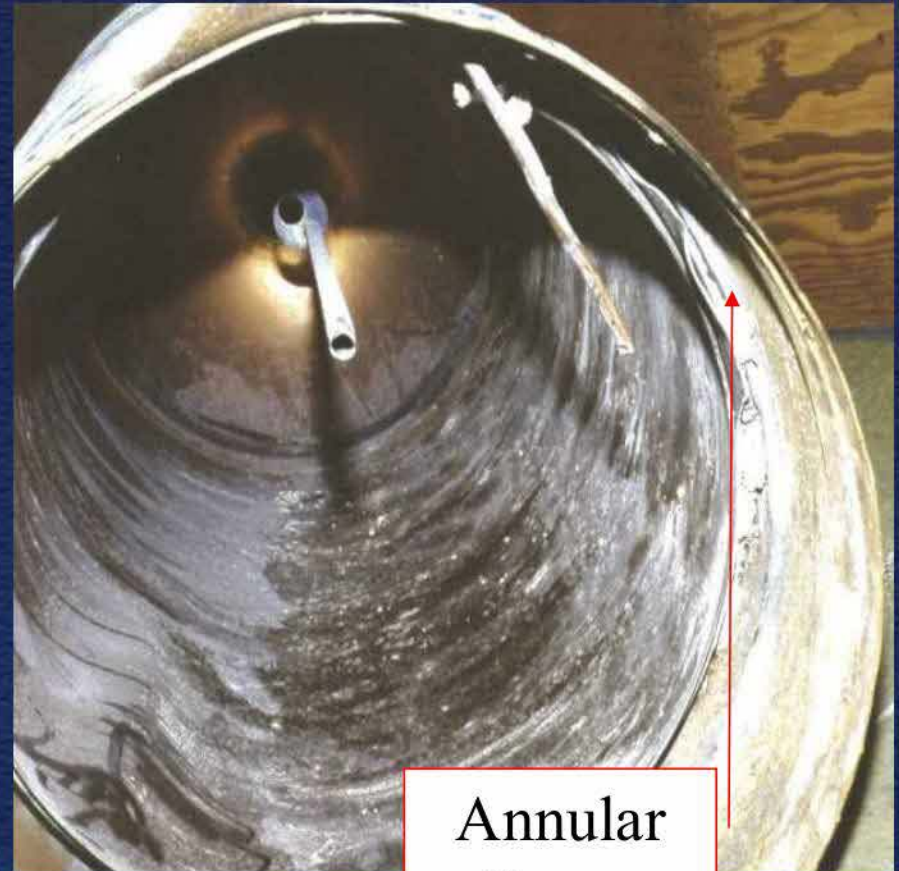
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# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Responders should be aware that HAZMAT can also be present in the aircraft structure, including: Pressurized cylinders, oxygen bottles and actuators



Annular  
Space  
after  
rupture

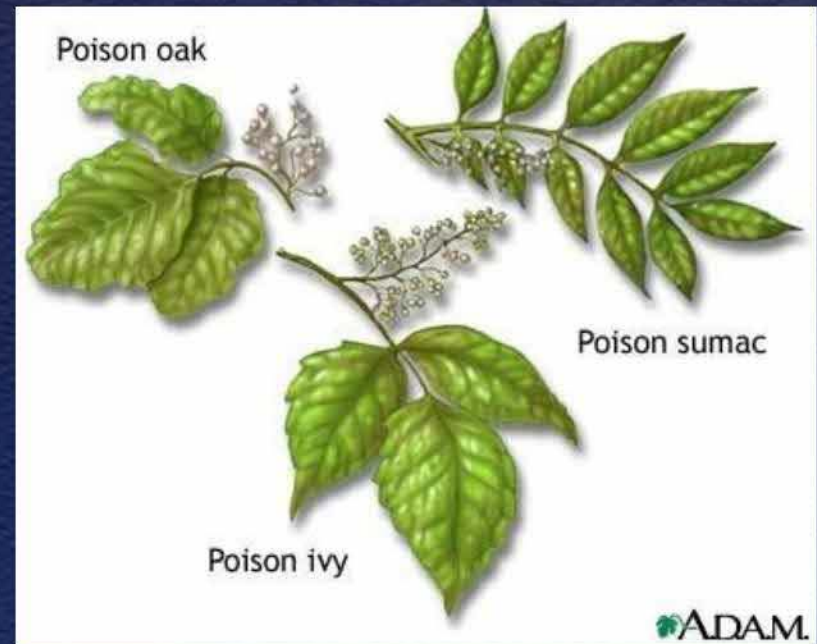
NISB





# RESPONDER HAZARDS

Local Flora



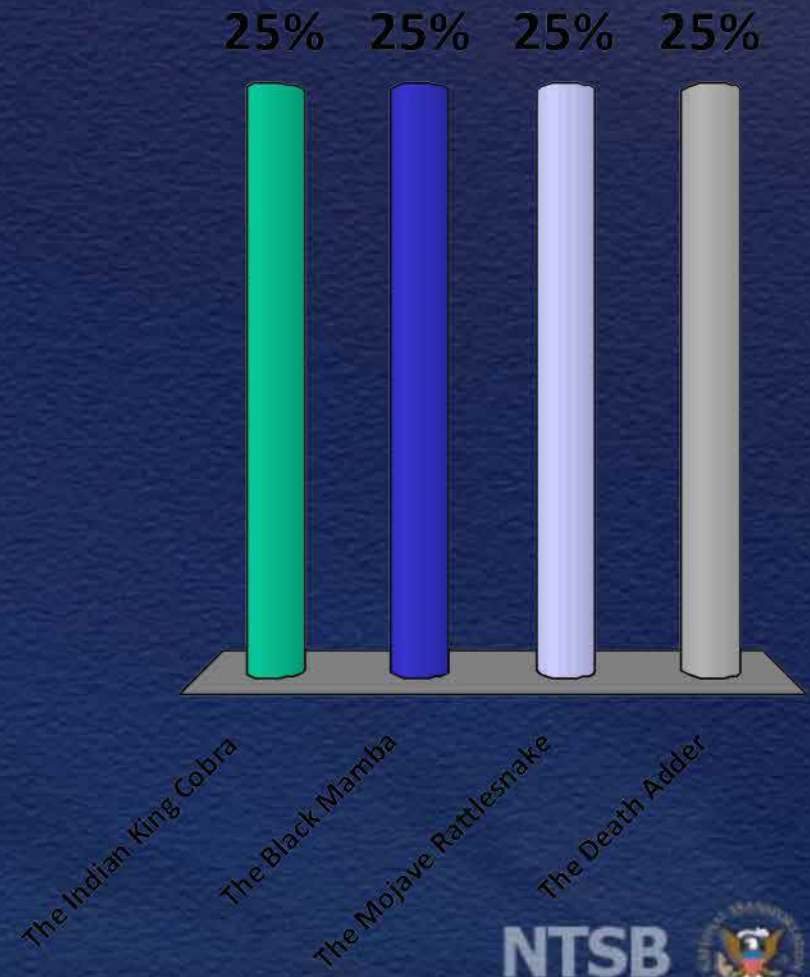
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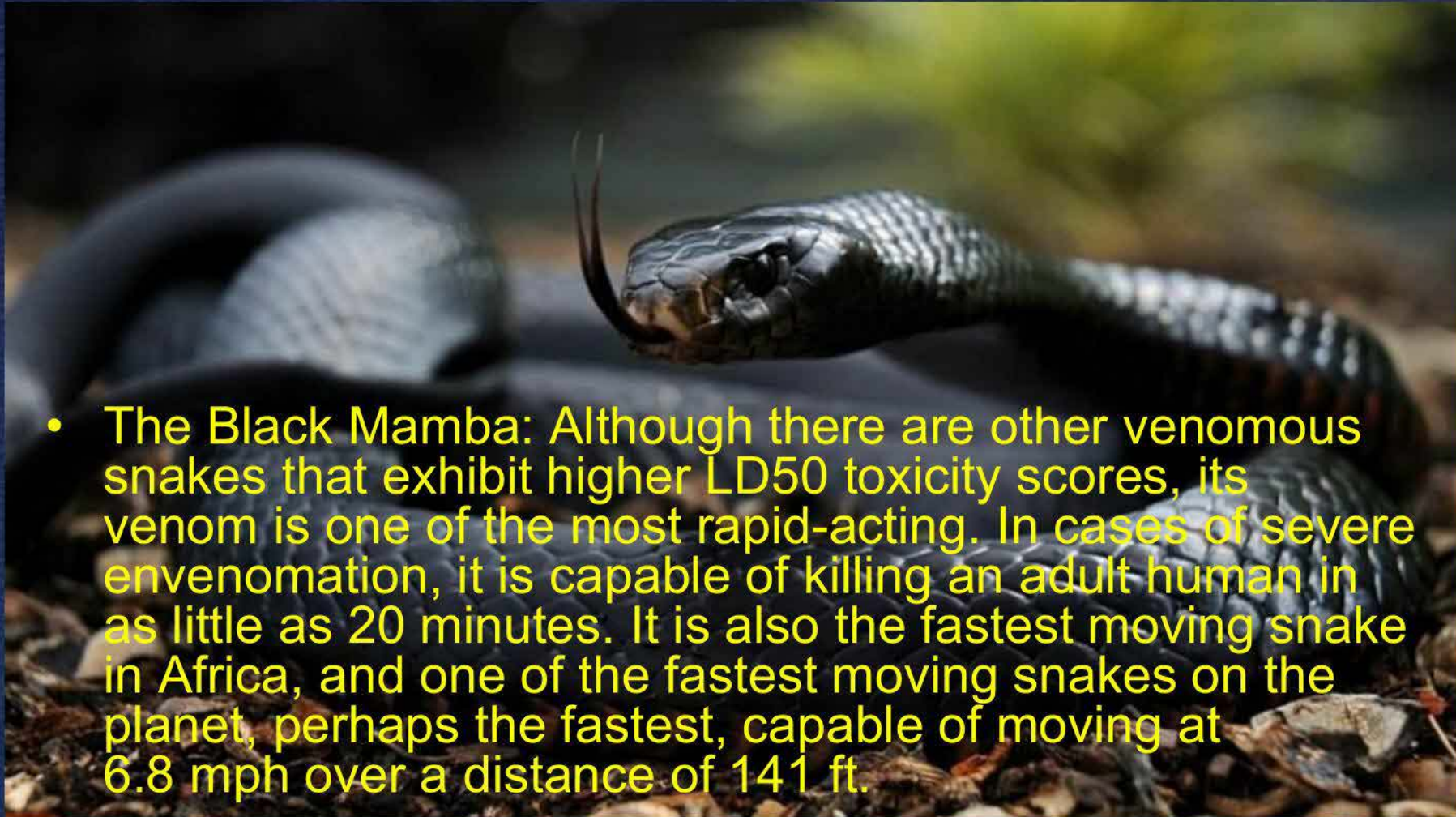
# What is the most deadly snake in the world?

A. The Indian King Cobra  
The Black Mamba  
The Mojave Rattlesnake  
The Death Adder





# Answer!



- The Black Mamba: Although there are other venomous snakes that exhibit higher LD50 toxicity scores, its venom is one of the most rapid-acting. In cases of severe envenomation, it is capable of killing an adult human in as little as 20 minutes. It is also the fastest moving snake in Africa, and one of the fastest moving snakes on the planet, perhaps the fastest, capable of moving at 6.8 mph over a distance of 141 ft.



# BBP SUITS - TYVEK

- Can rip very easily with all the sharp edges. Tyvek is fairly impermeable, but not very strong.





# What We Will Cover

- Routes of Exposure  
Acute vs Chronic  
Effects  
Chemical Hazards  
Biological Hazards  
Radiological Hazards  
Explosive Hazards  
Mitigation of Hazards



# ROUTES OF EXPOSURE

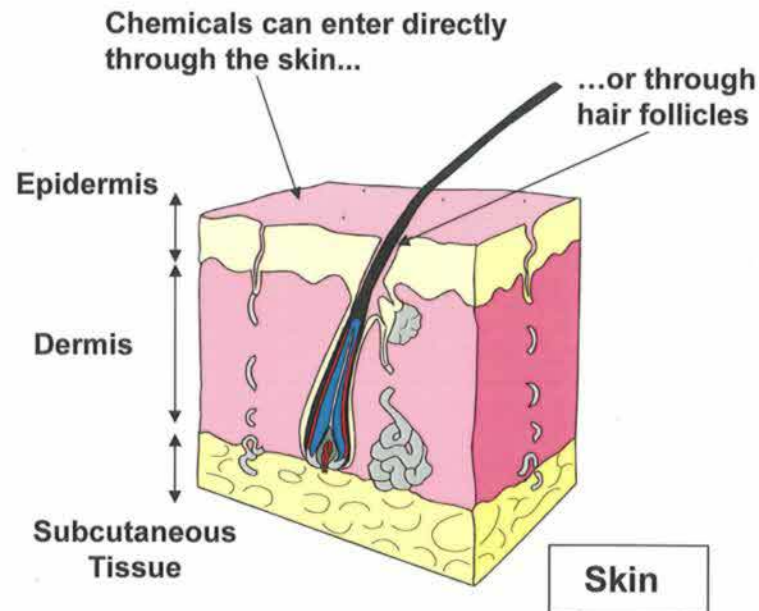
3 Primary Routes for exposure:

- 1) Dermal (through skin) Can be normal contact or through cuts or abrasions
- 2) Inhalation Gases or fumes; aerosols; particulates
- 3) Ingestion Swallowed either directly or through contact with hands Absorbed through stomach lining



# DERMAL EXPOSURE

## Routes of Exposure: Direct Contact



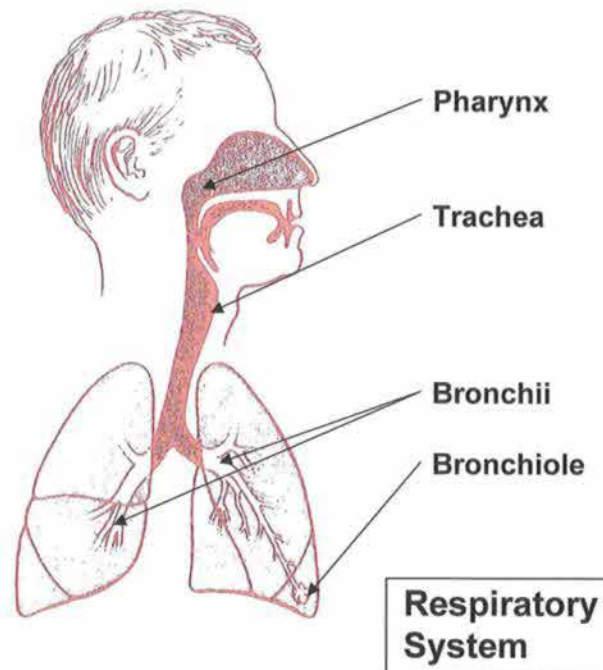
Transparency 1-2

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# INHALATION EXPOSURES

## Routes of Exposure: Inhalation



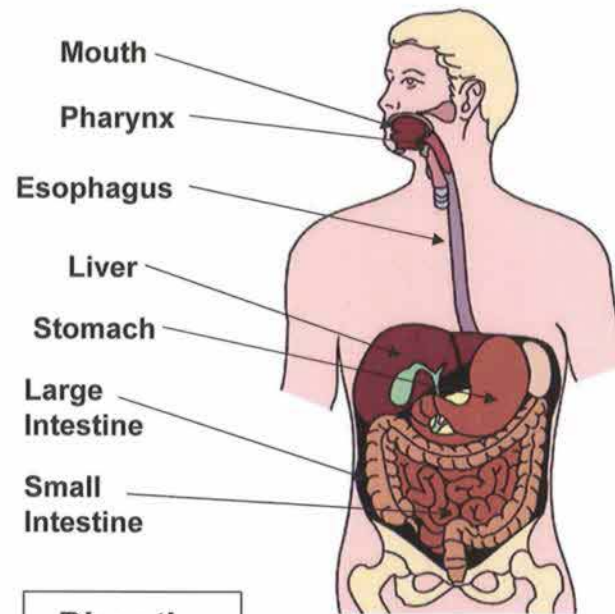
Transparency 1-3

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# INGESTION EXPOSURE

## Routes of Exposure: Ingestion



**Digestive  
System**

Transparency 1-4

NTSB





# ANOTHER ROUTE OF EXPOSURE

- Penetration



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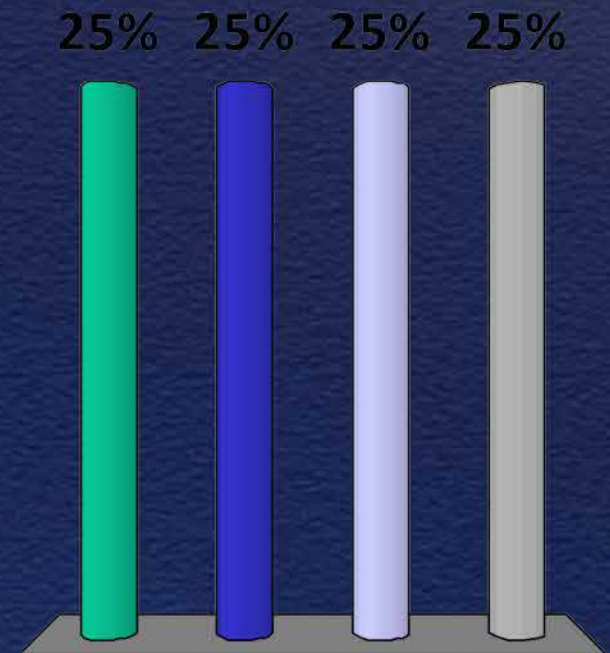
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# Why do wounds treated with maggots heal much more quickly?

A. Maggots expel a powerful natural antibiotic. They eat the bacteria that are causing the infection. They consume only the dead flesh and cells, allowing only healthy tissue to survive. They don't...this is an old wives tale.



Maggots expel a powerful...

They eat the bacteria tha...

The consume only the de...

They don't...this is an old...

NTSB





# Answer!

- **Maggot therapy** is also known as **maggot debridement therapy (MDT)**. It is a type of biotherapy involving the introduction of live, disinfected maggots (fly larvae) into the non-healing skin and soft tissue wound(s) of a human or animal for the purpose of cleaning out the necrotic (dead) tissue within a wound. It is particularly useful for wounds from antibiotic resistant bacteria.



# TWO TYPES OF EXPOSURE

- 1) Acute Usually High Concentration Short Exposure Time e.g. spraying insecticides
- 2) Chronic Usually Low Concentration Long Exposure Time e.g. coal mines or asbestos removal



# RISK?

- Risk is a quantifiable entity Generally accepted as:  $RISK = HAZARD \times EXPOSURE$  Both are necessary Mitigation of risk is usually most easily accomplished by reducing exposure Hazard can sometimes be reduced by engineering solutions

**ON-SCENE**

# **CHEMICAL HAZARDS**

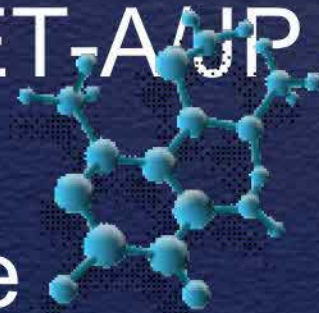
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# CHEMICAL HAZARDS ON-SCENE UBIQUITOUS HAZARDS

- Auto Fuel and AVGASJET-AVP 4  
(Kerosene)Hydraulic  
FluidsGreasesComposite  
MaterialsElectrical (Batteries  
Capacitors)Flora and F





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Auto Fuel (No Lead) and AVGAS (100LL)  
Auto Fuel (No Lead) Made up of mixture of hydrocarbons “Fractions” based on boiling points of petroleum  
Very Flammable  
Leaches (extracts) oils from lipid bilayer of skin  
Contains ethyl alcohol (grain alcohol) and minor anti-knock agents  
AVGAS (100LL) Made up of mixture of hydrocarbons “Fractions” based on boiling points of petroleum  
Very Flammable  
Leaches (extracts) oils from lipid bilayer of skin  
Contains up to 2grams of Tetraethyllead per gallon  
Twice as toxic as Auto Fuel





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Auto Fuel (No Lead) and AVGAS (100LL) Leaching of oils from skin can affect transport properties of the lipid bilayer May allow substances through the skin that could be hazardous





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Jet Fuels JET A (Kerosene Based) Less flammable than AVGAS Higher boiling “Fraction” (cut) of petroleum May contain antioxidants, antistatic agents, anti-corrosion inhibitors





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

– Military Blends JP = Jet Propellant



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# ENGINE POWER

Lots is good  
More is better  
Too much is just enough

NTSB





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Military Blends (cont.)JP-1 (older ca. 1944; pure kerosene)JP-4 (ca 1951-1995; wider “cut” of petroleum but greater availability; builds up static when moved)JP-5 (1952-present; higher “cut” flash point; for use on Aircraft Carriers where flammability is an issue)



# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- JP-6 (Only for use on XB-70 Valkyrie; cancelled)JP-7 (Only used in SR-71 Blackbird; not a distillate but combination of hydrocarbons, fluorocarbons and anti-radar Cesium; requires triethylborane to ignite!!!)JP-8 (ca.1990; Air Force equivalent of JP-5; kerosene based but lower flammability)



# INTERESTING FACTS!

- Jet-A or JP Fuels TNT Equivalents of ca. 10.2 Use TWA800 as an example; 300lbs (a 55-gallon drum) is the equivalent explosive power of 3060lbs of TNT! Under perfect combustions conditions!!!



NTSB





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Jet Fuels Routes of Exposure  
Inhalation causes irritation to respiratory tract  
Ingestion caused GI irritation, nausea, vomiting (and potential aspiration)  
Dermal causes skin irritation, redness and pain.  
Possible dermatitis  
Leaching of oils from skin can affect transport properties of the lipid bilayer  
May allow substances through the skin that could be hazardous



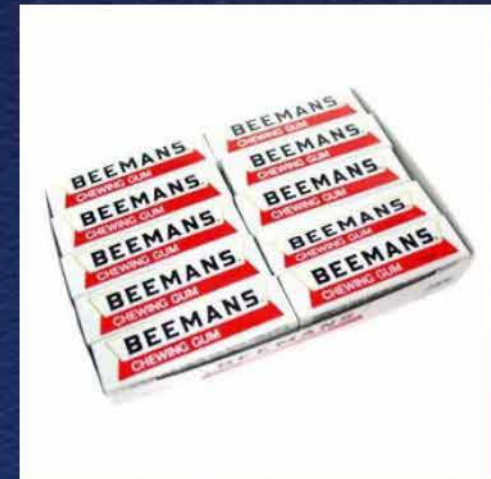
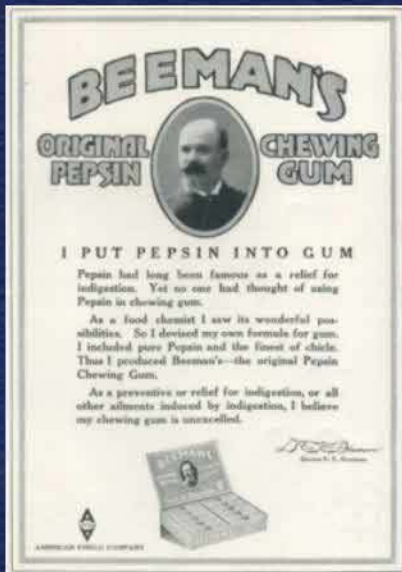
# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Protective Measures for Fuels  
Gloves (not latex – hydrocarbons dissolve latex – use nitrile gloves)  
Overboots (not latex)  
Ventilation (no respirator to be used except positive pressure-full face)  
Goggles  
Fire extinguisher nearby (Class B)  
Tyvek suit



# INTERESTING FACTS!

- BEEMAN'S Chewing Gum; Longtime favorite of aviators! The gum was prominently featured in the movies The Right Stuff, Hot Shots!, and The Rocketeer. It was considered to be the lucky gum of pilots. Charles Lindbergh carried a pack on his transatlantic flight! The original formulation contained Pepsin...an enzyme that facilitates easy digestion ALAS! It no longer contains Pepsin!!!





In 1930, which of the following characteristics was NOT required to be a flight attendant?

A. Attractive  
Unmarried  
115 lbs. or less  
A Nurse



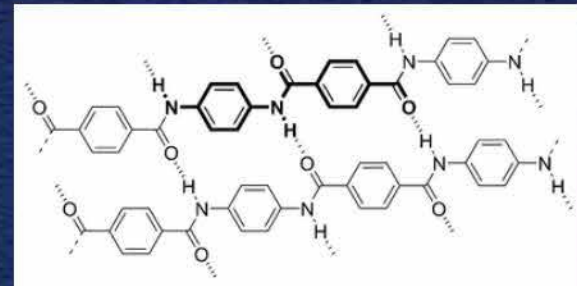
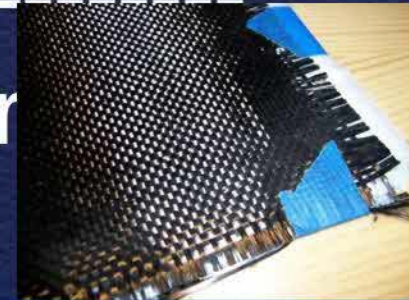
# The ANSWER!

- There was no “Attractiveness” criteria; but they did need to be less than 115 lbs., and an unmarried nurse!



# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Composite Materials Fiber + a Resin (glue)  
Carbon Fiber -----  
→ Fiberglass ----- → Kevlar -----  
----- → (polyamide)





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Two substances present: The composite itself B777 B787



# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- The combustion products from composites





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Composite Material Two major routes of exposure Inhalation Greatest potential for exposure Collects in the lungs Little evidence for damage from chronic exposure Dermal Major effect is skin rash or irritation



# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Composite combustion productsTwo forms:Gases (largely from resins)No more acutely toxic than burning woodParticulates (from fibers)Generally smaller fibers and particles that can get into lungs and penetrate airwaysLack of scientific data to prove risk from composite particulates are similar to silica (asbestos)Damage normally depends on size of particle and



# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- NOMEX (meta-aramid fibers) Aramid fibers are a class of heat-resistant and strong synthetic fibers. When subjected to intense heat: Carbon dioxide, water nitrogen oxides Small amounts of carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide may be produced depending on conditions. In general, same toxicity as smoke from burning wood





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- ParticulatesNeoprene and leather  
clovesFace mask with proper sized  
filtersGogglesChemical “fixative” Spray  
with polyacrylic acidForms thin film over  
the particulatesBut film is very  
easily brokenUnderstand this is  
physical process and NOT a per-  
manent change to the particulate properties or  
potential hazards





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Hydraulic Fluids Most commonly PAO (polyalpha olefins), phosphate esters & mineral oil Most Common Routes of Exposure: Dermal Skin irritation (acute exposure) Wound in the process in the hydraulic exposure





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

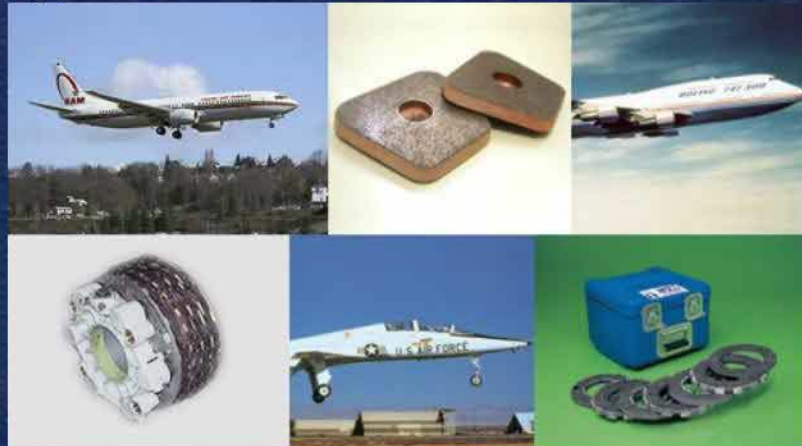
- Inhalation or aerosolized fluids (not very volatile)  
Eye & respiratory irritation  
Headache  
Nerve dysfunction  
Vertigo  
Mitigation: gloves and overboots  
suits  
Ventilation





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

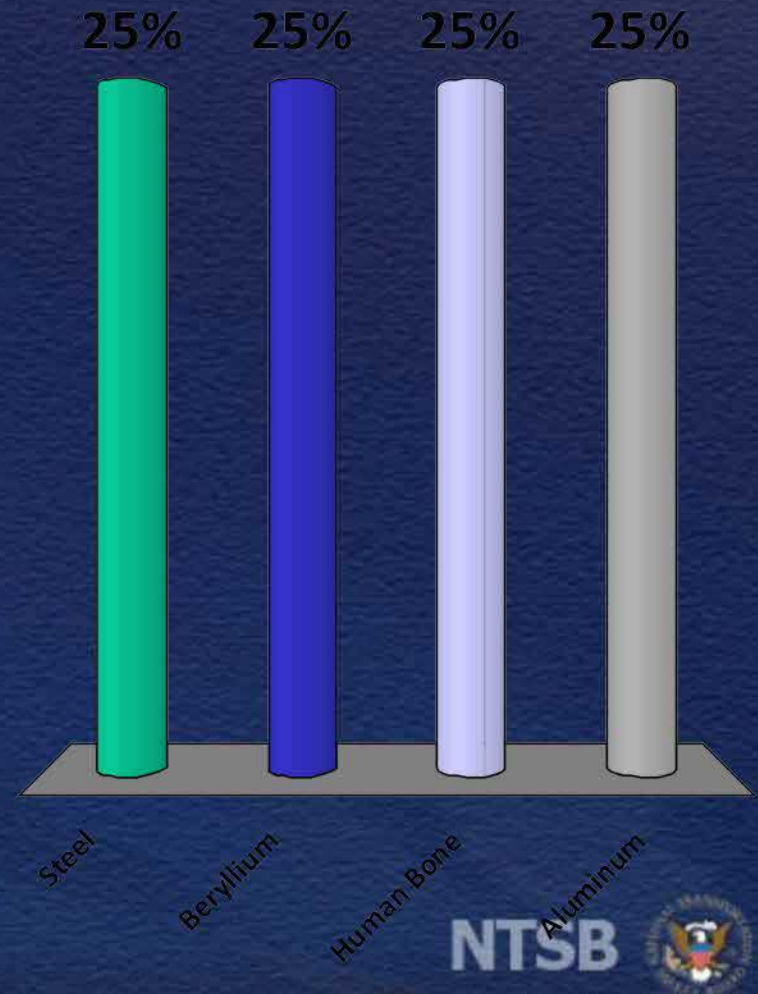
- Beryllium (Be) Six times as stiff as steel  
Lightweight  
Dimensional stability  
Used in parts of aircraft engines and brakes  
Minor components of these items  
Overall risk is low





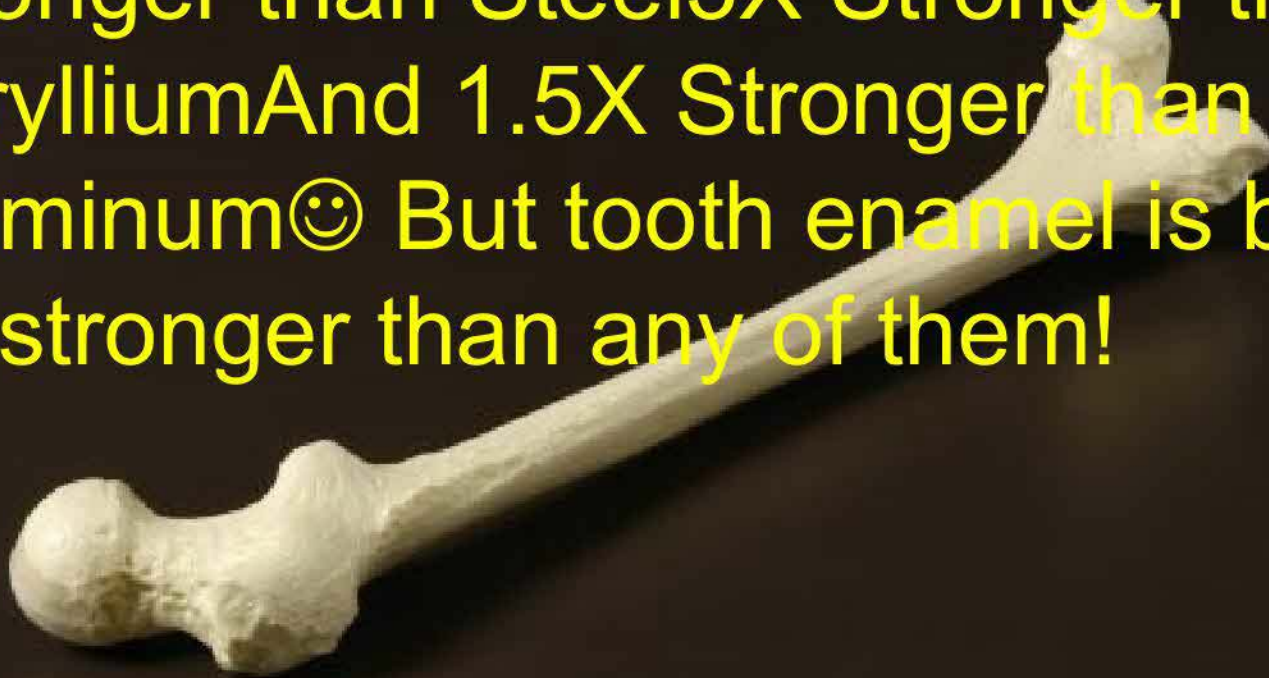
Which of the following materials would have the greatest structural strength?

A. Steel Beryllium Human Bone Aluminum



# The Answer!

- Human Bone! It is by weight: 5X Stronger than Steel 3X Stronger than Beryllium And 1.5X Stronger than Aluminum 😊 But tooth enamel is by far stronger than any of them!





# INTERESTING FACTS!

- Magnesium is a lightweight, strong and malleable metal that forms an oxide coating and protects itself like aluminum





# INTERESTING FACTS!

- BUT!!! Once ignited, magnesium burns with an incredibly hot flame (4000oF; steel melts at 2500oF))that is not easily extinguished!The older VW Beetle bumpers were made from magnesium. They sometimes ignited in crashes!!!



NTSB





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

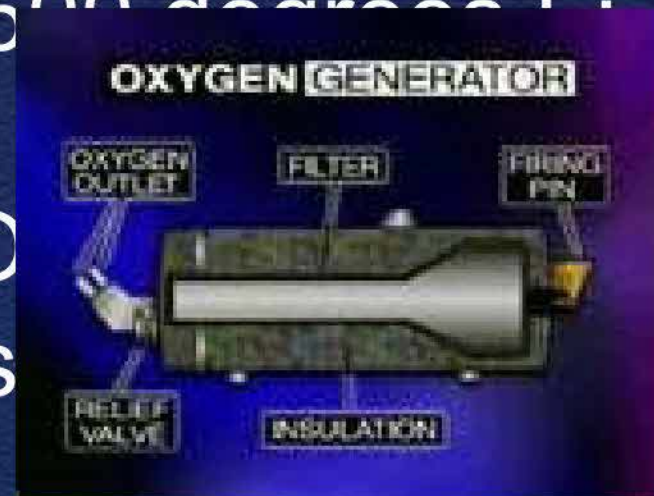
- Routes of Exposure:Inhalation of dust or fumes (acute & chronic)Requires massive amounts (acute)Breathing difficulty: cough, cyanosisDermalMild rashMitigation:Dust mask/respiratorGloves (nitrile and leather)





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

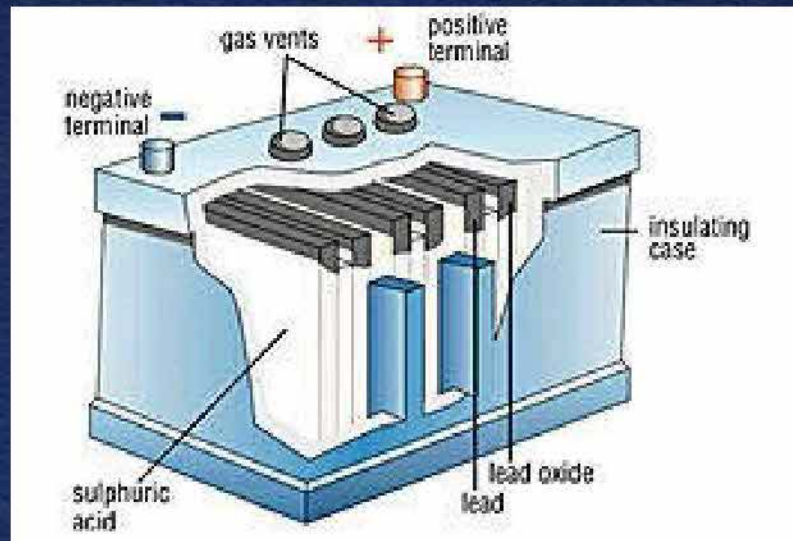
- Oxygen Canisters Mixture of sodium chlorate and barium peroxide ignited by percussion cap HIGHLY Exothermic reaction (releases oxygen and heat) >500 degrees F. may ignite nearby materials. Clear plastic container is





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Batteries Three major types Lead-acid (Lead Dioxide/Sulfate & Sulfuric Acid)



# AIRCRAFT BATTERY

- Typically Lead-Acid (Pb-Sulfuric Acid) Sulfuric Acid is VERY concentrated and VERY corrosive





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Primary hazard is concentrated sulfuric acid; may cause severe burns  
Secondary hazard may be small amount of hydrogen & oxygen gas (explosive)  
Mitigation: Lots of water to remove sulfuric acid  
Tyvek suits  
Latex or Nitrile gloves  
Ventilation for possible hydrogen and oxygen gases





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Nickel-Cadmium (NiCd) Fire and explosion hazard present only when (over)charging Presence of potentially toxic cadmium (mostly chronic toxicity)

Use lat





# CHEMICAL HAZARDS

- Lithium and Lithium-ion  
Lithium batteries  
metallic lithium; Very reactive with water  
generates hydrogen gas  
Explosion hazard  
Lithium-ion batteries use lithium compounds  
Hazard is in blocking a mer  
and having battery explode  
Mitigation (both): Have hazmat team secure and dispose





**ON-SCENE**

# **BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS**

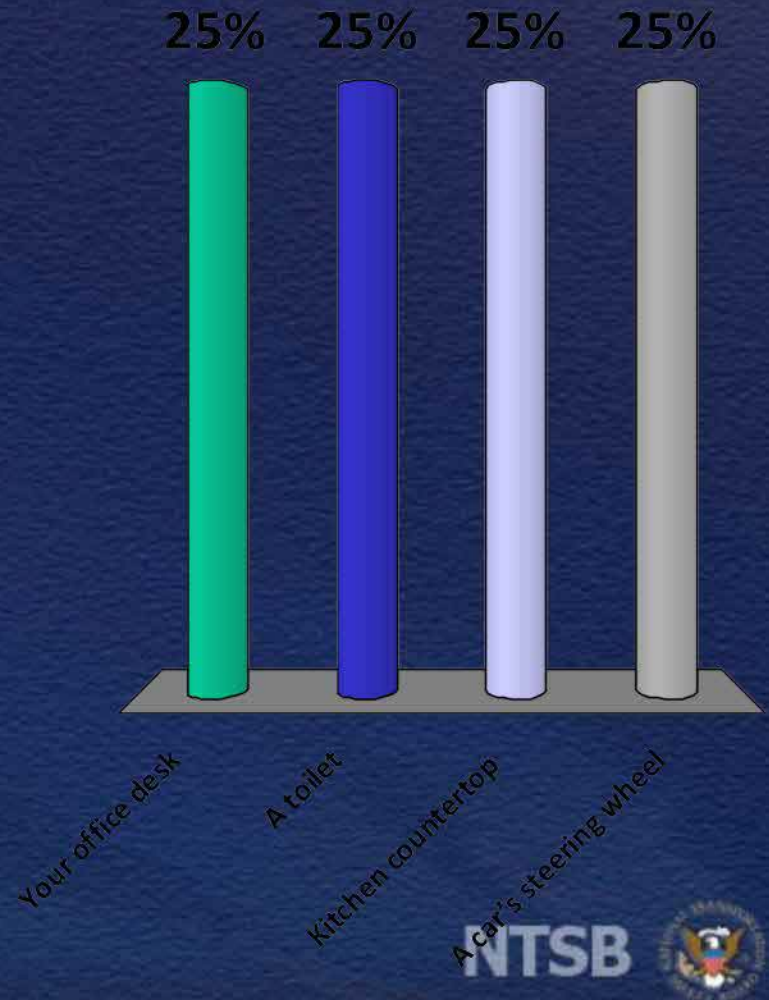
**NTSB**





# Which item contains the most bacteria?

A. Your office desk  
A toilet  
Kitchen  
countertop  
A car's  
steering wheel



# ANSWER!

- Your Office Desk...it actually contains 400 TIMES!!! More bacteria than a toilet!





# Biohazard & Components



# Biohazard & Remains

- Get in contact with local Coroners & Medical Examiners – DO NOT TOUCH!

(b)(6)





# TYPICAL DECONTAMINATION SITE

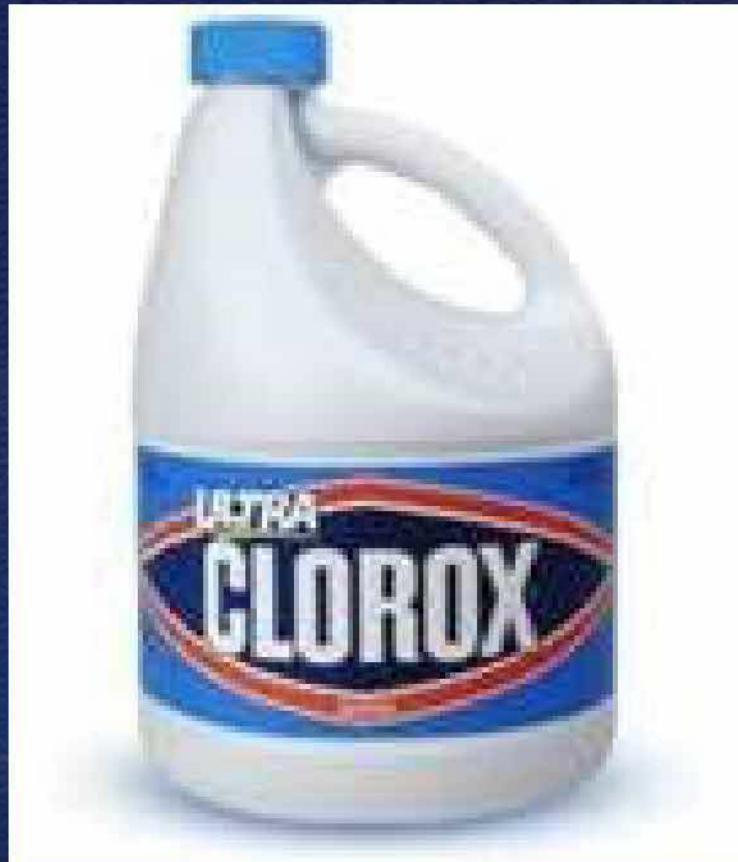
- Normally setup by local Emergency Responders





# 1:10 Clorox (hypochlorite):Water

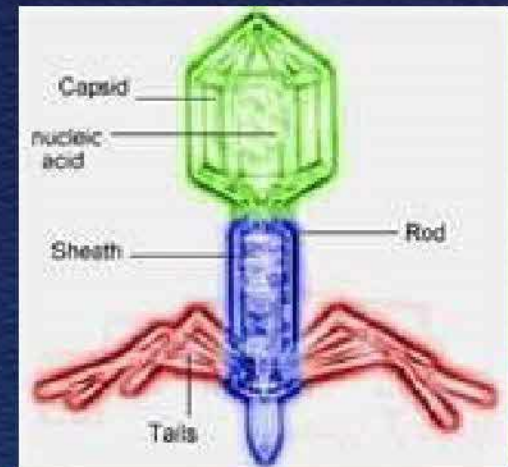
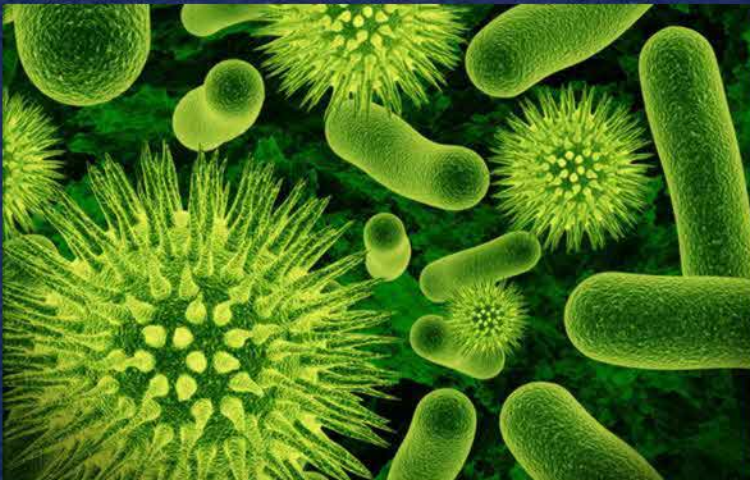
- Topical for items **DO NOT USE ON SKIN!!!**





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

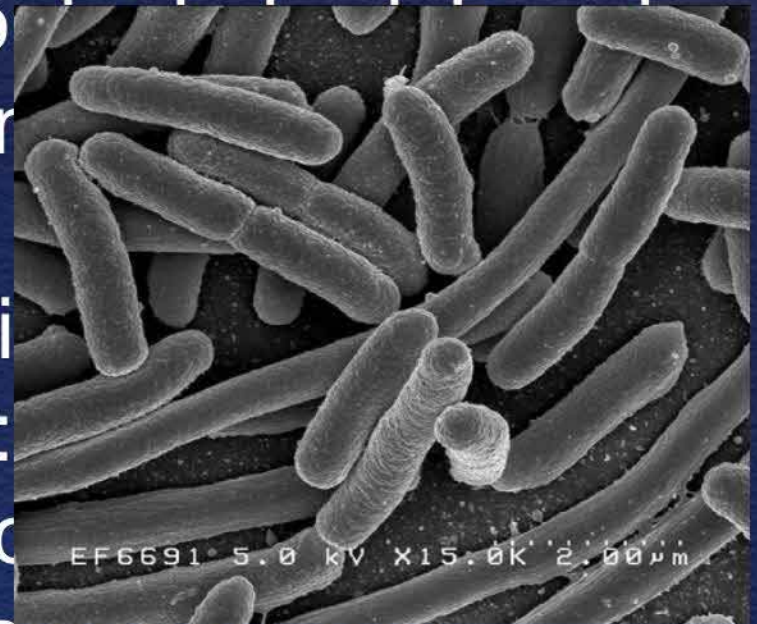
- E-ColiHepatitis StrainsHuman Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

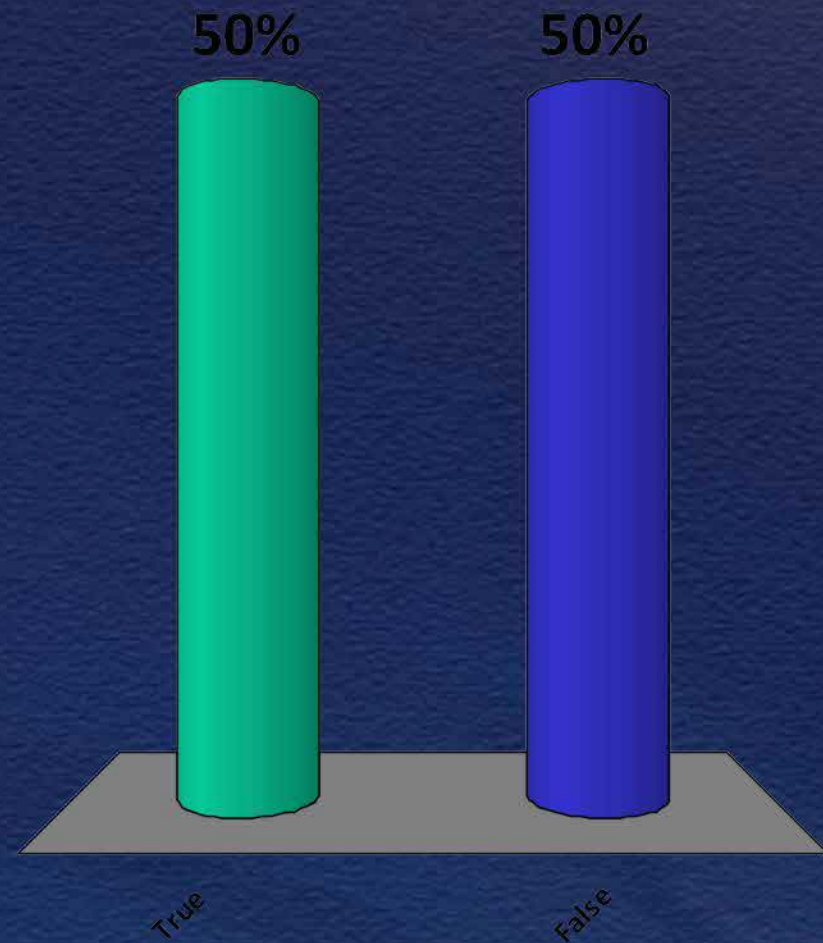
- Escherichia coli (E.coli) Found in intestines of warm-blooded animals Can survive brief periods of starvation Resistant to antibiotics Route of exposure Ingestion Disinfectants (bleach:water 1:10; (wood alcohol); ethanol; isopropanol (rubbing alcohol) 70% solutions Cidex (2% glutaraldehyde)





**Wearing a headset for an hour increases the levels of bacteria in your ear.**

A. TrueFalse



# Answer!

- TRUE!!! A one hour flight, wearing a full headset will increase the bacteria level in your ears by 700 TIMES!!!





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

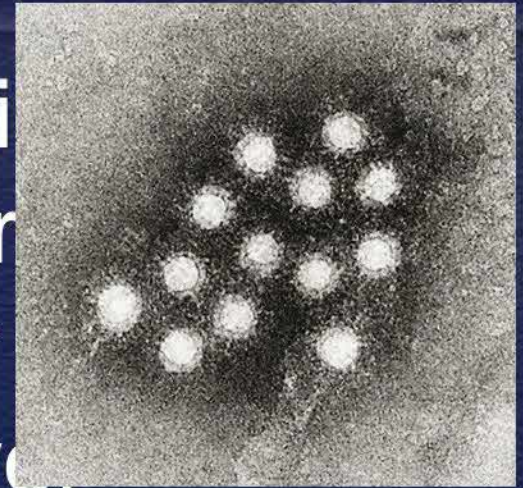
- Hepatitis Viral Means injury to the liver Three common types Hepatitis A (HAV) Hepatitis B (HBV) Hepatitis C (HCV) →





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

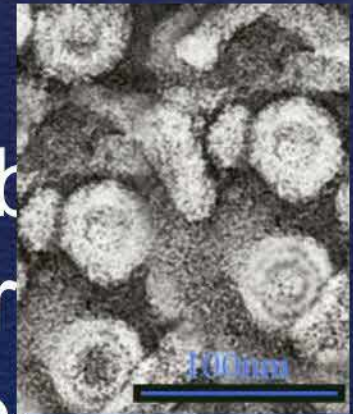
- Hepatitis (Continued) Hepatitis A (HAV) Route of exposure: oral (contaminated food or water, poor sanitation) No permanent liver damage Can be prevented by vaccination and good hygiene habits





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

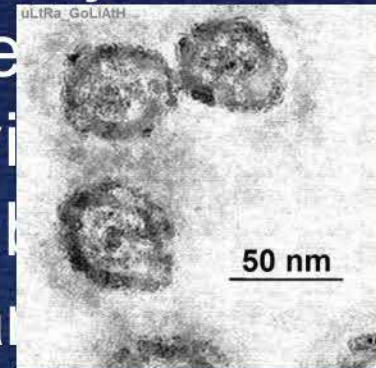
- Hepatitis (Continued) Hepatitis B (HBV): over 2 billion people infected worldwide  
Route of exposure: exposure to infectious blood or body fluids  
Can live for one week in dried blood  
May cause permanent liver damage; cirrhosis and cancer (fatal)  
Can be prevented by vaccination





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Hepatitis (Continued) Hepatitis C (HCV): over 200 million people infected worldwide  
Route of exposure: blood to blood contact; Virus can survive one week in dried blood! May cause permanent liver damage; cirrhosis and cancer (fatal)  
New drugs for treatment (VERY EXPENSIVE; \$1000/day or more for 90 days or more):  
Merck Victrelis (66% cure rate)  
Vertex Telaprevir (79% cure rate)  
J&J Simeprevir (combo 68-75%)  
Gilead Sofosbuvir (combo 75%)  
Gilead Ledipasvir + Sofosbuvir (Harmonicode) (95-98%)



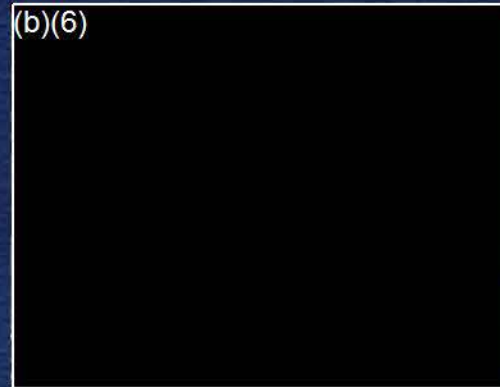


# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Hepatitis (Continued) Potentially infectious fluids: Blood Saliva S or vaginal secretions Skin and tissue Vomitus Cerebrospinal f



(b)(6)



NTSB





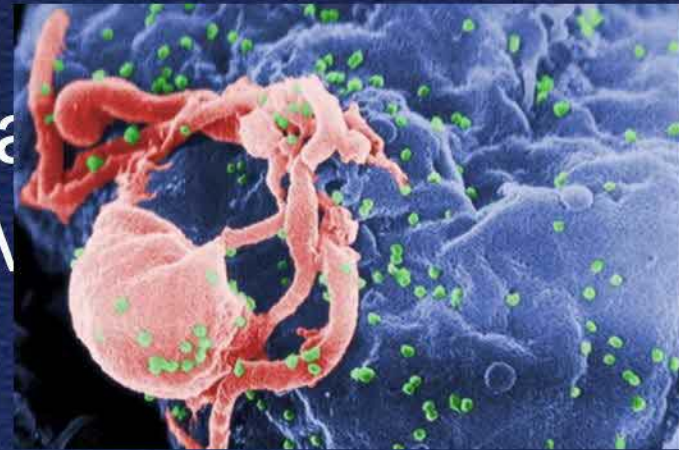
# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Decontamination: Hepatitis A & B: Hypochlorites (bleach:water 1:10) Methanol (wood alcohol); ethanol (grain alcohol); isopropanol (rubbing alcohol) 70% solutions in water Cidex (2% glutaraldehyde) Hepatitis C: 1:10 bleach:water MAY(?) be effective but no evidence



# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Destroys the body's ability to fight infection and certain cancers Can lead to AIDS Virus is found in: Blood Saliva Semen or vaginal secretions Skin and tissue





# BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Virus does not survive well outside of the body (seconds to minutes) No vaccine is available Therefore HAZARD is VERY HIGH! But with precautions EXPOSURE would be low.

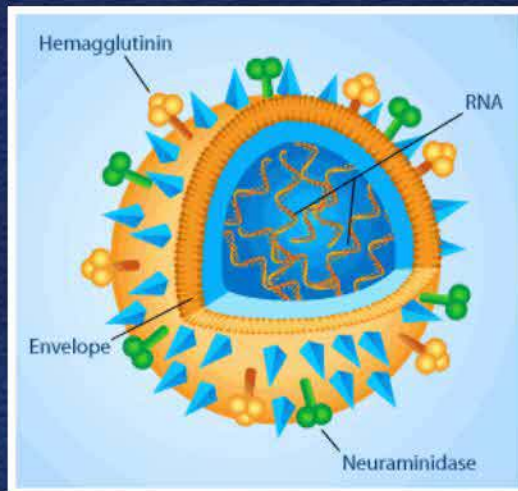
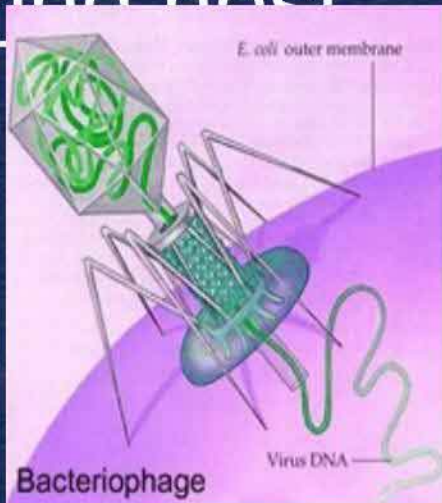
Decontamination: Hypochlorites (bleach:water 1:10) Methanol (wood alcohol); ethanol (grain alcohol);

isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) 70%



# INTERSTING FACTS!

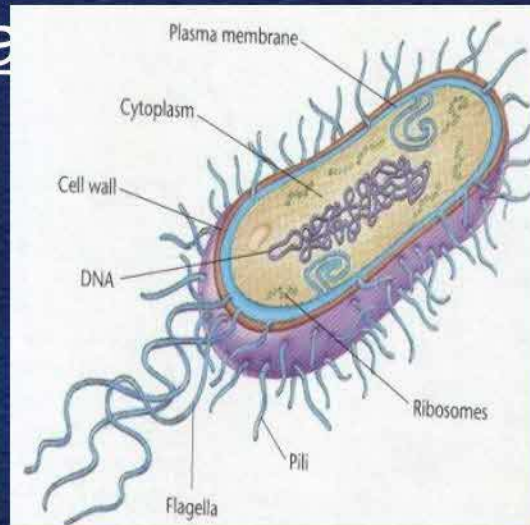
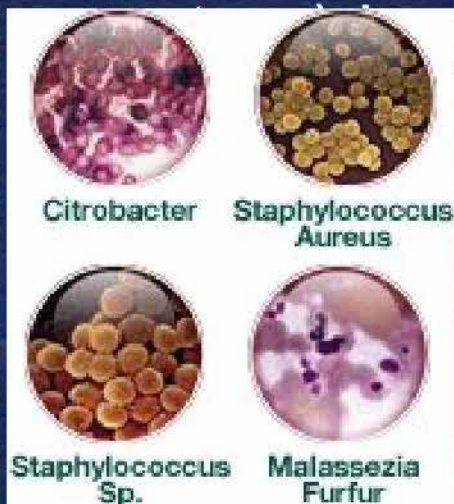
- Bacteria vs. Viruses A bacteria is a one-celled living organism; a virus is non-living piece of RNA or DNA covered by a protein coat Bacteria can self-reproduce; a virus requires a living host





# INTERESTING FACTS!

- Bacteria vs. Viruses 99% of bacteria are beneficial; almost no viruses are considered beneficial-their sole mission is to create more viruses!!! Most bacteria can be killed with antibiotics; there are almost NO effective antiviral agents! Vaccines work by “tricking” the body into creating B-Cells (immune cells) using pathogens.





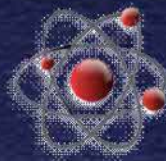
**ON-SCENE**

# **RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS**

**NTSB**



# RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS



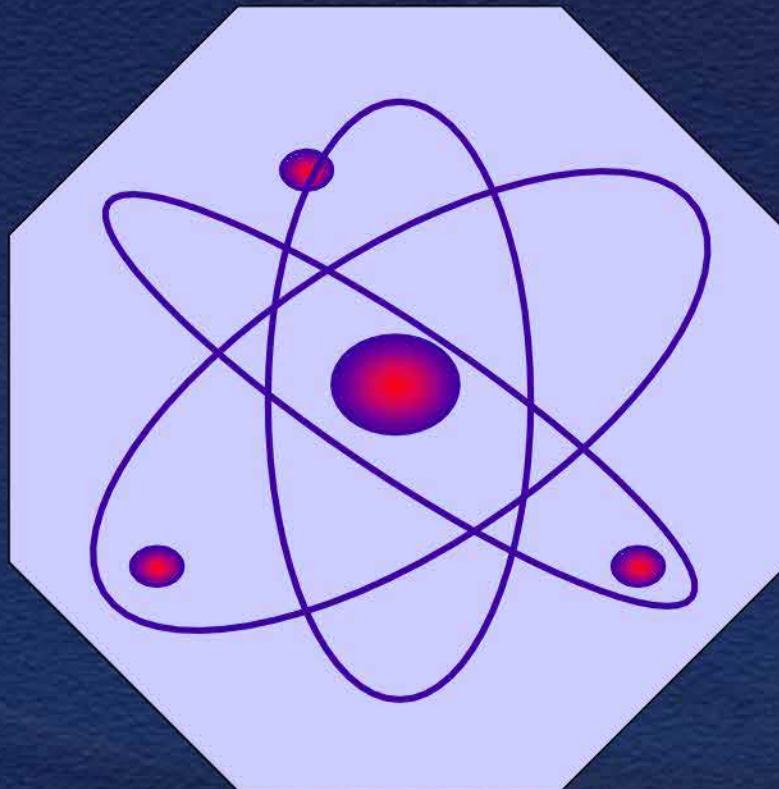
- You may see any of the following symbols





# RESPONDER HAZARDS

- Radioactive hazards may be on site as part of the aircrafts systems or cargo



# RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- There are five types of damaging radiation, but only three are of concern  
ALPHA Particle  
BETA Particle  
GAMMA Ray



# ALPHA PARTICLE

- Also known as alpha decay or alpha emitter  
Helium Nucleus (low energy)  
2 Neutrons and 2 Protons  
Very ionizing but stopped by skin or sheet of paper (penetration factor=1)  
Common alpha decay processes:  
U238 (DUR)  
Am231 (Smoke Detectors)  
Po210 (anti-static wraps)



# BETA PARTICLE

- Also known as beta decay or beta emitter  
High Energy Electron  
(medium energy)  
Penetrates human tissue to ca. 1cm (  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch)  
(penetration factor=100)  
Common beta decay processes:  
Sr90 (industrial testing for thickness)  
Tritium Oxide (watches; older signs)



# GAMMA RAY

- Also known as high energy X-RAY  
High Energy Photon  
Extremely penetrating – Very thick lead (penetration factor=10,000) (very high energy)  
Common gamma emitters: Tc99m (medical diagnostics; materials testing; gamma knife)



# MOST COMMON RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Depleted Uranium (U238); Main hazard is chemical poisoning by Uranium Oxide rather than radioactivity (U238 is very weak alpha emitter; DU is less radioactive than natural U!) Where found  
Counterweights (Cadmium (800 lbs in B747) Containers transfer of radioactives Inert Reference System





# MOST COMMON RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Polonium: All isotopes radioactive; strong alpha emitter (Irene Curie died from radiation effects) Very volatile for a metal Where found: Cargo and static devices Most common exposure: Inhalation Ingestion





# MOST COMMON RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ ) as gas ( $^3\text{HH}$ ) or Tritium Oxide ( $^3\text{HHO}$ ); Mild beta emitter Where found: Self-Luminous dials/numbers Self-Luminous signs Not used very much anymore Most common routes of exposure: Ingestion Inhalation Dermal Mitigation: Avoid contact; ventilation





# MOST COMMON RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Radium (Rd); strong alpha & beta, and gamma ray emitter; Extremely dangerous; replaces Calcium in the bones  
Emits Radon (Rn) gas (strong alpha & beta, gamma ray emitter)  
Where found: Mostly older aircraft on instrument, clock dials and numerals  
**RARELY LABELED!!!**  
common routes of exposure: Dermal (Radon gas)  
Mitigation: none for inhalation





# INTERSTING RADIATION FACTS!!!

- Smokers receive a radiation dose equivalent to about 300 chest x-rays annually due to the radioactive isotope Polonium-210 contained in tobacco smoke that comes from the ingredients of the fertilizers that are used in farming tobacco.Flight crews (pilots, flight attendants, etc.) are classified as radiation workers and are exposed to more radiation annually than nuclear plant workers.Crew in an underway nuclear submarine are actually exposed to less radiation than the average person on land, due to reduced background radiation and the shielding effect of the water while being submerged.



# INTERESTING FACTS!

- People actually used these!!!



Thorium-Radium Face  
Cream

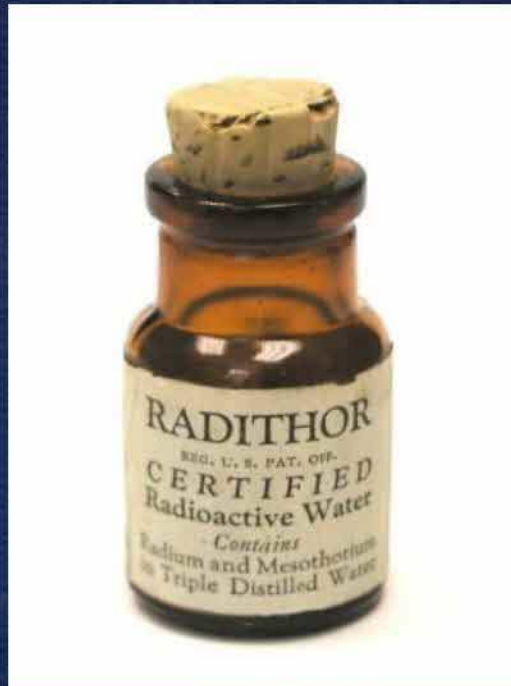
## Radium Bread





# INTERESTING FACTS!

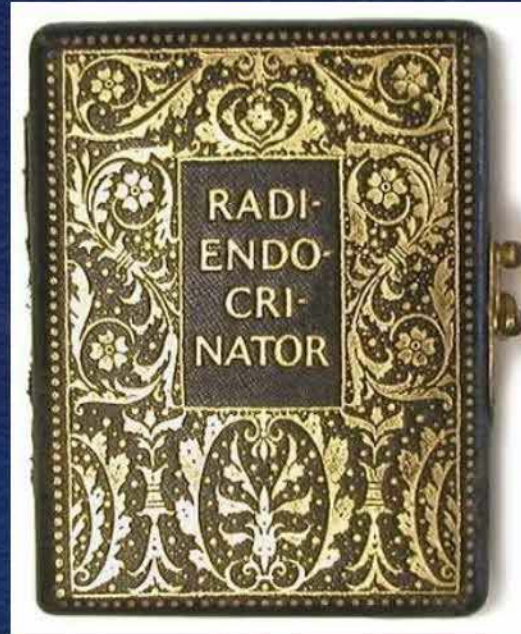
- Manufactured from 1918 to 1928 by the Bailey Radium Laboratories, Radithor was a well-known patent tonic that consisted of triple distilled water containing at least one microcurie of Radium 226 and 228 isotopes. Said to cure stomach cancer, mental illness and restore sexual vigor and vitality, it was even advertised as 'Perpetual Sunshine' until it gained notoriety when Eben Byers, an American industrialist, drank a bottle a day for four years and consequently died in excruciating pain as cancer of the jaw caused his facial bones to disintegrate.





# INTERESTING FACTS!

- The Radiendocrinator was intended to be placed over the endocrine glands to invigorate sexual virility and consisted of seven radium soaked pieces of paper, about the size and shape of a credit card, covered with a thin piece of clear plastic and two gold-wire screens. Men were advised to place the instrument under the scrotum at night like an 'athletic strap'. The inventor of the Radiendocrinator (and Radithor), William J. Bailey, had so much faith in his products he claimed not only that he regularly used them, but that he had drunk more radium water than any living man - he died in 1949 of bladder cancer.





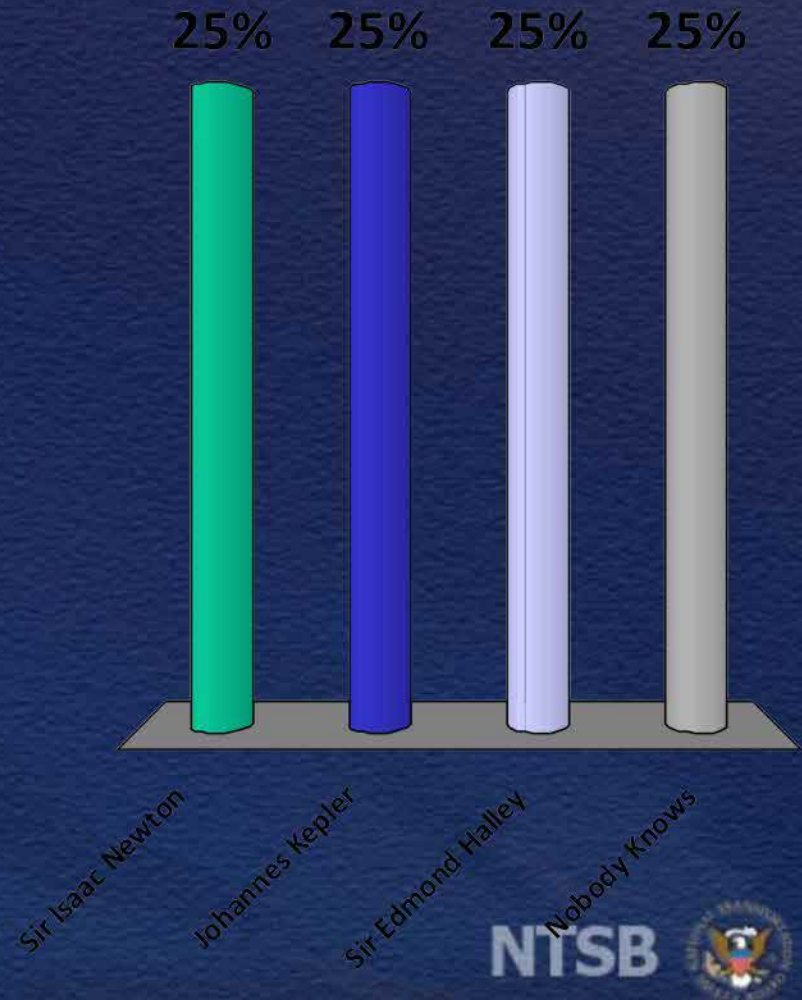
# INTERESTING FACTS!





# Who discovered Halley's Comet?

A. Sir Isaac  
Newton  
Johannes  
Kepler  
Sir Edmond  
Halley  
Nobody  
Knows





# Answer!

- Nobody Knows! It was first recorded in 240 BC and returns every 75 years or so. It will next appear in 2061. It was named after Edmond Halley because he was the one who used Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion to predict it's orbit and period!



**ON-SCENE**

# EXPLOSIVEHAZ ARDS

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# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Four explosive factors: Initiation of reaction  
Rapidity of reaction  
Rapid expansion of gases  
Evolution of heat





# The Fire Triangle

- Oxidizers: Liquid: hydrogen peroxide, nitric acid, perchloric acid; Gases: Oxygen, fluorine, chlorine; Solids: Metal peroxides, ammonium nitrate



- Fuels: Liquid: gasoline, acetone, ether, pentane; Solids: plastics, wood dust, fibers, metal particles; Gases: acetylene, propane, carbon monoxide, hydrogen

Ignition  
sources: Sparks, flames,  
static electricity, heat



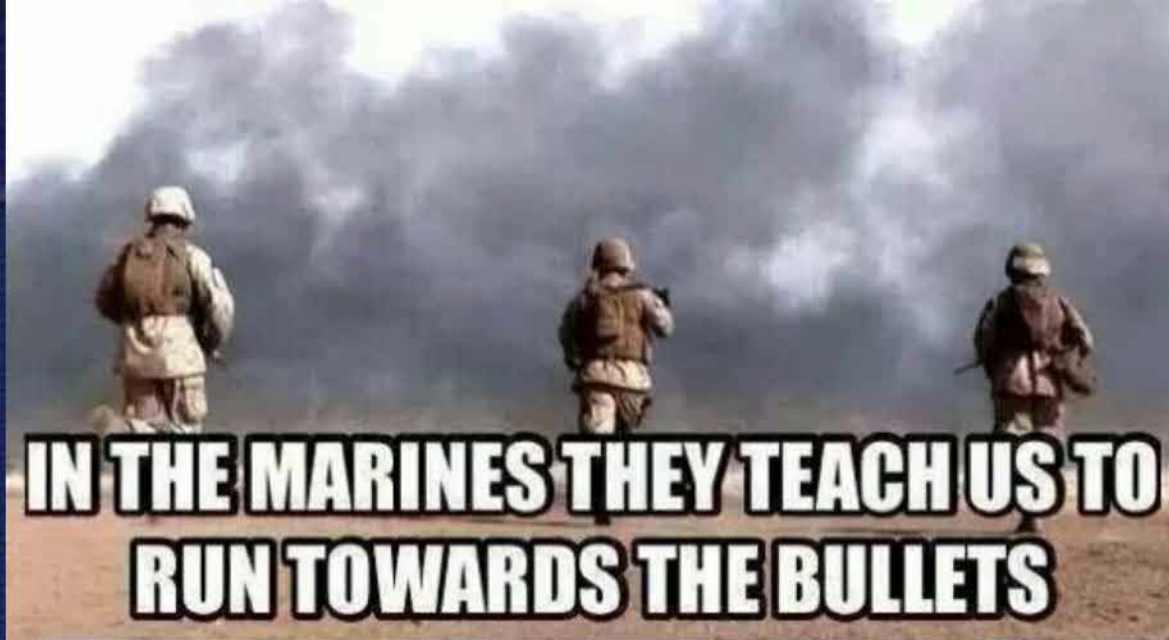
# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Low Explosives: Burn at a rate of 1 -10 in./second; normally a mixture of compoundsTends to “deflagrate” (hot burning material heats the next layer of cold material and ignites it)e.g. gunpowder, flares, pyrotechnics, other illumination devices, ANFO



# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- High Explosives: Burn at a rate of 1000-10,000 yds/second (36,000 – 360,000 in./second); normally a single compoundTends to “detonate” (which is supersonic and propagates through shock compression).



**IN THE MARINES THEY TEACH US TO  
RUN TOWARDS THE BULLETS**

**WELL THATS NICE !!**



**IN THE ARMY THEY TEACH US TO  
SHOOT BACK**

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# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS



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# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Two types of High Explosives  
Primary: extremely sensitive to shock, friction, heat; examples are mercury fulminate, lead azide, lead styphnate  
Secondary: generally insensitive to shock, friction, heat; may burn (deflagrate) when exposed to flame but may also detonate; examples are dynamite, TNT, RDX, PETN, HMX





# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Factors affecting whether an explosive will deflagrate or detonate:  
Chemical nature of compound(s)  
Degree of confinement  
Mixture with other inert ingredients  
Dynamite is nitroglycerin mixed with sawdust, diatomaceous earth, or silica  
Plastics can be added to make explosive malleable  
Aluminum can be added to increase total energy and blast

effects

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# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Two main effects of conventional explosives: Concussive (shock): This is a result of a rapidly expanding volume of gases.e.g.  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb of TNT (trinitrotoluene) (about the volume of a baseball) on detonation will rapidly liberate almost a 55-gallon drum full of gases!



# EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Two main effects of conventional explosives (con't): Thermochemical: Detonations give off heat which can also be very destructive.e.g.  
Detonation of approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb of PETN will generate 500 BTU of heat. This is like burning 3 gallons of Jet A all at once.



# MILITARY EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Most accident scene explosives will be high explosives, and may have been exposed to heat, sun, electricity and other environmental factors that can greatly affect their stability!.



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# MILITARY EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

- Stability – several factors affect stability of an explosive  
Chemical Constitution; presence of nitrite ( $\text{NO}_2$ ), nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3$ ) or azide ( $\text{N}_3$ ) groups indicate thermal instability; fire in an accident can make them unstable.  
Storage Temperature: Generally highly stable at  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  to  $35^\circ\text{C}$  ( $14$ - $95^\circ\text{F}$ ). MOST explosives become dangerously UNSTABLE above  $70^\circ\text{C}$  ( $160^\circ\text{F}$ )!!!



# MILITARY EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS (Con't)

- Exposure to the Sun: Many explosives contain nitrogen groups that rapidly decompose upon exposure to UV rays of the sun. Electrical Discharge: Spark sensitivity is common to explosives and can cause detonation. Grounding is mandatory.



# Photographic Examples

- General Photos and, January 8, 2003; Charlotte, NCBeech 1900D crashed 37 seconds after takeoff21 S.O.B. – all fatalWhat to watch out for?What do you see that's good?What do you see that's bad?











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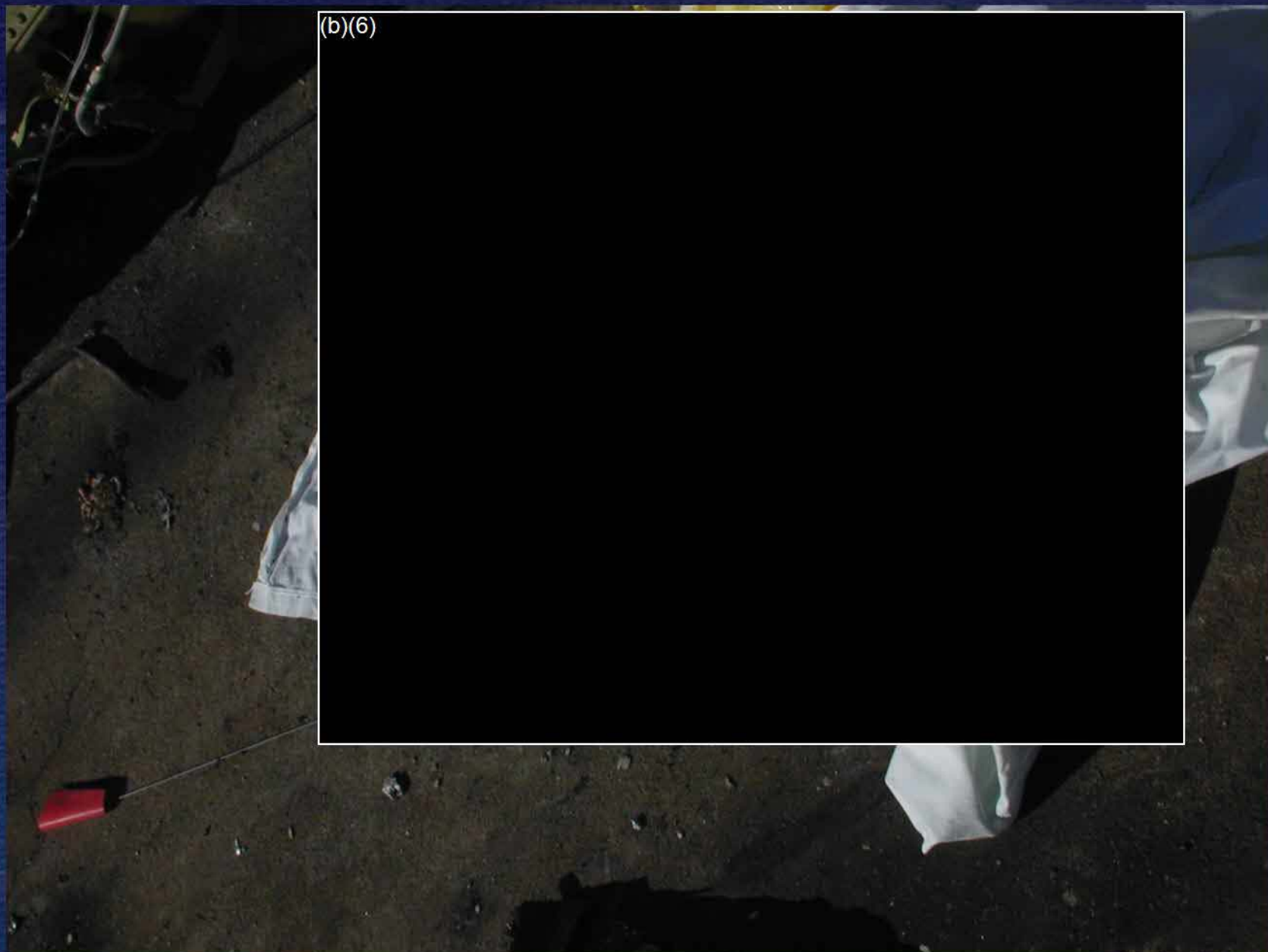


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(b)(6)







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# Go Bag

- Purpose: To have materials and minimal equipment available to begin investigation and documentation of the wreckage.
- Every investigator is different and will have different needs and equipment.
- Equipment will also differ depending on which group you are working with. i.e. Powerplants Group will have different needs than Crew Operations Group.











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# MedProtect Inc. "An OSHA Solution"

To aid in the prevention of cross-contamination from blood-borne/saliva disease & air-borne virus

**AVIATION ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION  
BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN PROTECTION  
KIT #MC-50-7S414**

**Contains:**

- (1) PROVENT 7000 Coveralls w/Hood & Attached Boots
- (2) Pair High-Risk Powder-Free Latex Gloves
- (1) Pr. Nitrile Puncture Resistant, Powder-Free Gloves--*New Item*
- (1) Pair Canvas Leather Palm Gloves
- (1) Fog-Free Protective Goggles w/Indirect Vents
- (2) Hypoallergenic Respirators
- (1) Pair Latex Boot Protectors
- (2) Surface Disinfectant Wipes
- (4) Antimicrobial Hand Wipes, 1 Bottle Purell Hand Cleaner Gel
- (1) Sweatband-----*(New Item)*
- (2) Biohazard Waste Bags
- (2) Rolls of Duct Tape, 2" X 60 yds (rolls per case of 10 kits)

Packs should never be reused. Contaminated Products should never be touched with bare hands. Please dispose of properly  
Non-Sterile Lot#010919

S/M ☐

LAR ☐

XL ☒

2XL ☐

3XL ☐

**TAKE THE PRESERVATION OF YOUR HEALTH SERIOUSLY! WE DO!**  
MedProtect Packs should be used in any situation where protection from body fluids, contaminated matter, or potentially harmful substances is necessary.

◀ TEAR HERE

"SEE INSIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS"





















































# Site Safety Items

- Autoinjector Atropine (for toxins e.g. pesticides) Epinephrine (for anaphylaxis; allergic reactions to stings, bites etc.)





# Site Safety Items

- First Aid Kit Bandages, scissors, antiseptic, burn cream



# Site Safety Items

- Hydrocortisone Cream For rashes, stings, bites, inflammation





# Site Safety Items

- Hand Sanitizer: Topical for skin cleansing 70% alcohol (ethanol) Very effective for bacteria



- Disinfectant Wipes: effective for bacteria





# Site Safety Items

- Sunscreen



# Site Safety Items

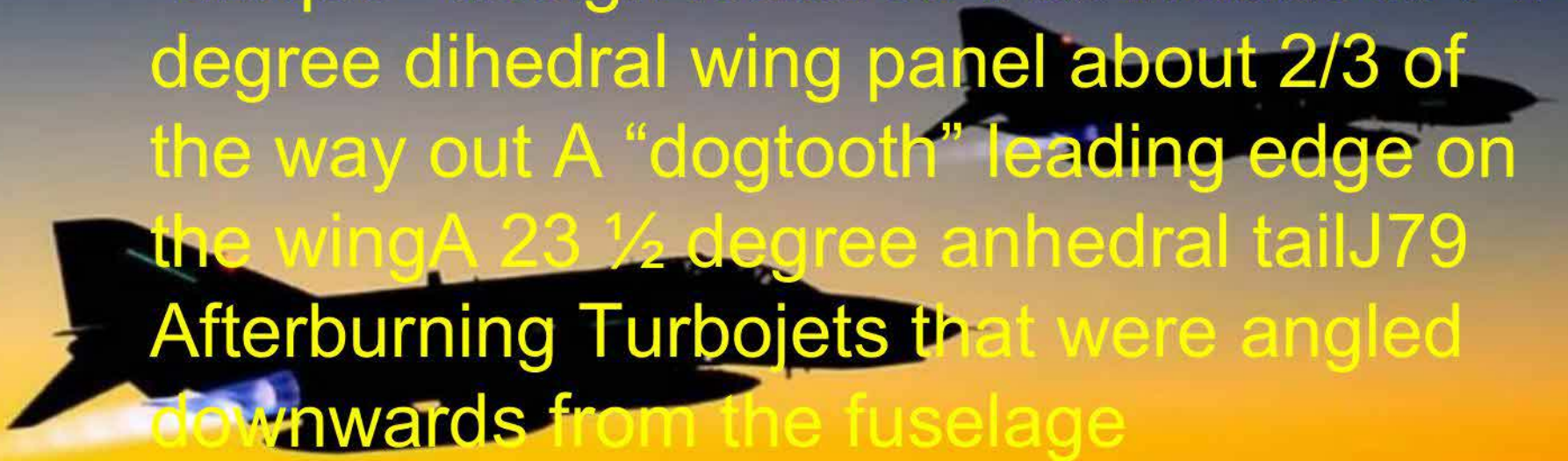
- Insect Repellent: “DEET” Eucalyptus Oil





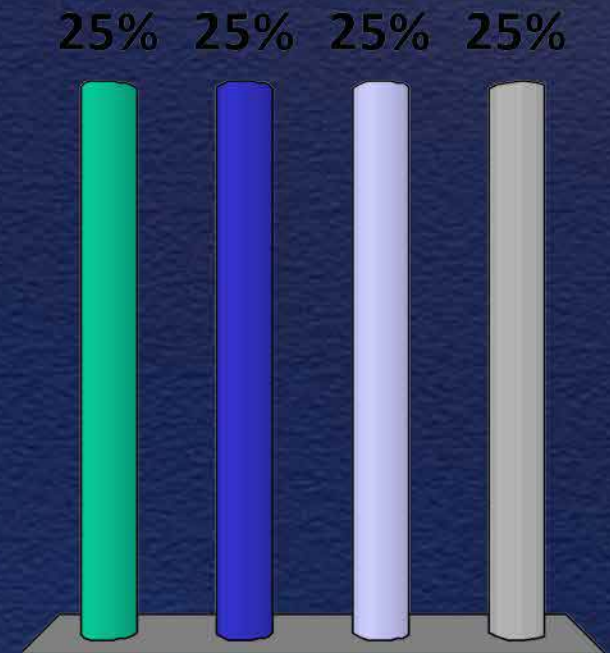
# QUIZ!!!

- The McDonnell F4 Phantom 2 had several “unique” design features that included:  
A 12 degree dihedral wing panel about 2/3 of the way out  
A “dogtooth” leading edge on the wing  
A 23 ½ degree anhedral tail  
J79 Afterburning Turbojets that were angled downwards from the fuselage centerline  
WHY?



# A 12 degree Dihedral wing panel about 2/3 of the way out

A. It gave greater Roll Stability to the Aircraft. It allowed for a thicker wing and more fuel. It allowed for higher wing loading and a more stable bombing platform. Incorporated for the Folding Wing Tip design.



It gave greater Roll Stability to the Aircraft

It allowed for a thicker wing and more fuel

It allowed for higher wing loading and a more stable bombing platform

Incorporated for the Folding Wing Tip design

NTSB





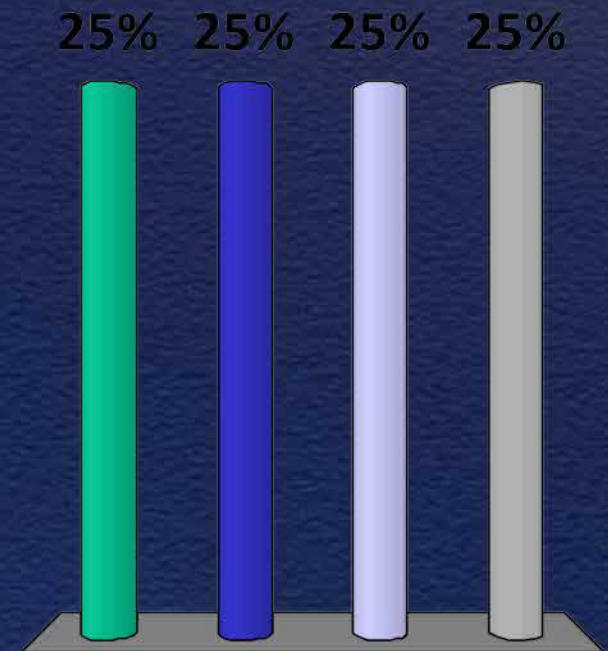
## A 12 degree Dihedral wing panel about 2/3 of the way out

- ANSWER is A! It was originally designed to be flat; but it was found that a 5 degree dihedral was necessary for roll stability at high angles of attack; it was easier (avoided redesign of the central titanium section) to give dihedral outboard on the wings to give an average 5 degree dihedral overall.



# A “Dogtooth” leading edge on the wing

A. It was a natural break where the dihedral occurred. Controls Boundary Layer airflow by inducing a vortex over the wing and lowering stall speed. It was necessary for clearance because of the location of the wing hard points for munitions. Required as a strengthening feature at that point because of the dihedral.



It was a natural break where the dihedral occurred.

Controls Boundary Layer airflow by inducing a vortex over the wing and lowering stall speed.

It was necessary for clearance because of the location of the wing hard points for munitions.

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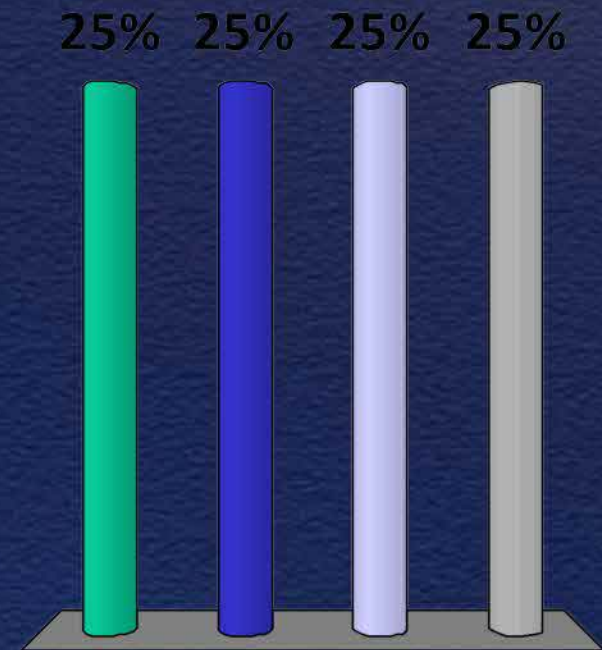
# A “Dogtooth” leading edge on the wing

- Answer is B! It induces a vortex over the wing to control boundary layer airflow and reduces the stall speed. It also helps to avoid pitch up at high angles of attack.



# A 23 ½ degree Anhedral tail

A. Avoids aircraft “Pitch Up” at high AOA. Keeps stabilator away from wing downwash at Mach 2+. Compensates for 12 degree dihedral on the outboard wings. Allows for design of smaller vertical stabilator/rudder to fit in Carrier Hangar Bays.



Avoids aircraft "Pitch Up" at high AOA

Keeps stabilator away from wing downwash at Mach 2+

Compensates for 12 degree dihedral on the outboard wings

Allows for design of smaller vertical stabilator/rudder to fit in Carrier Hangar Bays

NTSB





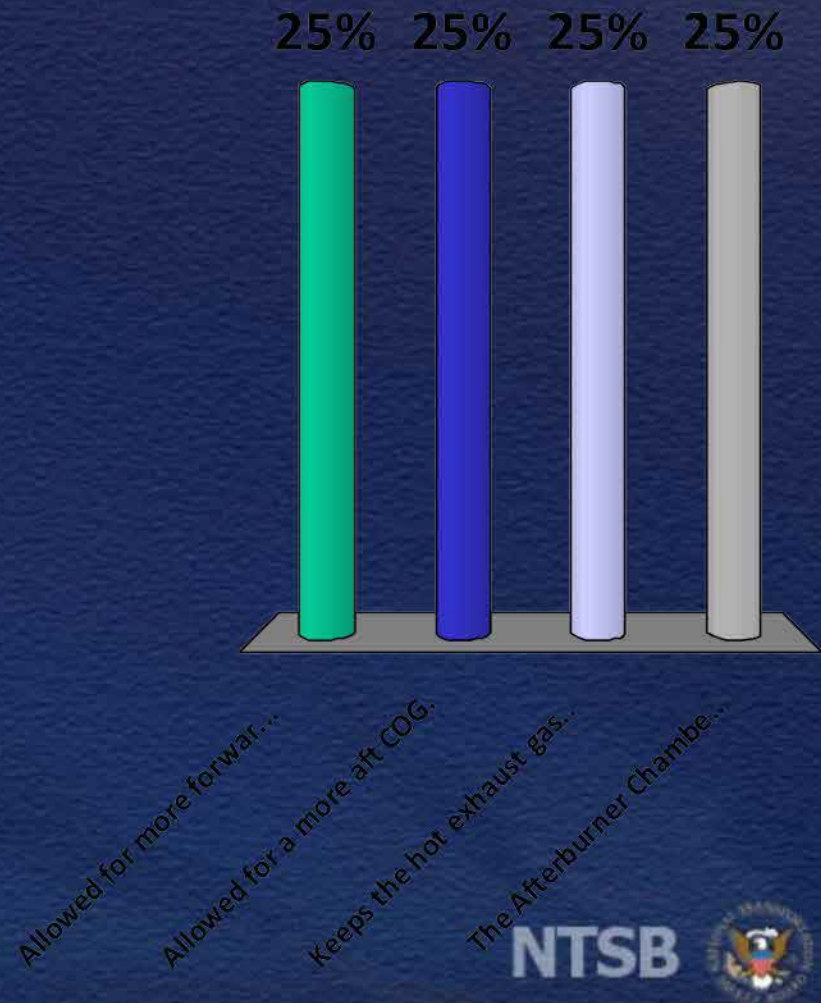
# A 23 ½ degree Anhedral tail

- Answer is B! It kept the stabilator well away from the wing downwash (buffeting and pitch stability) at high speeds (Mach 2+).



# J79 Afterburning Turbojets that were angled downwards from the fuselage centerline

A. Allowed for more forward COG. Allowed for a more aft COG. Keeps the hot exhaust gases from burning away the Anhedral Tail 😊 The Afterburner Chambers were larger than the engine at the rear and required more headspace in the bay.





## J79 Afterburning Turbojets that were angled downwards from the fuselage centerline

- Answer is C! It kept the hot exhaust gases away from the anhedral tail 😊  
Postscript: All of these “features” were the result of poor design work 😊

# THE MESSAGE!

- DO IT SAFELY....FIRST TIME!!!EVERY TIME!!!Dr. Paul F. Schuda

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

NTSB





# BECAUSE!!!



## STUPID IS AS STUPID DOES

Got enough power?

20 knot tail wind + 20 knot ground speed = HOVER  
Downwind approaches/takeoffs can require OGE hover power



U.S. ARMY  
U.S. ARMY  
U.S. ARMY

<http://safety.army.mil>

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# National Transportation Safety Board



## Unmanned Aircraft to Support Investigations

NTSB Training CenterDoE  
AS105Bill English UAS  
Program Lead

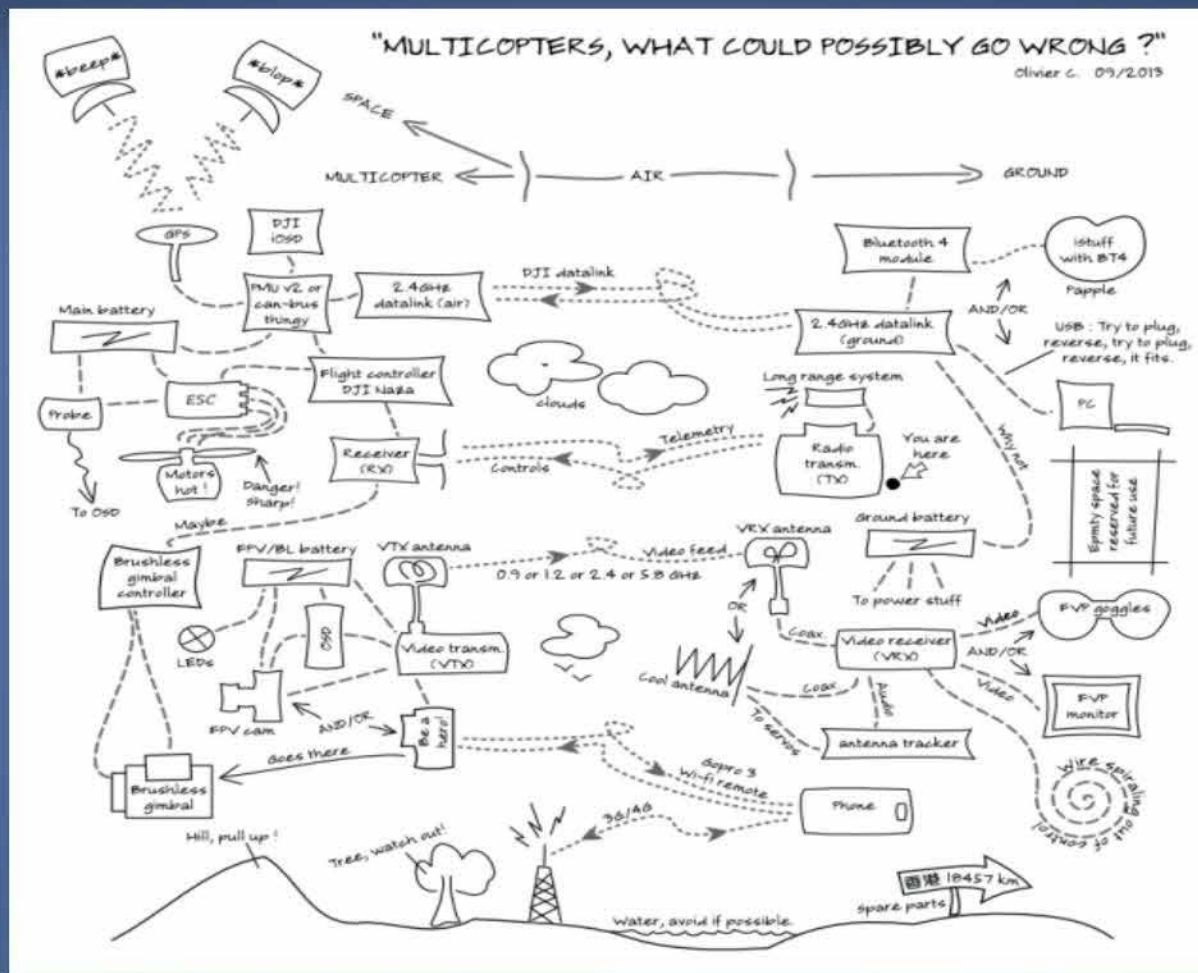


# Objectives

1. Investigations OF a UAS mishapUse of UAS to further the accident investigation missionAccident Site UAS imaging exercise



# 1. Investigating a UAS mishap



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# Case Study

- Scope of event      Flight  
Control Malf – 830.5  
notificationFly-away -  
through Class C and one  
mile lateralCrashed, but <  
55lbs, no injury: not  
accidentNTSB ->  
IncidentFAA – requires  
report per COA, ATC  
airspace event



*\*49 CFR 830.5a(1): The operator of any civil aircraft...shall immediately...notify...of any of the following listed serious incidents: Flight control system malfunction or failure*



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# Assemble a Team of Experts



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# Initial Information

- Flight to test Orthographic Mapping CameraHad been having vibration issuesRan up aircraftShortly after takeoff received battery warningAircraft rapidly climbedPilot could not reduce altitudeAircraft climbed to appx 5,000 feetCrashed about 1 mile northeast of launch



# Initial Investigative Actions

- NTSB IncidentAlso operator internal, insurance/warranty claims, FAA evaluation of COA, etc.Preservation of wreckage/recordsWhat does that really mean?Participants – Explain Party SystemWho/how?Manufacturer non-USAnnex 13 provisionsIf it was accident – would law you think will be needed?





# Areas of Investigation

- Man/Machine/Environment From the ISASI UAS Investigations GuideHow will you examine these:
- Wreckage/On-sceneOrganizational  
InformationOperational  
FactorsEnvironmentAircraft  
PerformanceReconstruction of  
wreckageStructuralCollisionFirePo  
werplantSystemsMaintenanceSurvi  
valPathologySecurity/CyberSystem  
Design



# Investigative Actions

- What else might you look for on-scene? Additional considerations for major/injury event - Press interest  
Local government interest/requirements  
Law enforcement requirements  
Support for victim

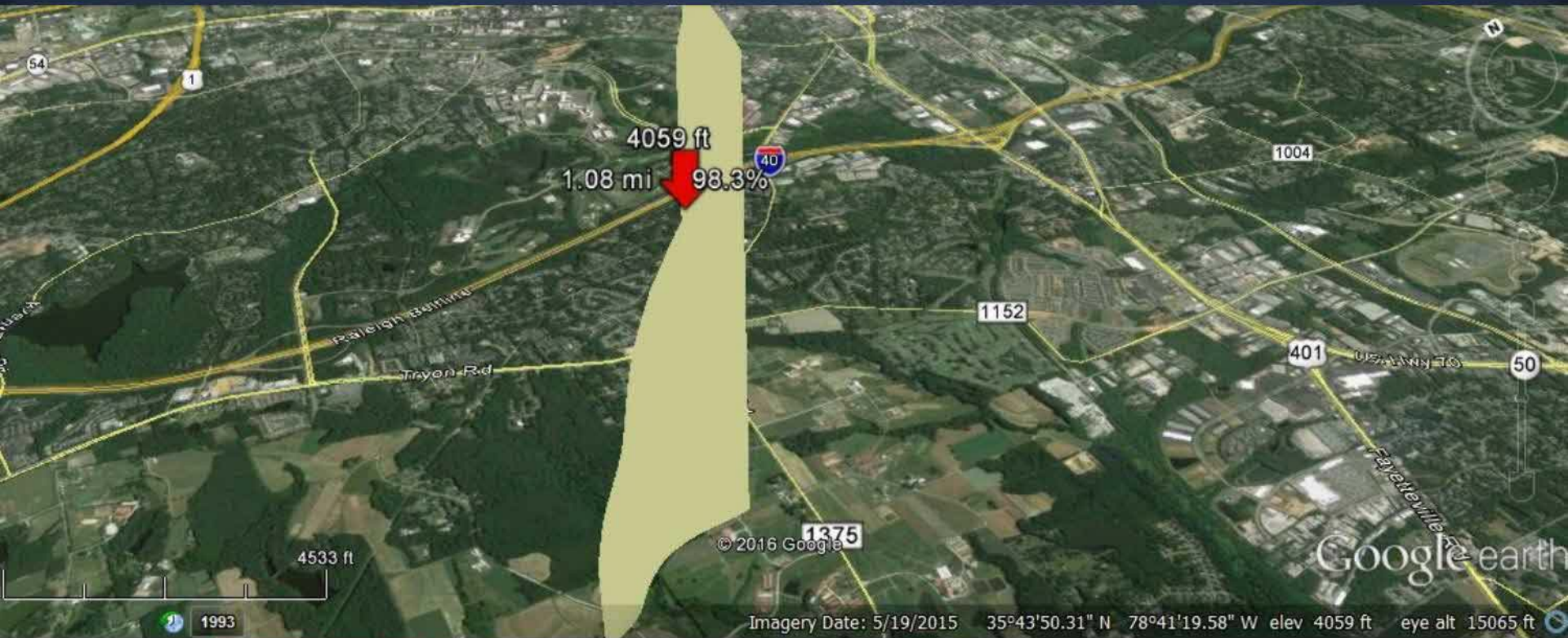




# Build Sequence of Events

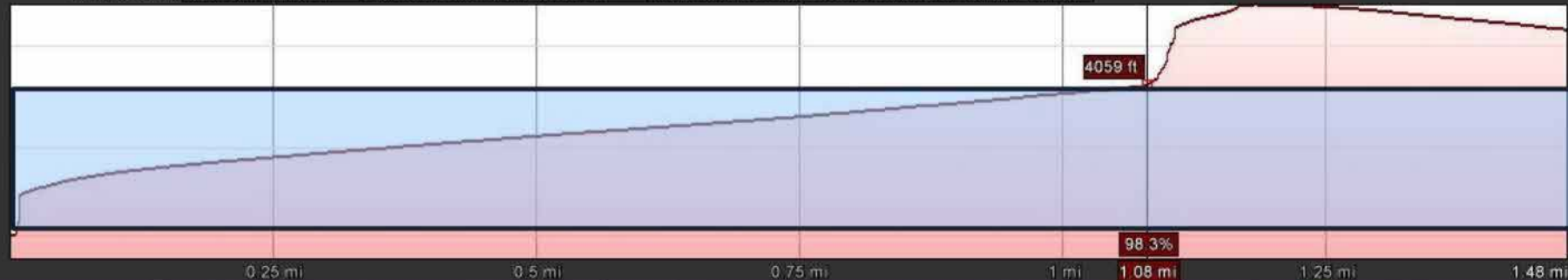
- To test vibration – crew held aircraft  
Motors run up, then auto-takeoff initiated  
Caused flight controller to calculate hover power  
High power draw reduced voltage to battery  
failsafe level  
False hover power setting led to climb  
Failsafe landing cannot be interrupted  
Pilot could not reduce power  
Observer maintained visual  
Tried emergency procedures  
Aircraft drifted to northeast  
Crashed when battery exhausted





Graph: Min, Avg, Max Elevation: 369, 3599, 5996 ft

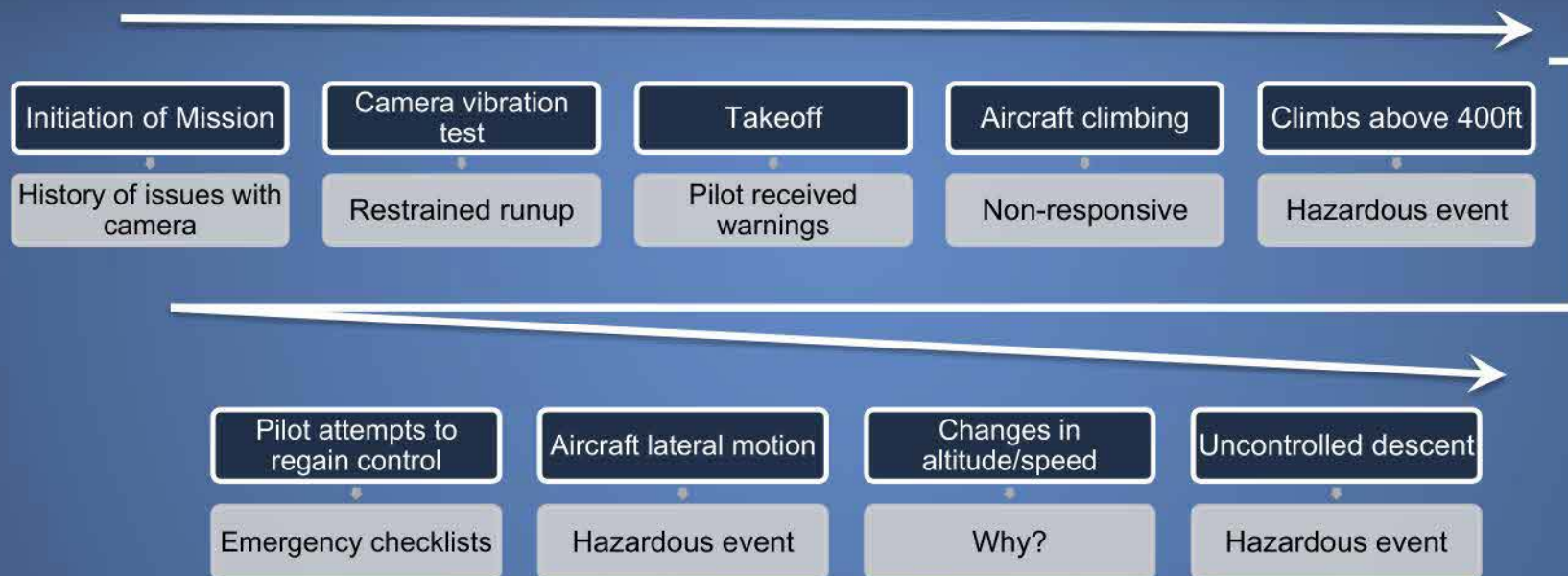
Range Totals: Distance: 1.48 mi Elev Gain/Loss: 5627 ft, -626 ft Max Slope: 100.0%, -92.0% Avg Slope: 69.1%, -61.5%



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# Build Sequence of Events



# Investigative questions

- Ask why/how questions: History of vibration issue – mission deadlines? Restrained takeoff maneuver Specified anywhere? Manual description? Ever encountered before? Analysis of maneuver? Gross error check in flight controller for false hover-power? User manual descriptions of failsafe autoland (not interruptible) vs. initiated autoland (interruptible)





# Manual Excerpts

- CAUTION Automatic descent To prevent a crash due to low batteries, the Aibot X6 V2 will start an automatic descent depending on the actual altitude. Be aware that once started, this procedure cannot be interrupted. Controlling the position and heading is possible. 3.4.8 Battery Failsafe... The Automatic Safety Landing works like the Auto Landing Mode. 3.6.5 Abort Landing (Assist Mode) RC Flight Mode -> FLY



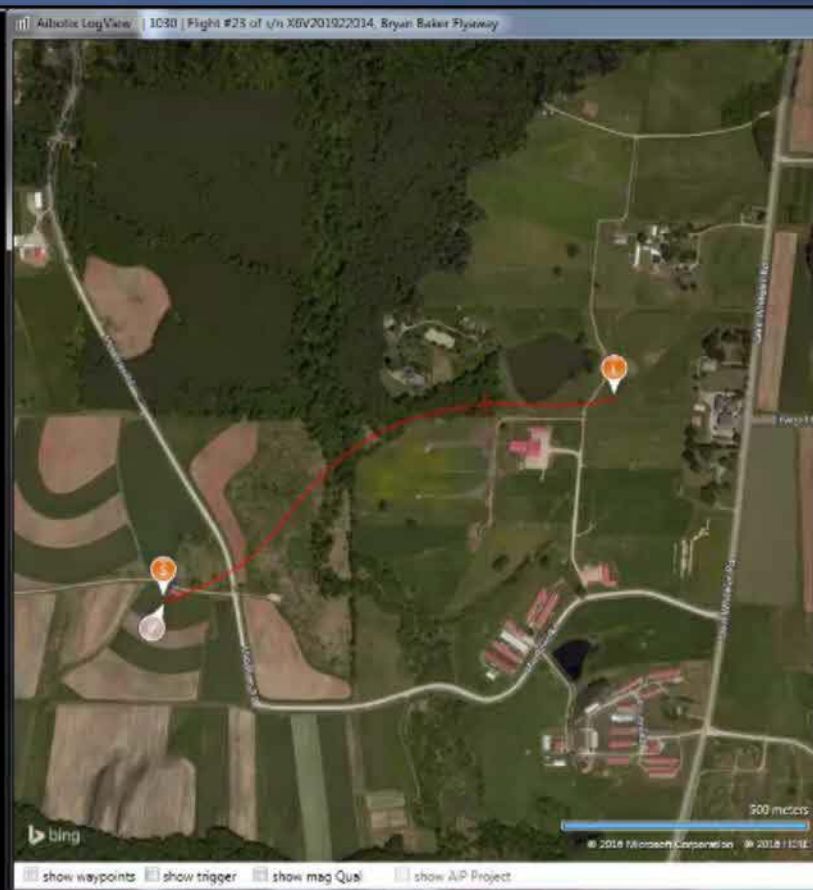
# Initial Event

- SOP: Functional checks of the UAS and associated payload shall be accomplished before each flight. Flights that test hardware or software modifications will include a written description of what is being tested the aircrafts expected behavior, and additional communication, and safety measures. COA: A configuration control program must be in place for hardware and/or software changes made to the UAS to ensure continued airworthiness. User Manual: 3.5.2 Pre-Flight Check Payload - Fixed and configured



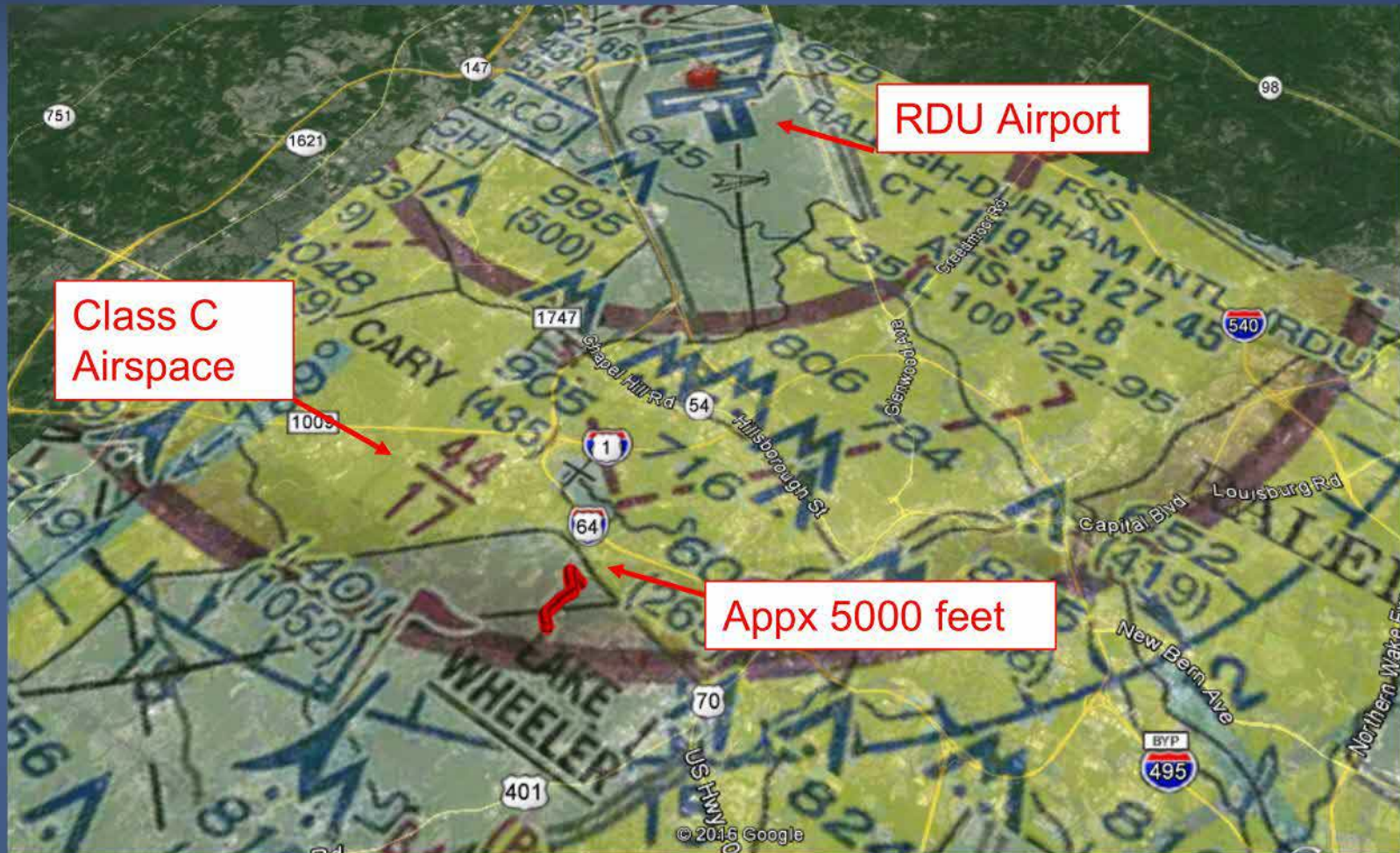


# Build Sequence of Events



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# Build Sequence of Events



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# A “simple” accident

- Where are likely spots for prevention? Pre-flight procedures? Evaluation of test procedure? Operator procedures for mission pressure? Training/practice on emergencies? Manual/documentation? Error check in flight controller? Failure modes analysis? Requirements for buffer zone sufficient? What else do you think?



# Operator

- Who do you answer to? Do you really have operational control? What is your response plan? Notification/Communications Technical response team Secure appropriate documentation – operational, maintenance, legal Legal team Media Relations Employee/Victim support Responsibilities to oversight authority Even a good operator can have a mishap Do you have ability to deal with all of these?





# Response Plan

## SECTION 1 - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. OVERVIEW
2. RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY
3. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL
4. DEFINITIONS
5. GENERAL POLICIES
6. NOTIFICATION RESPONSE ACTIONS
7. ALERTS
8. POST-ALERT DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES
9. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION
10. BUSINESS CONTINUITY / RECOVERY

## SECTION 2 - EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING

1. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

## SECTION 3 - AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT CHECKLISTS

1. GENERAL
2. FLIGHT / CABIN CREW MEMBERS' CHECKLIST
3. SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR'S AND AFTER-HOURS CONTACT CHECKLIST
4. ACCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM LEADER'S CHECKLIST
5. SENIOR EXECUTIVE'S CHECKLIST
6. LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE'S CHECKLIST
7. RISK MANAGER'S CHECKLIST
8. HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST'S CHECKLIST
9. PUBLIC RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE'S CHECKLIST

## SECTION 4 - AIRCRAFT INCIDENT PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL
2. AIRCRAFT INCIDENT INITIAL RESPONSE
3. ALERTS

## SECTION 5 - GROUND INCIDENT PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL
2. GROUND INCIDENT INITIAL RESPONSE

## SECTION 6 - INJURY OR DEATH

1. GENERAL
2. SERIOUS INJURY

## SECTION 7 - OVERDUE OR MISSING AIRCRAFT PROCEDURES

1. OVERDUE AIRCRAFT
2. MISSING AIRCRAFT

## SECTION 8 - HIJACKING

## SECTION 9 - GROUND FACILITY BOMB THREAT PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL
2. GROUND FACILITY BOMB THREAT INITIAL RESPONSE

## SECTION 10 - AIRCRAFT BOMB THREAT PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL
2. AIRCRAFT BOMB THREAT INITIAL RESPONSE

## SECTION 11 - EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF EMPLOYEES FROM OVERSEAS

1. GENERAL

## SECTION 12 - ABDUCTION / KIDNAPPING OF YCO EMPLOYEE

1. GENERAL

## SECTION 13 - SUSPICIOUS ITEMS / VEHICLES AND EXPLOSIONS

1. GENERAL
2. SUSPICIOUS ITEM / VEHICLE RESPONSE

## SECTION 14 - HAZARDOUS / RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INCIDENT

1. GENERAL
2. RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INCIDENT RESPONSE
3. RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHART
4. DANGEROUS GOODS EMERGENCY RESPONSE CHART

## SECTION 15 - INTERNATIONAL SOS PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL
2. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROCEDURES

## SECTION 16 - FAMILY ASSISTANCE PLAN

1. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
2. PROCEDURES

## SECTION 17 - ATTACHMENT FORMS

1. EMERGENCY TELEPHONE AND ACTION LOG
2. CREWMEMBER HISTORY
3. ACCIDENT MESSAGE
4. AIRCRAFT MISHAP REPORT



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# Manufacturer

- Who do you answer to? Response/Support – (from a major airframer): Provide detailed technical knowledge and support Hardware/Software evaluations Records of precursor events? Design, Certification(?) Maintenance Manuals and Training guidance Your suppliers/vendors Legal – proprietary, export controls, security Do you have ability to deal with all of these? What is your relation with the aviation authority?





# Regulator

- FAA Gives operator a lot of responsibility under 333 or PAO, but maintains some level of oversight (COA reporting etc.) Also is the airspace authority (usually) Military or other Gov't Will conduct own investigation Will also be potential subject of Safety Investigation



# FAA Responsibilities

- “9 areas”: FAA facilities, contract facilities, airworthiness cert, airmen cert, adequacy of FARs, airports, security, medical, violations Many parts of FAA will be involved Safety investigation, Legal, ATOAs well as UAS specific offices





# Other Requirements/Pressures

- Laws/policy What FAA regulations may apply State/Local – much more active than with conventional aviation How Law Enforcement treat the case? International protocols Will ICAO Annexes apply? What does home country of manufacturer consider? Political needs Security, Executive Branch, Congressional transportation and technology committees, local representatives, etc.



## 2. Use of UAS as investigative tool

- Aerial imagery - a powerful tool  
UAS have potential to expand the capabilities and use of aerial imagery  
Cost Repeatability POV Portability





# Use of UAS as investigative tool

- Payloads and Processing UAS and converging technologies Optical, IR, LIDAR etc. Photogrammetry Change detection Imaging near real-time Rapid processing Cloud or local



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# Use of UAS as investigative tool

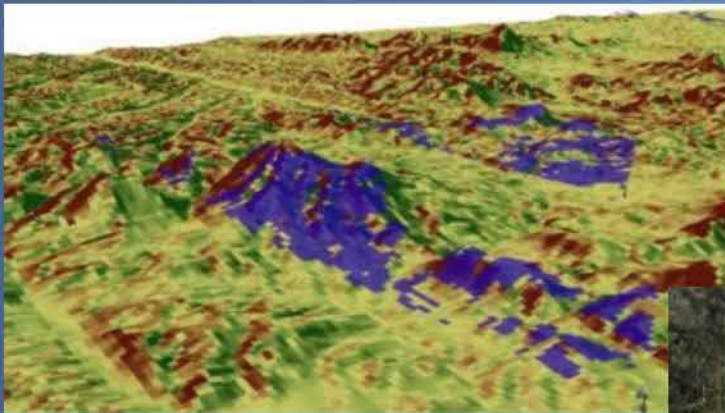
- New applications: Cooperation with First Responders  
Site Safety  
Monitoring Environmental  
Hazard mitigation  
Site Security  
Things we haven't





# Other sample applications

- Compatible with GIS



# Components of UAS

- Payloads and SensorsThe reason the UAS existsEO – electro optical photographyGyro-stabilized, controllable gimbalOrtho-rectified for mappingIR – infrared photographyLaw enforcement, crop monitoringMulti/Hyper-spectral imagingLIDAR, SIGINT, Chem sniffers, etc. etc.



# Platform Considerations

- Sensor  
size/weight/powerRangeAltitudeNavigationAutonomyFPV/DatastreamCrew requirementsPortabilityEnvironmentalObservabilityReliabilityExpendibilitySafety

# Other sample applications



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# Regulations and Guidance

- FAA Reauthorization 112-95 Section 333  
FAA v. Pirker FAR 107 – NPRM  
Certificate of Authorization (COA) Public  
Aircraft/Agency



# FAA Regulations/Policy

- All UAS are “aircraft” (14 CFR 1.1) Numerous FARs cannot be met by a UAS Were very few ways to operate a UAS (except hobbyist) Public Aircraft was almost exclusive until 2012, FAA “working on regulations” FAA Reauthorization required an avenue for sUAS commercial operation exemptions – “Section 333” of PL 112-95 Operator requests exemption of certain FARs. Aircraft must be registered and carry an FAA N number. sUAS must remain within visual line of sight of the operator. Generally requires some type of pilot certificate. Summary approvals and Blanket COA (<200 feet, away from airports), other safety mitigations Approximately 5300 to date (more every day) May be appropriate for accident site



# FAA Regulations/Policy

- 333 process is rough equivalent to type/airworthiness/pilot “cert” COA allows access to the NAS – operational regulation Both put a great deal of responsibility on the operator There are no type-certified UAS, nor UAS pilot certificates (yet) COA is highly restrictive – can’t be near airports, crowds, infrastructure, etc. etc. “Blanket COA” <400 feet But this gets commercial activity started. >5300 holders This is a potential method to use at some accident sites

# FAA Hobbyist Policy

- RC aircraft have long been operated under Advisory Circular 91.572007 interp began limiting hobbyistsPirker case related to FAA enforcement of Careless and Reckless (eventually)Further interpretations, revisions to AC91.57, NOTAMs, “guidance” to prevent hobbyists from entering airspacesRegistration of hobbyist drone ownersSignificance for us:NOT permissible to initiate hobbyist flight over accidentMAY use “passer-by” imagery



# Next FAA goal – Part 107

- small UAS rule – Not yet effective - NPRM in process Under 55 lbs. - no minimum weight Operator must be FAA certified. Aeronautical Knowledge test. Recurrent test every two years. Aircraft must be registered and carry an FAA N number. sUAS must remain within visual line of sight of the operator. No “daisy-chaining” observers Airspeed not to exceed 87 knots. No higher than 500 feet. Daylight VMC only operations. Remain in defined area (box)

# Next FAA goal – Part 107

- No operation over anyone not involved in the sUAS operation. No Class A. ATC permission for Class B, C, D and surface E. Operator would determine the airworthiness of the sUAS. Operator determines maintenance and preflight (Draft AC) COAs no longer required. Public COAs/Waivers possible to go outside provisions. Maybe mid 2016?



# NTSB Program

- Developed SOP/FOM for site imaging  
Gaining experience and developing procedures  
Obtained Public COA, SFRA waiver (for ops at Academy)  
Network with appropriate providers  
Assist Parties in developing capabilities



# Other Applicable Regulations

- For NTSB – Federal acquisition regulations regarding aircraft  
Ethics and Conflicts of Interest  
Privacy and Data Security issues  
State and Local regulations  
Numerous locales have passed laws regardless of FAA authority  
Maintain site safety/ICS coordination  
Public Reaction  
Not regulatory, but must account



# NTSB use of UAS - tactical

- Can get ACOAs/eCOAs for near airportsBring in commercial operators “off the street”  
“End service contract” modelUse in-house equipment and staffUse Parties?Is that a commercial air service relation?Like Boeing’s pinger-locator?Appearances are very touchyFAA, political, media

# Public COA - partners

- Best method for working close to airports  
Until we get Part 107? Will put commercial air service provider under Public Aircraft operation  
Also needs to feed back into SoP: Criteria for operator  
PAO declaration? Agreement with Airport





# Providers and Parties

- Build list of appropriate providers  
Accident experience – not real estate or movie people (Ohio guy...)  
Assist Parties in development  
Getting 333s etc.  
Parties and providers assist development  
Technology and techniques  
Future-proofs the capability  
What are next steps in go-forward?



## UAS as investigative tool – Multi-Modal



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## UAS as investigative tool - Repeatable



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# Not a Panacea



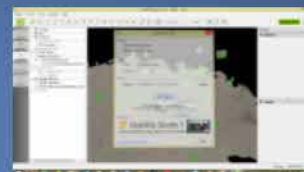
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# Drawbacks and other

- Not always the best toolMay be very difficult environment – weather, interference, bystanders, etc.Not always cheapestSometime Local PD helicopter comes in for freeTechnology and Future-proofingTodays tech is obsolete in 6 months

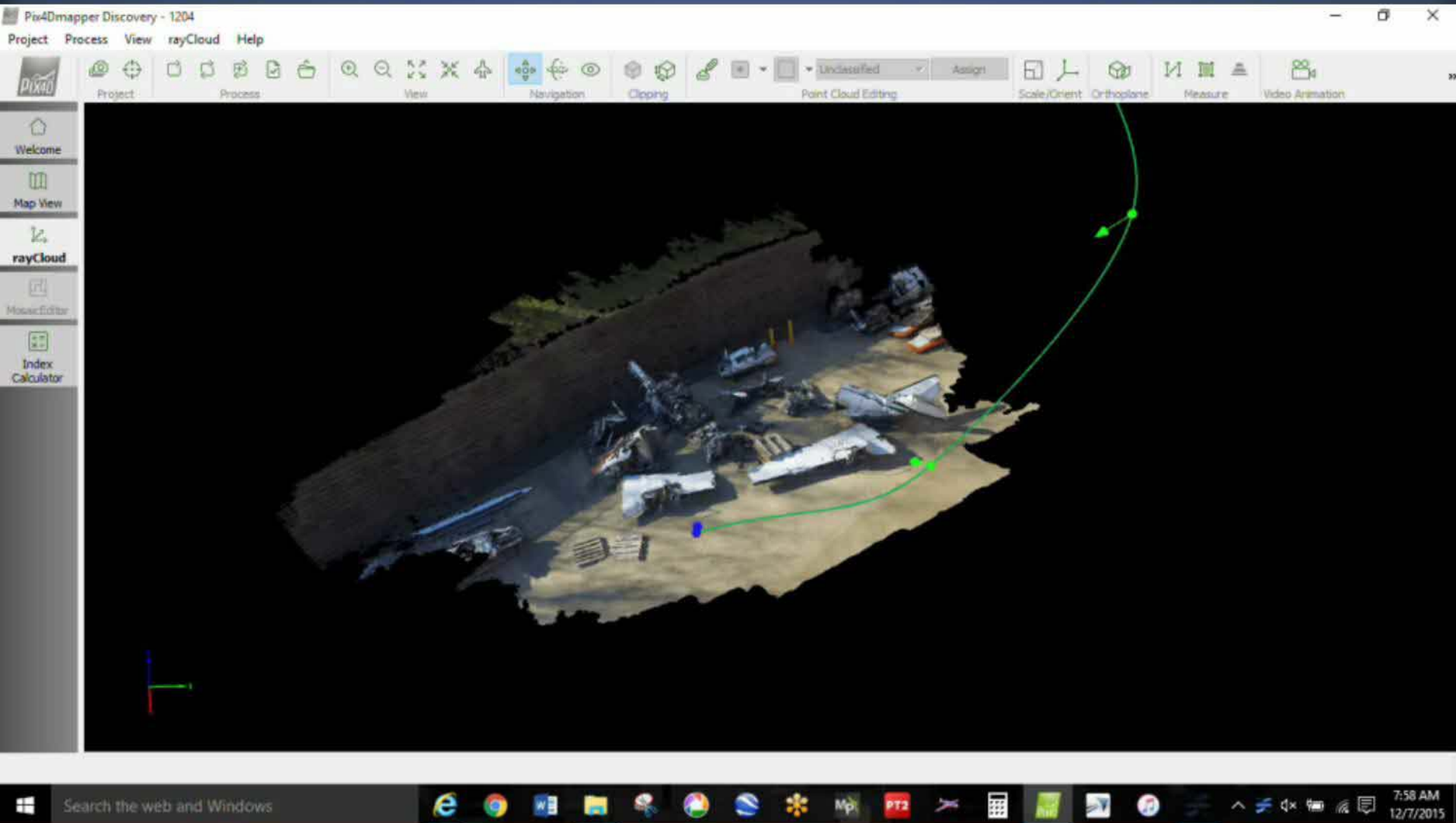
## Use of UAS as investigative tool - Processing



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# Use of UAS as investigative tool - Processing



# Drone photography



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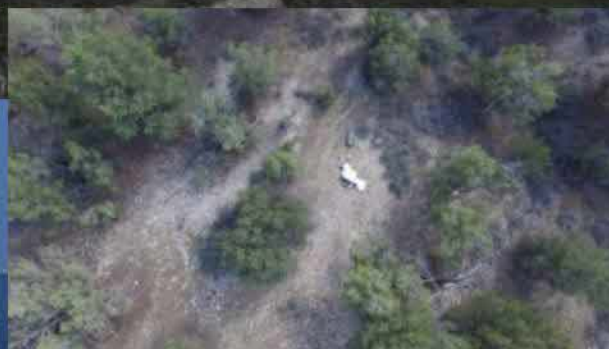


# Drone photography



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# Drone photography



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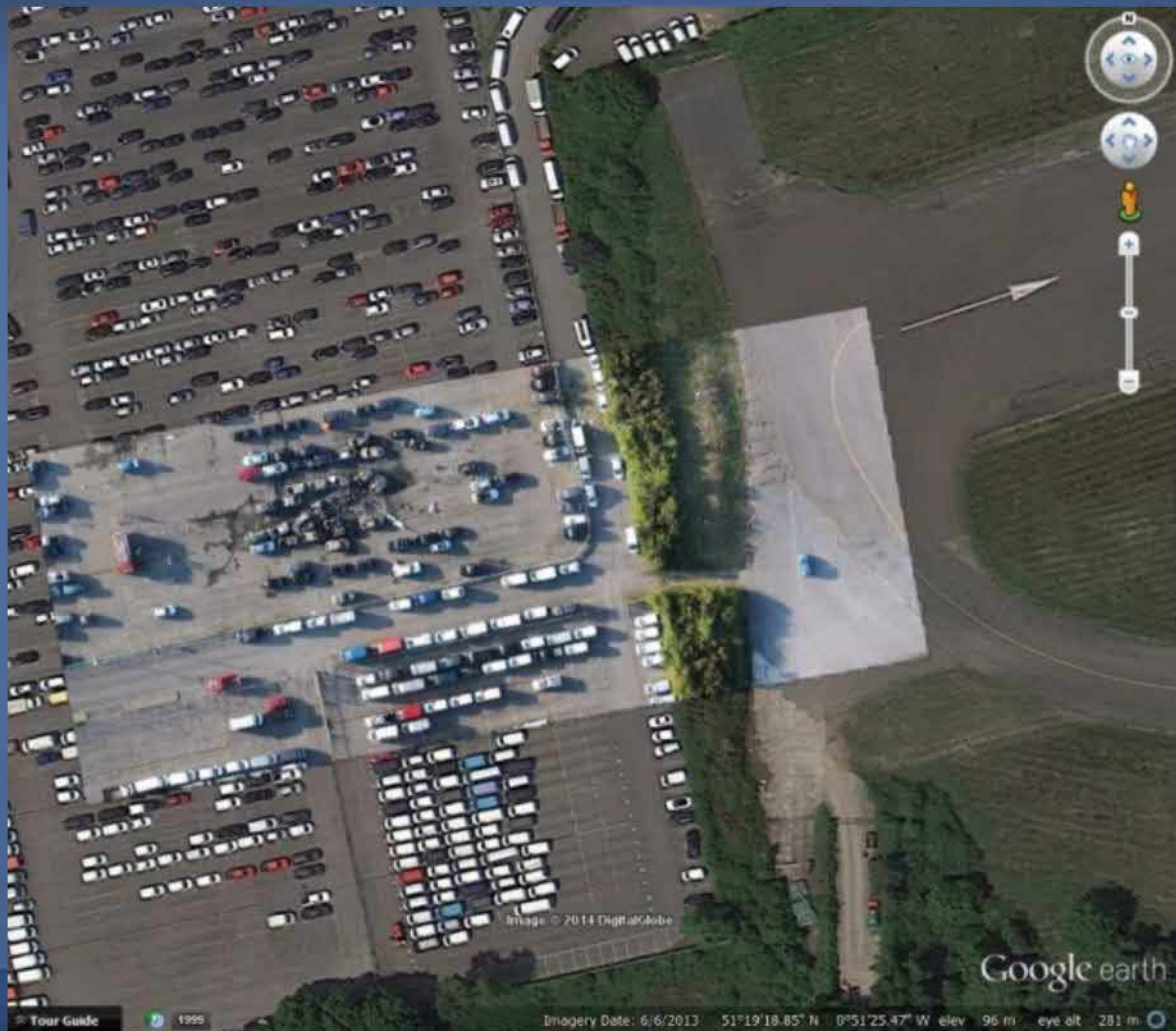


# Drone photography



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# Drone photography



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# Drone photography



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# Drone photography



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# Drone photography



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# On-Site Application - SOP/FOM/Checklist excerpts:

- Overall mission preview  
Right tool for the job?  
Coordinate with IIC  
Flight crew/essential personnel  
Trained/rested  
Pre-flight maintenance  
Batteries, firmware/software,  
maps  
Airspace evaluation  
Do we need an eCOA/ACOA?  
ATC coordination  
Airport coordination  
NOTAM/TFR
- Operating Area  
eval  
Launch/recovery area  
Contingency locations  
Physical obstructions  
RF/Mag interference sources  
Weather  
Terrain  
Public  
Advise OC/media  
Property issue?  
First responder  
Coord with ICS  
Accident site specific hazards  
Hazmat  
Consider multiple observers  
What else can you think of?





### 3. Accident Site exercise – Let's go fly!!





# National Transportation Safety Board

**Any questions?**





# Family Assistance Operations

Max Green  
Emergency Operations Coordinator  
Transportation Disaster Assistance Division

NTSB

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# Situational Awareness

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# Fundamental Concerns of Family Members

<b>Notification of Involvement</b> <i>"What happened?"</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Initial notification</li><li>Immediate <u>factual</u> information</li></ul>	<b>Access to Resources and Information</b> <i>"How will I get information and resources?"</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Crisis counseling/disaster mental health</li><li>Information regarding investigation</li><li>Financial/logistical</li><li>Legal rights</li></ul>
<b>Victim Accounting</b> <i>"Where is my loved one?"</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Search, rescue, hospitalization</li><li>Search &amp; recovery of fatalities</li><li>Identification, death certification, and return of remains</li></ul>	<b>Personal Effects</b> <i>"Where are their belongings?"</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recovery, processing and return of personal effects</li><li>Associated and unassociated</li></ul>

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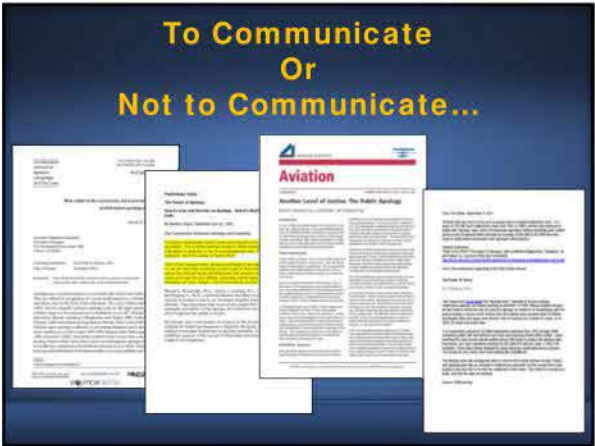
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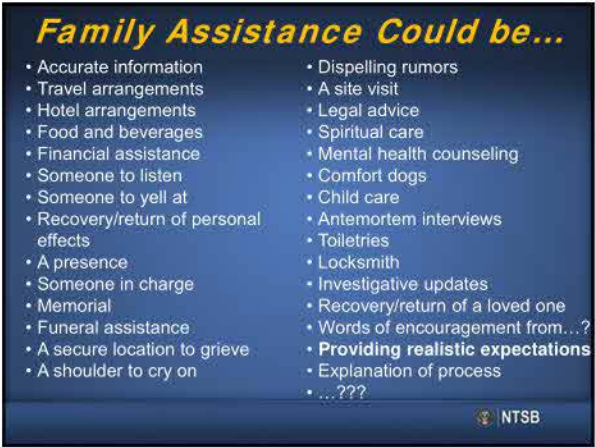
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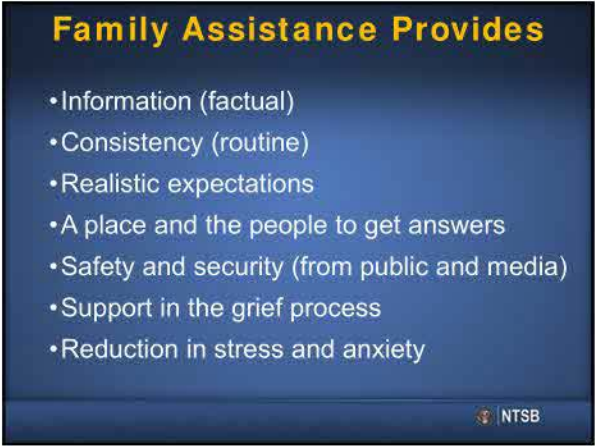
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**Family Assistance Might Not Provide...**

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**Effective Family Assistance...**

- Builds rapport and credibility
- Provides realistic expectations
- Is flexible based on the event
- Requires interagency coordination/cooperation

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**On-scene Information Flow**

**Organizational Meeting**

- Designate parties and party coordinators
- Establish and organize groups

**Progress Meetings**

- Summarize findings
- Info for briefings

**Family Briefings**

**Press Briefings**

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### Fatality Management

- Investigate, recover and examine decedents in a dignified and respectful manner
- Accurately determine cause and manner of death
- Perform accurate and efficient identification of victims
- Provide for the rapid return of victims to their legal next of kin if possible
- Exchange factual and timely information with families in a compassionate manner

**Medical Examiner/Coroner Responsibility**

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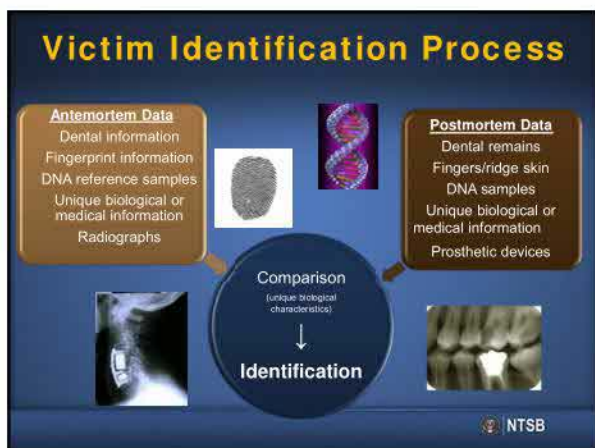
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### Family Member Concerns

- How is the search and recovery of my family member progressing?
- What is the condition of my family member's remains?
  - Whole body vs. other states of remains
- When can we see the remains?
- How will you identify my family member?
  - Methods (esp. DNA)
  - Length of time
- Why are you asking for dental, medical, and other types of records?
  - Antemortem data collection
- Who will make the final decisions about:
  - Receipt of information on the identification?
  - What happens to group/unidentified tissues?
  - The release and final disposition of remains?



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### Personal Effects

Photographs Redacted

- Evidentiary
- Sentimental
- Financial

Photograph Redacted

Photo courtesy of  


NTSB

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### Categories of Personal Effects

**Associated with human remains**  
ME/C responsibility

Photograph Redacted

**Associated with victim name**  
Air carrier responsibility\*

Photograph Redacted

Photo courtesy of  


**Unassociated**  
Air carrier responsibility\*  
Catalog → family member review  
Unclaimed → retain for 18 months

Photograph Redacted

\*Air carrier responsibility assuming legislated accident.  
Responsibilities **not specified** if accident does not meet criteria set forth in family assistance legislation.

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## Operational Flow: Personal Effects

- On scene documentation
- Collection Photograph Redacted
- Cleaning/making safe to handle
- Cataloging
- Restoration
  - Decision driven by policy limits and claimant interest
- Return to owners/family members

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## Keys to Successful Planning for a Family Assistance Operation

- Identify response partners
- Plan and prepare
- Identify capabilities, limitations and gaps
- Involve senior management
- Define and agree upon mindset and intent
- Recognize family assistance is more than a checklist
- Understand the process prior to an accident

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## Training and Exercises

- Include family assistance operations
- Workshops with partner agencies
  - Define roles/responsibilities
- Tabletop exercises
  - Test viability of plans
- Full-scale exercises
  - Play out a response
  - Logistics of family assistance operations
  - Movements, materials, etc.
- Schedule recurrent training
  - Practice, practice, practice...




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### Team Care and Self-care

- Self-care or wellness programs
- Employee support services (Employee Assistance Program)
- Peer Support Programs
- Allow access to external support systems

Self-Care is a  
priority and necessity  
- not a luxury -  
in the work that we do.

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### NTSB Response Operations Center (ROC) NTSB Headquarters, Washington, DC 24/7/365

To report an incident/accident:  
(844) 373-9922  
or  
(202) 314-6290

Duty Officers available 24/7/365

- Modal Divisions (Aviation, Highway, Marine, Pipeline, and Rail)
- **Transportation Disaster Assistance (TDA)**
- Public Affairs (PA / PAO)
- Government Affairs (GA / GAO)

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### NTSB Training Center



Photograph Redacted

[http://www.nts.gov/Training\\_Center/Pages/TrainingCenter.aspx](http://www.nts.gov/Training_Center/Pages/TrainingCenter.aspx)

**TDA Division Training Center Courses**

**TDA-301:** Transportation Disaster Response – Family Assistance  
September 26 – 28, 2016

**TDA-403:** Mass Fatality Incidents for Medicolegal Professionals  
October 11 – 13, 2016

**TDA-406:** Accounting for Victims Following Transportation Mass Casualty Incidents: A course for Emergency Managers, Law Enforcement, Hospitals and the Medicolegal Community

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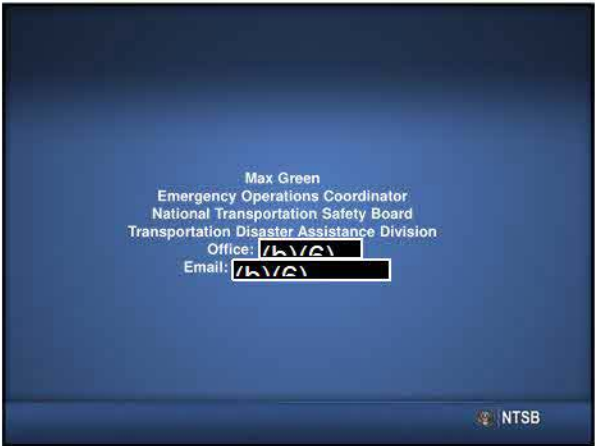
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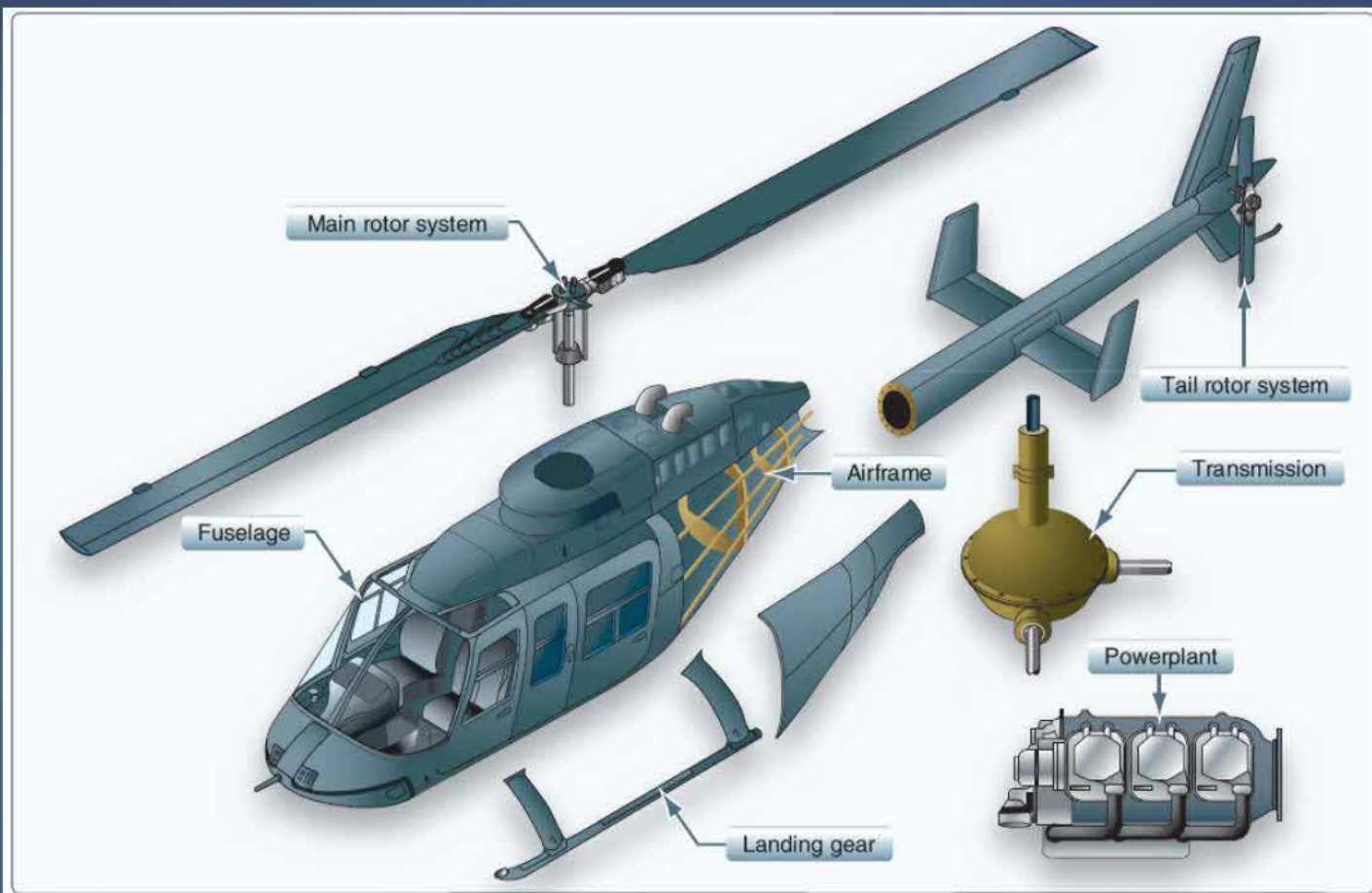


**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

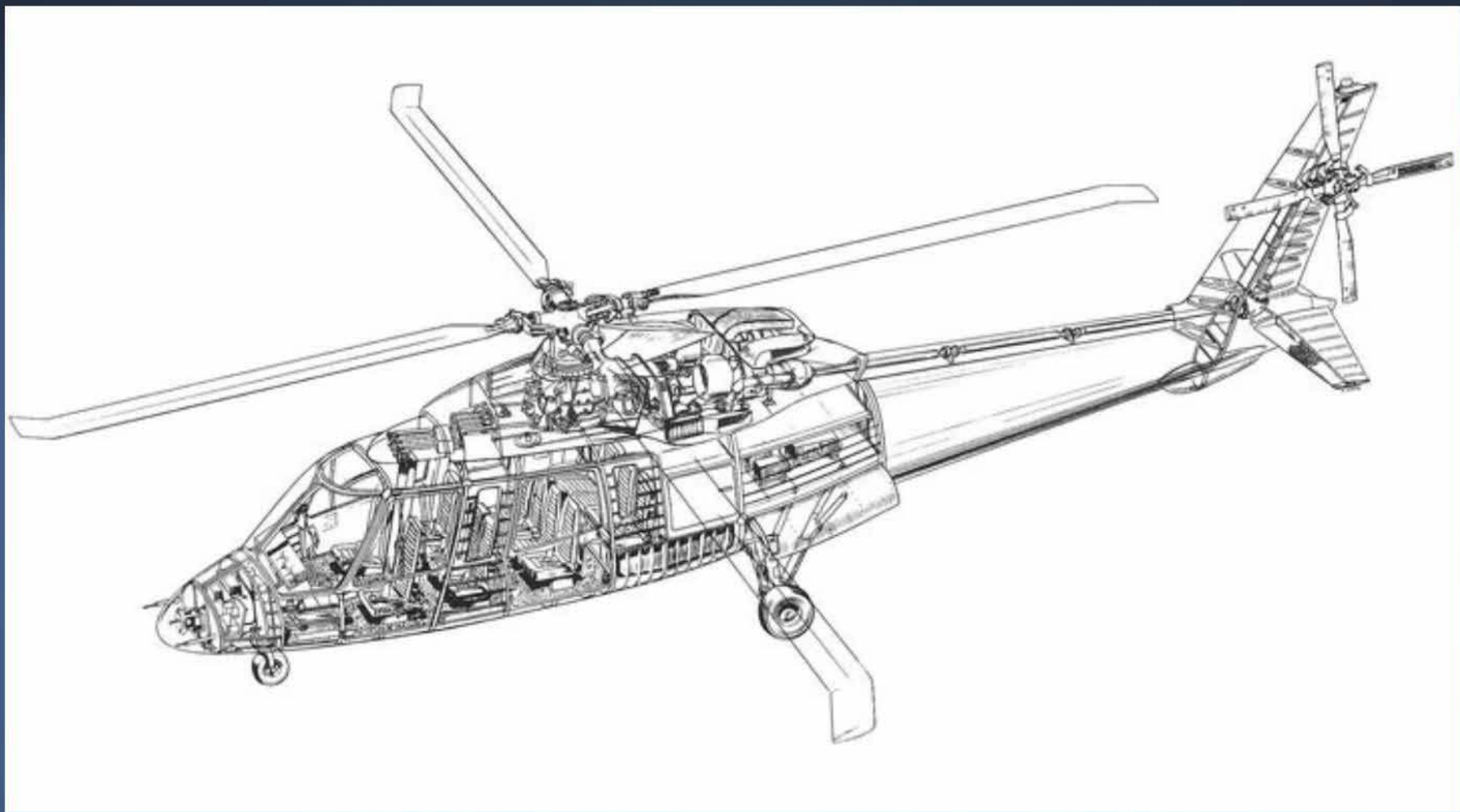
# Helicopter Overview and Investigation Techniques

Chihoon “Chich” Shin  
Aviation  
Engineering (AS-40)

# Basic Helicopter Systems







# Helicopter Controls

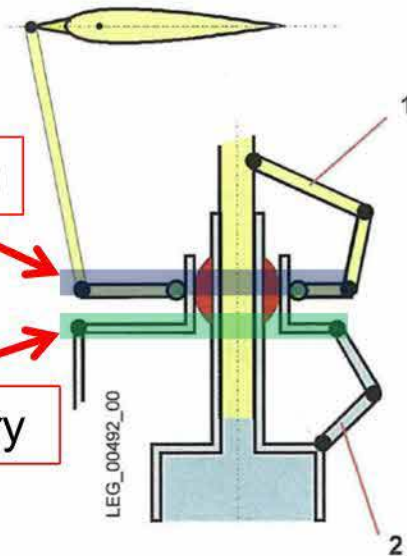




# SWASHPLATE OPERATING DIAGRAM

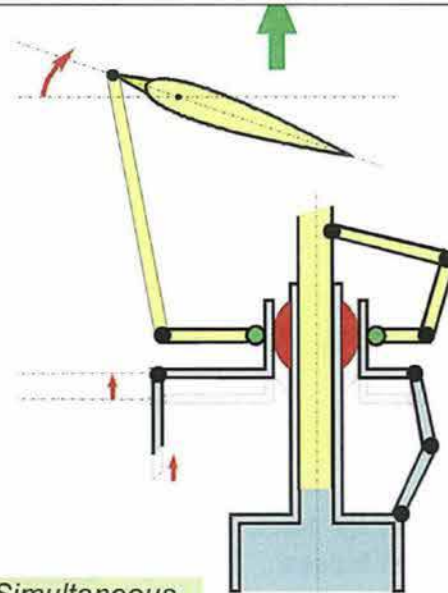
Rotating

Stationary



The upper scissors (1) is attached to the rotor shaft and drives the rotating star.  
The lower scissors (2) is attached to the casing and stops the stationary star rotating.

Simultaneous action on the 3 controls

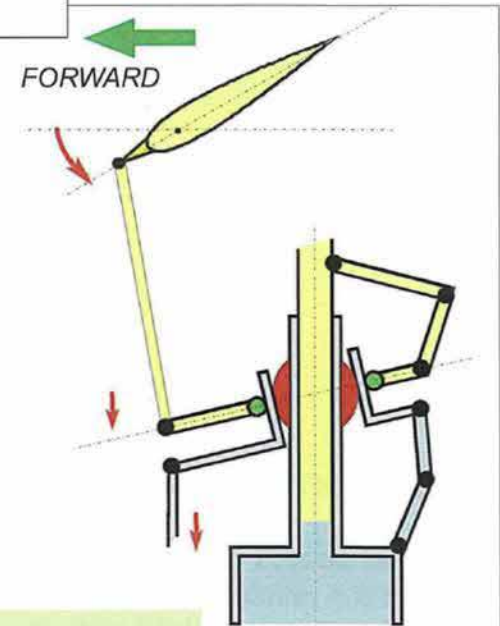


COLLECTIVE PITCH VARIATION

The balljoint slides along the rotor mast. The pitch change is the same on all 3 blades. In the above diagram, the pitch is increasing.

FORWARD

Action on the fore/aft control



CYCLIC PITCH VARIATION

The balljoint does not move but the swashplate pivots about it. In the diagram above, the pitch decreases to the front and increases to the rear.

This is an animation of a  
S-61 "Sea king" helicopter  
Rotorhead assembly.

Enjoy the movie,

Karel Kinable



# So what's different?

Example	Airplane	Helicopter
Look for signatures of engine power and rotational energy.	Propeller blades, engine(s), fuel	Rotor blades, engine(s), fuel
Look at structural integrity.	Wings, fuselage	Rotor blades, fuselage
Look for control continuity (cables, lines, linkages, surfaces).	Continuity to ailerons, rudder, elevators	Continuity of controls to swashplate, main and tail rotor
Look at actuators and subsystems.	Hydraulic, electric	Hydraulic, electric

# The Usual Suspects

- Mechanical malfunctionMaintenance issuesComponent failuresPerformance and AerodynamicsLoss of tail rotor effectiveness (LTE)Weight and balanceOperational/training issuesWire strikesErroneous pilot actionsWeather factors



# Main and tail rotor blades

- Look for impact marks and ground scars. Look for evidence of rotational energy (power): High rotational energy Significant distortion, fracturing, or shattering of blade. Spar fractures opposite the direction of normal rotation. Low rotational energy Flapwise (chord) bending Minimal damage and distortion to leading edge and spar. May generally look “intact”. Look for evidence of bird strikes. Where are the blade tips and weight packages? If low rotational energy, was drive available or deliberately removed?

# High rotational energy





# Low rotational energy





# Low rotational energy

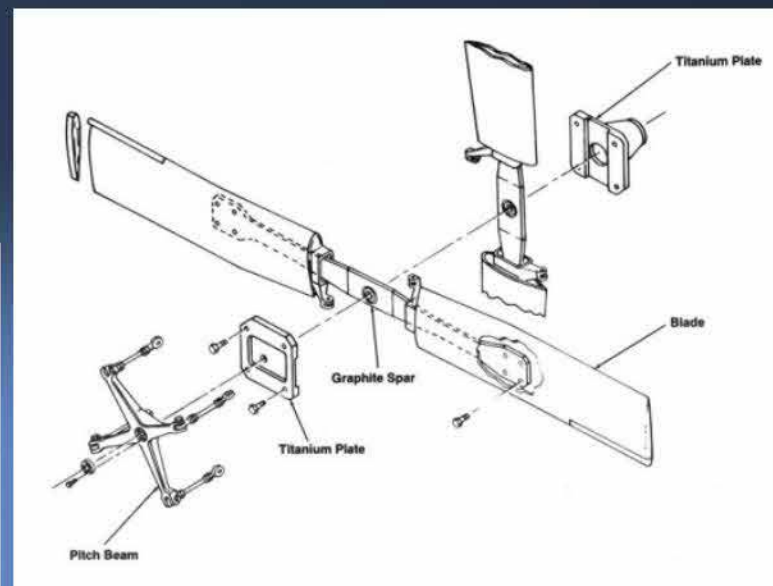
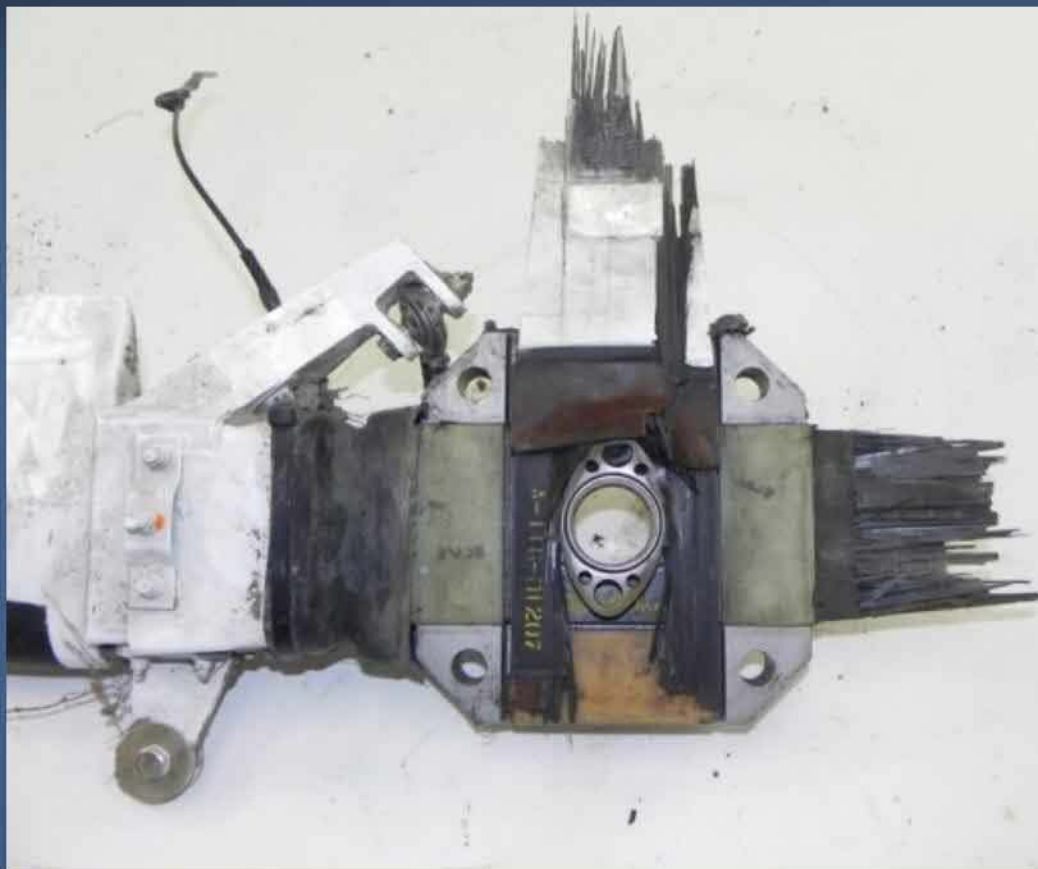




# In-Flight Blade Separation



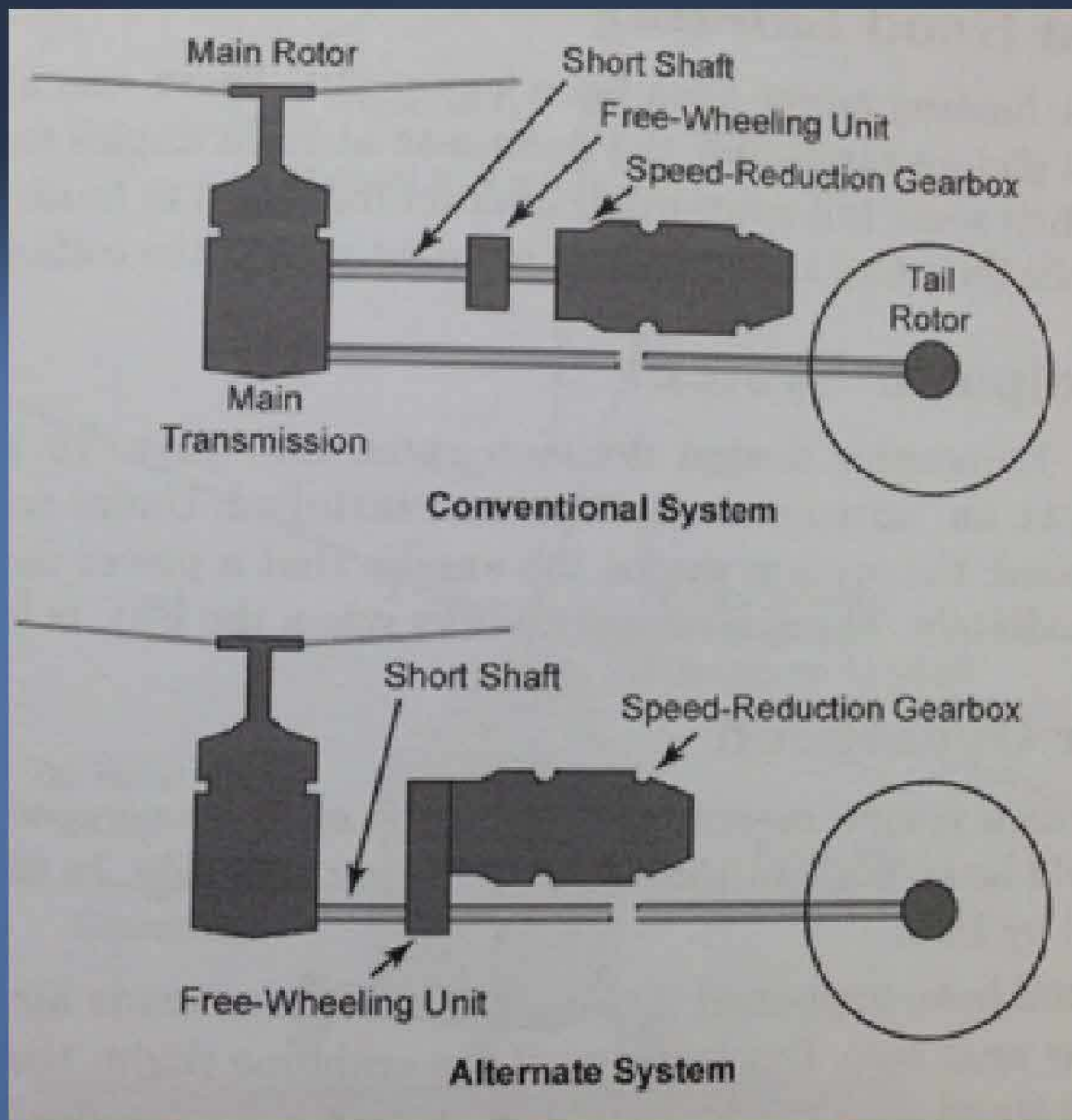
# Imbalances





# Drive shafts

- Look for evidence of: Rotational energy (was power available?) Continuity of drive Imbalance Direction of twists and smearing (if any) Twisting of drive shafts usually occur when the drive shaft has rotational energy and one end encounters resistance (“sudden stoppage”).





Main Rotor

SUDDEN  
STOPPAGE

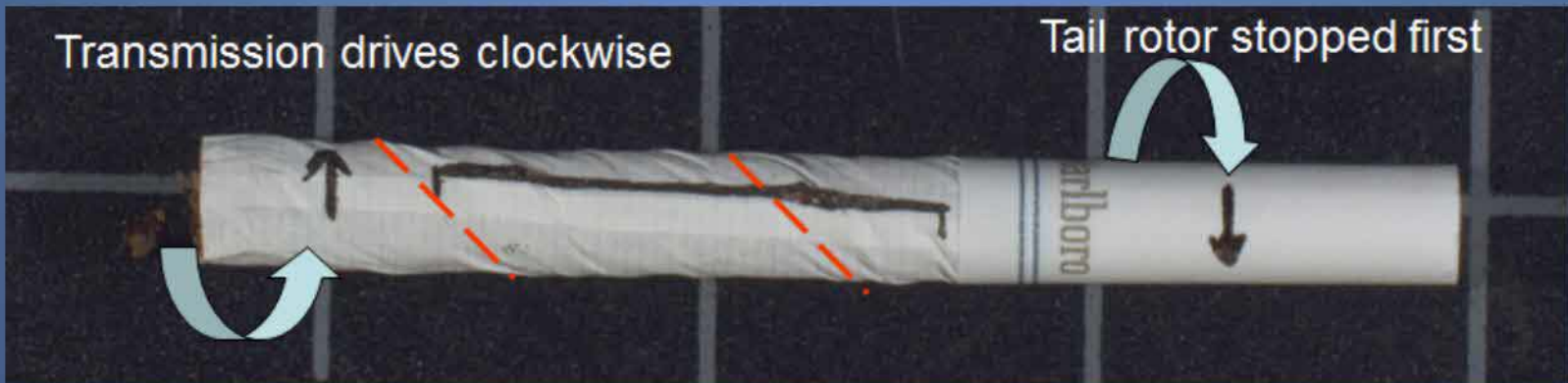
Main Transmis  
sion

Tail Rotor Drive Shaft

Tail Rotor

Transmission drives clockwise

Tail rotor stopped first



(in this example, drive shaft is spinning clockwise when aft-looking-forward)(smoking is not encouraged)

Main Rotor



Tail Rotor Drive Shaft



Tail Rotor



(in this example, drive shaft is spinning clockwise when aft-looking-forward)(smoking is not encouraged)









# Powerplant

- Was the engine producing power at the time of the accident? Things to check  
Obstructions to engine inlet  
Fuel contamination (fuel sample if possible)  
Fuel/oil delivery to engine  
Foreign object debris ingestion (soft or hard body FOD)  
Internal failure of engine component  
Blade shedding  
Thermal damage/melting of blades



Soft body FOD damage

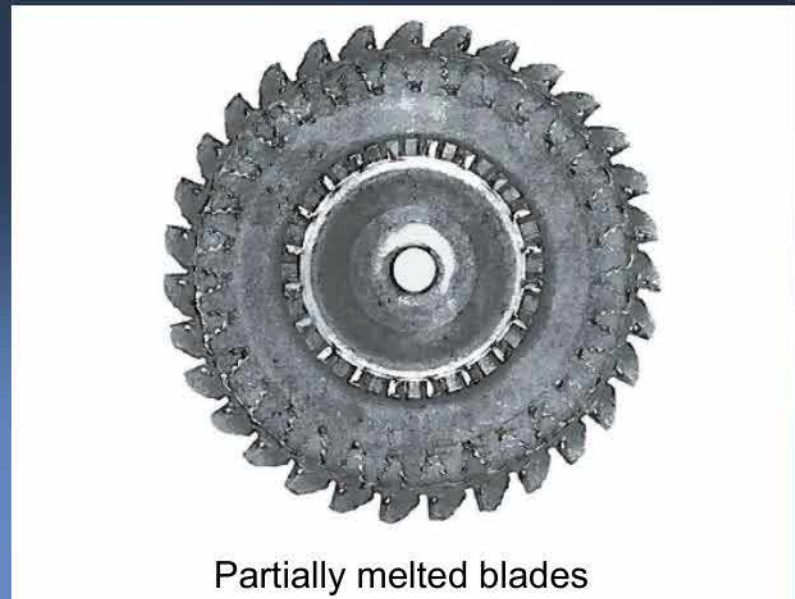


Hard body FOD damage





undamaged



Partially melted blades



Blade shedding (overspeed)

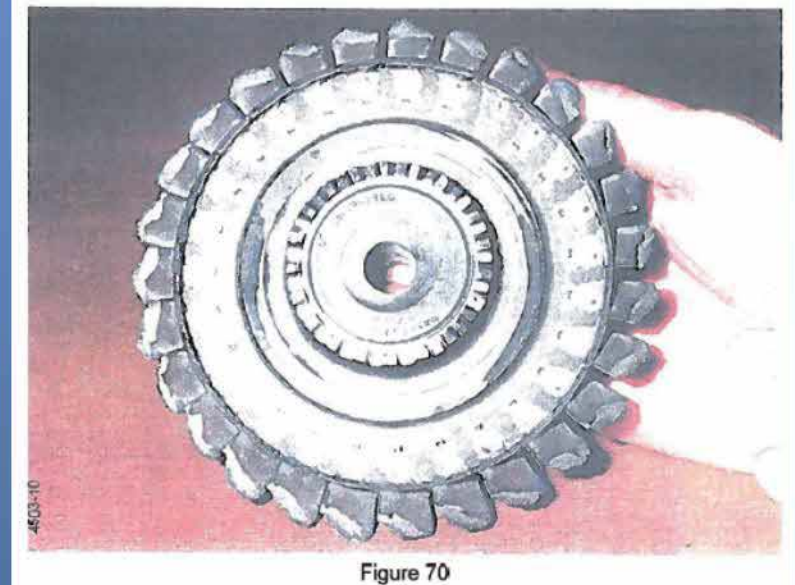


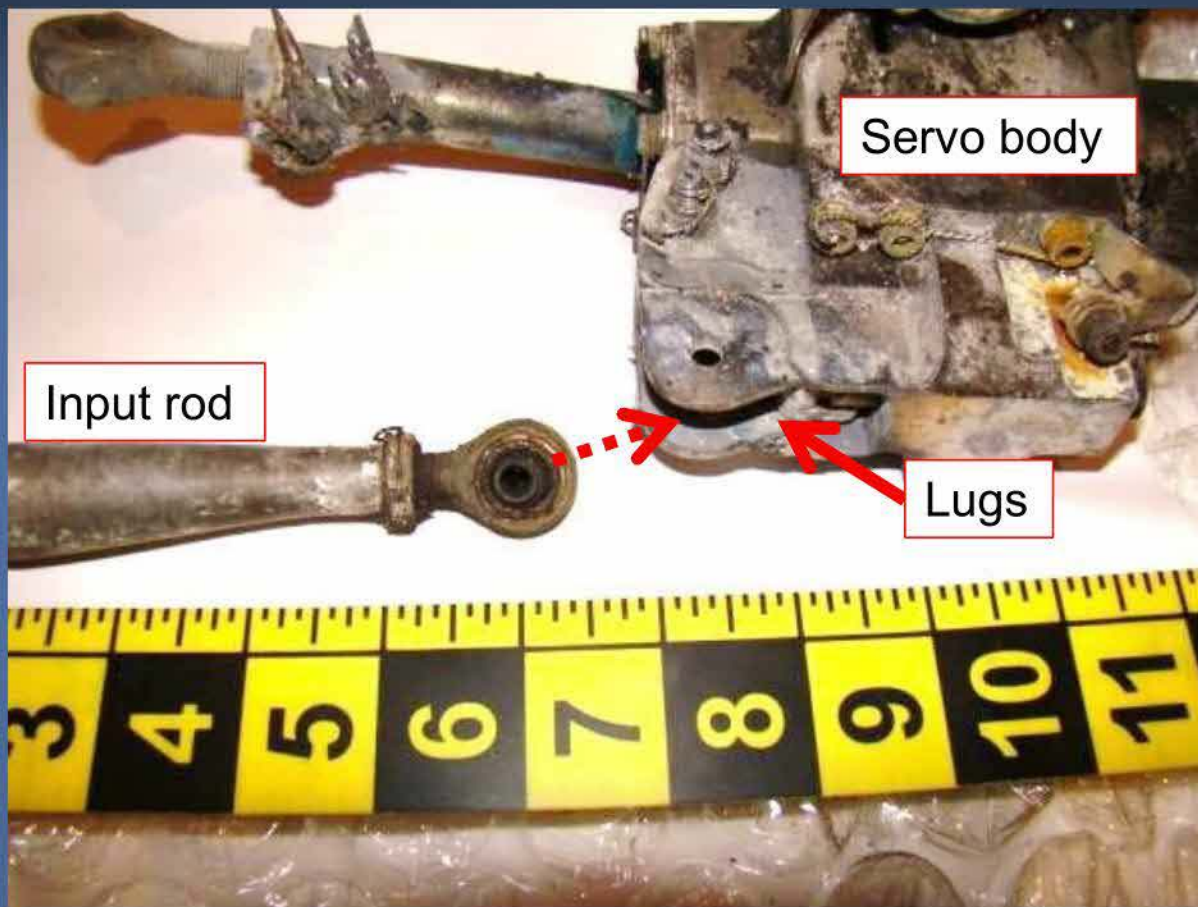
Figure 70

# Flight Controls

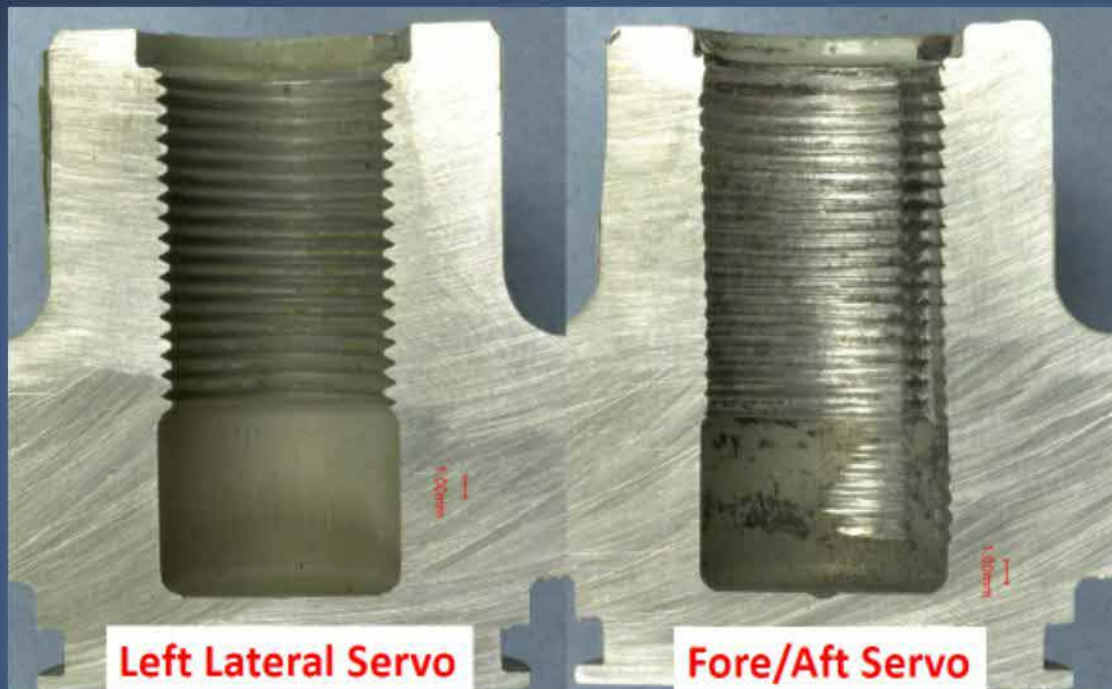
- Check linkages for continuityCheck integrity of connections between linkagesFreedom of movement (evidence of restrictions?)Hydraulic and electric actuatorsElectric: once power lost, actuators typically “lock up” in position when power was lost.Hydraulic: if system is compromised, actuators can move after system depressurization.Look for witness marks which can indicate actuator position at impact.Check hydraulic pumps and lines for integrity



# Rod end disconnect example



# Rod end thread wear example





# Hydraulic fluid leakage







# Airframe/Structures

- Structural separation in flight? Blade strike? Hard landing? Look for ground scars. Look at debris pattern.







# Loss of Tail Rotor Effectiveness (LTE)

- Not a mechanical malfunction  
Aerodynamic/performance-related  
Asking for more tail rotor anti-torque than tail rotor can produce.  
Factors that could induce LTE include relative/changing winds, gross weight, airspeed, and tail rotor design.





**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

# Helicopter Accident Case Study

# Case Study

- Bell UH-1H helicopterOne  
Honeywell (Lycoming)  
T53-L-13B engineNear Dove  
Creek, COJuly 16, 2013Injuries: 1  
fatalNTSB Case No. CEN13FA415



# Background

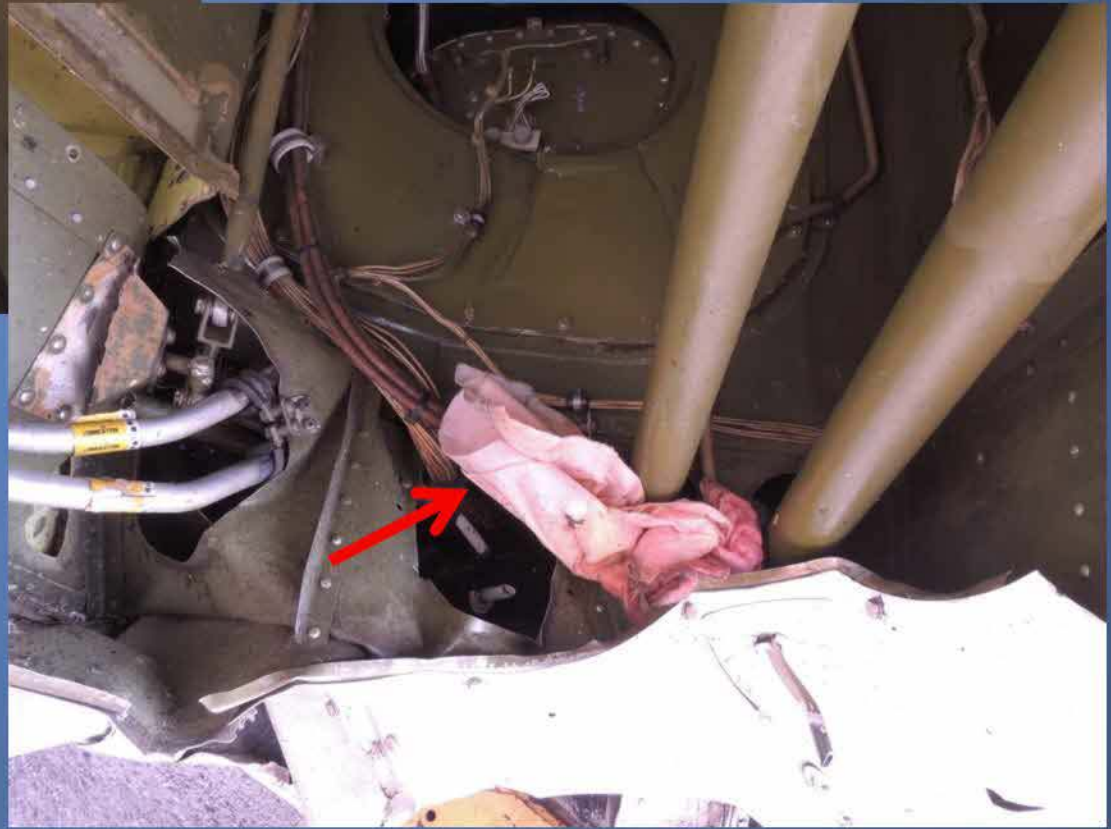
- On July 16, 2013, about 0955 MDT, a Bell UH-1H helicopter was substantially damaged after a loss of control and ground impact. Part 133 Class B rotorcraft external load operation (basket load via long line). Ground witnesses stated pilot overshot intended drop site and the basket load impacted the ground, followed immediately by the 150 ft long line. At the same time, helicopter entered a right bank, followed by a steep left bank until ground impact.

# Wreckage Examination

- All major components accounted for on scene. Evidence of engine providing power at the time of the accident. Hydraulic check valve in the area of undistorted aft belly compartment structure could be rotated by hand. Several rags soaked with hydraulic fluid found in the same compartment. Bulb filament analysis revealed hydraulic pressure annunciator and auxiliary master caution lights exhibited evidence of stretching. Remainder of annunciator bulbs did not appear stretched.









# Lab Examination

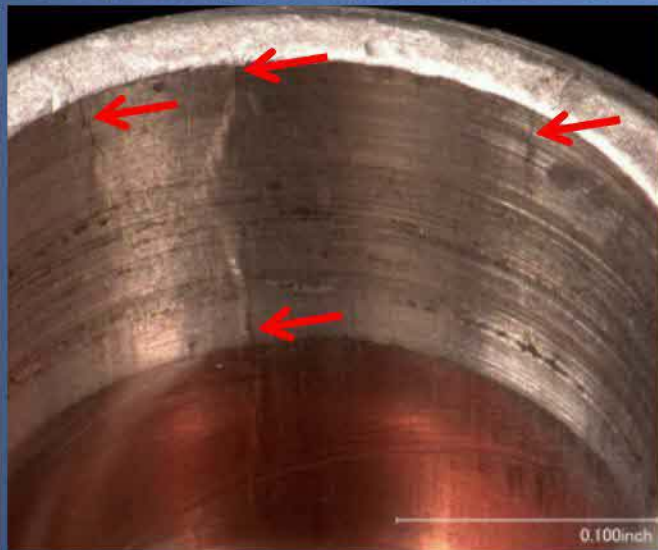
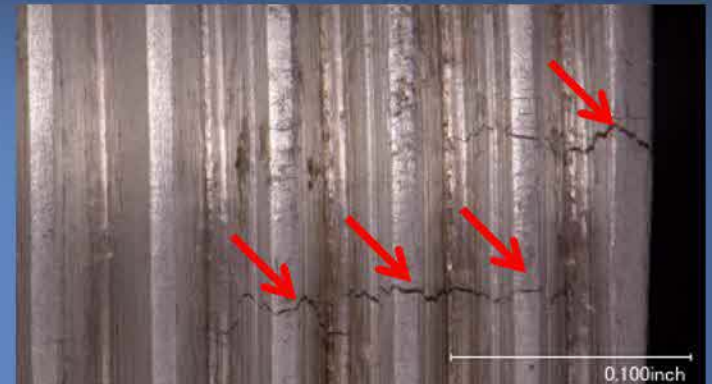
- Bench testing of check valve revealed a severe hydraulic leak. Bunched teflon [tape] found on outlet threads of check valve. Stress corrosion cracks found on both inlet and outlet ends of check valve.



inlet



outlet





# Maintenance History

- Mechanic stated that hydraulic leaks had been a long term challenge with the accident helicopter. Mechanic and accident pilot aware of a slow, weeping hydraulic leak in the aft belly of fuselage, but did not foresee the leak causing a significant issue. Replacement components for the area of the leak, including hydraulic lines and a check valve, were due to arrive within days of the accident. Utilized teflon tape in an attempt to help the check valve fittings “grab” more effectively.

# “Test Flight”

- Unbeknownst to NTSB and FAA, the operator performed a long line hydraulics off “test flight” at a higher altitude to simulate accident helicopter conditions. The operator stated that due to the high forces on the collective, the flying pilot would have a tendency to brace themselves on the cyclic to pull up on the collective stick.



# Operations Culture

- The operator described the operating environment at the survey site as “tense”. Operator terminated a pilot after reports that said pilot was flying aggressively at the survey site. Survey personnel expressed dissatisfaction to the accident pilot regarding the termination of the previous pilot.

# Operations Culture

- Survey personnel were “timing” the accident pilot and informing the operator that the accident pilot was taking “50% longer” than the terminated pilot in performing the same operations. Accident pilot had expressed concern about losing the survey contract. Mechanic stated feeling pressure to ensure flights were completed.



# Resultant Safety Actions

- TC holder working with FAA on flight manual change regarding the potential for over-controlling helicopter at low airspeeds after a loss of hydraulic pressure. TC holder working to develop a STC for a low hydraulic fluid level warning system.

# Probable Cause

- Pilot-induced oscillations caused by the loss of hydraulic assist of the flight controls due to an excessive loss of hydraulic fluid during a critical phase of flight, which resulted in ground impact. Contributing to the accident was an inadequate analysis of the hydraulic fluid leak by the pilot and mechanic.





# National Transportation Safety Board



**NTSB** National Transportation Safety Board

---

*Office of Aviation Safety*



**Department of Energy**  
**Basic Accident Investigation**  
**Environmental Factors - Weather**

*Donald Eick ("Ike")*

NTSB Senior Meteorologist



## Background & Experience





# Accident Investigations: A Meteorological Perspective



# Accident Notification

Call comes in about midnight reporting a DOE helicopter down, location outside of “Auchtermucky” around 2130, fatal, cause and details unknown! Get your bag ready, your being launched!

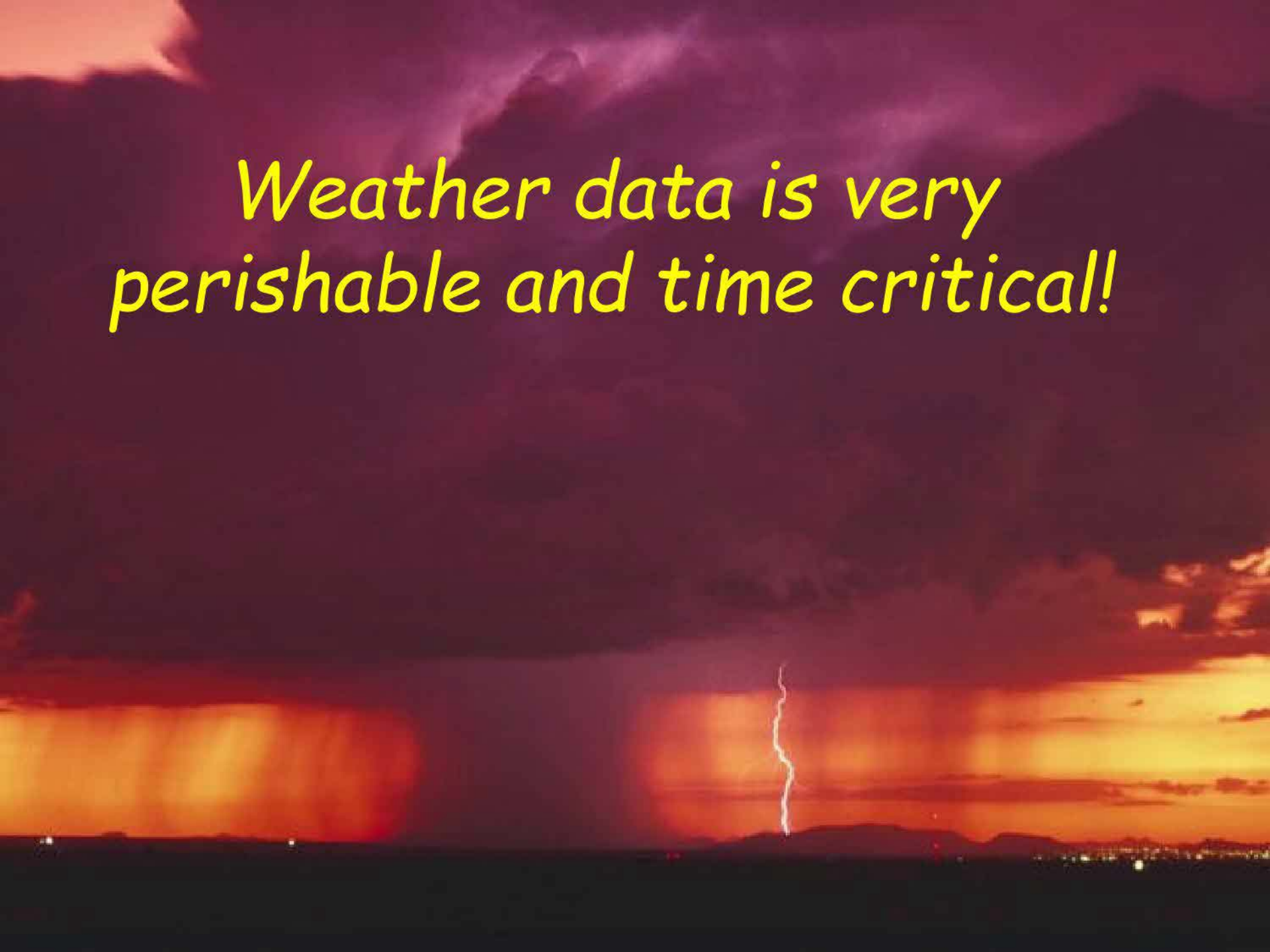


- Notification of accident!
  - DOE Aviation Safety Manager
  - Aviation Safety Officer (ASO)





*Weather data is very  
perishable and time critical!*

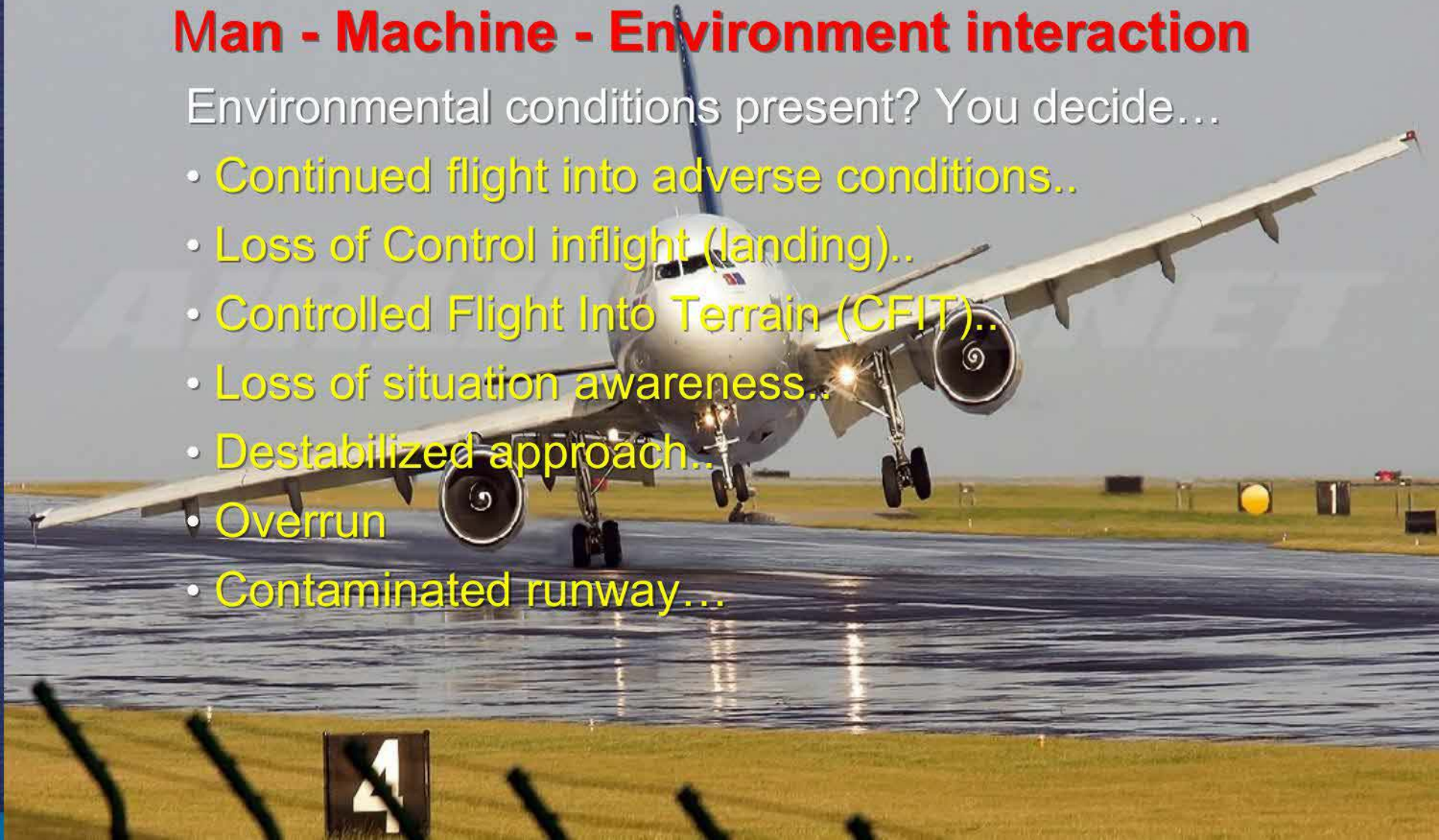


# All weather operations

## Man - Machine - Environment interaction

Environmental conditions present? You decide...

- Continued flight into adverse conditions..
- Loss of Control inflight (landing)..
- Controlled Flight Into Terrain (CFIT)..
- Loss of situation awareness..
- Destabilized approach..
- Overrun
- Contaminated runway...





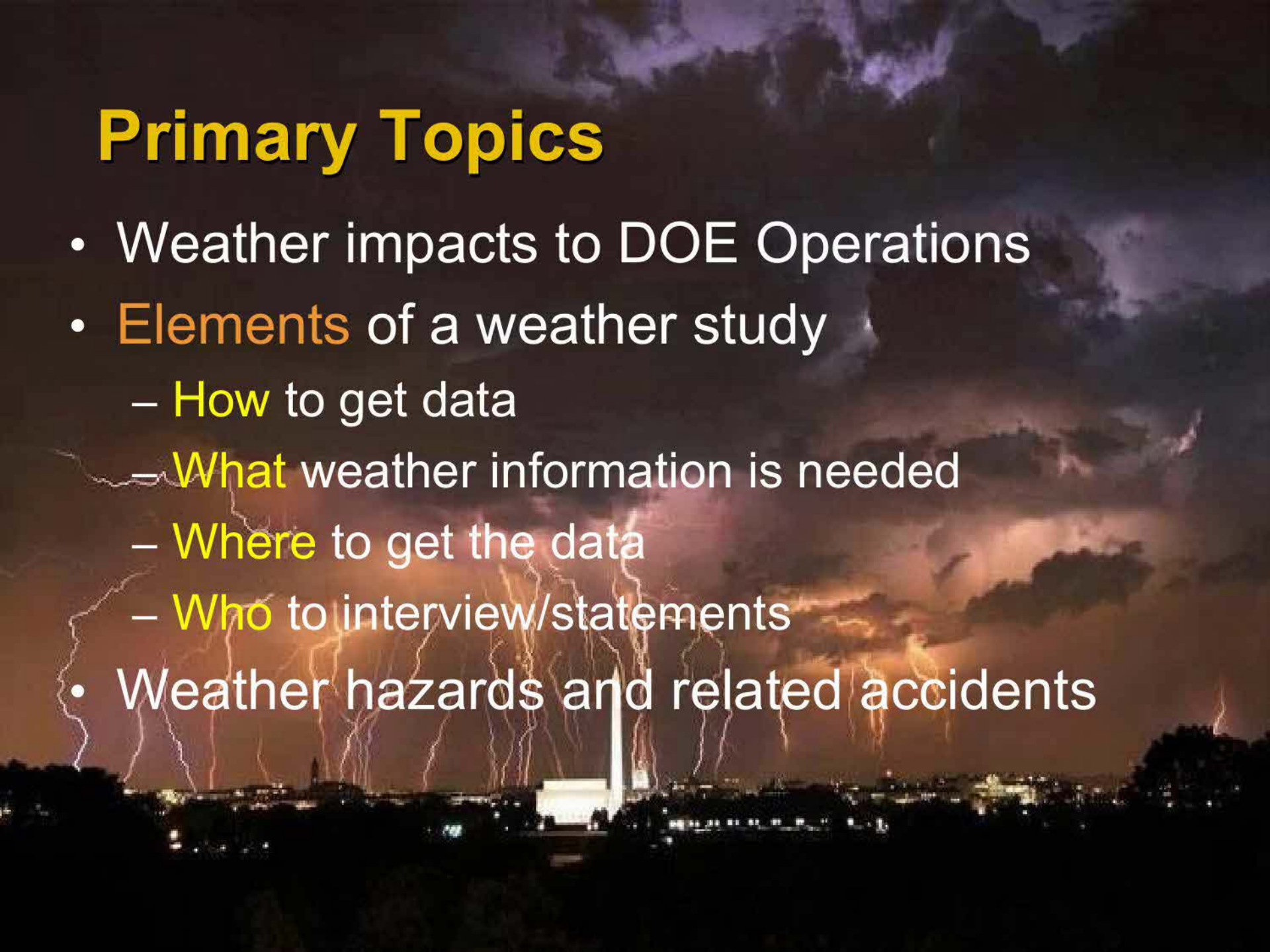
# ***Weather Related Accidents***



**Environmental factors listed as a leading cause or factor in the majority of all accidents**

# Primary Topics

- Weather impacts to DOE Operations
- Elements of a weather study
  - How to get data
  - What weather information is needed
  - Where to get the data
  - Who to interview/statements
- Weather hazards and related accidents

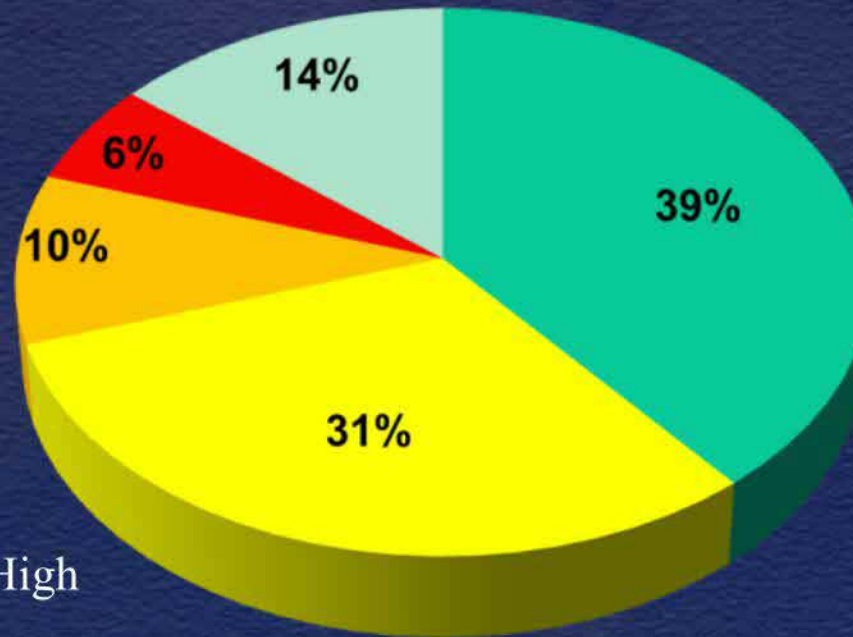




# Department of Energy Flight Operations



B-737-300	(2) High
DC-9-33	(1)
B200/350	(5) Mid
Bell 206/407	(7)
Bell 412	(2) Low Altitude
BK117	(2)
TOTAL	19



## Operations

- Transportation
- Aerial Patrol
- Survey
- Photography
- Other



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# Meteorological Hazards

- **Low-altitude operations**
  - Adverse winds
  - VFR into IMC; fog, brownout
  - Loss of control in IMC
    - spatial disorientation
  - Thunderstorms; gust fronts, haboobs & microbursts
  - Winter Wx conditions – whiteout, icing
- **Mid-altitude operations**
  - In-flight icing
  - Inadvertent entry into adverse weather (TSTMS)
- **High-altitude operations**
  - Turbulence; CAT, CIT, mountain wave
  - High-altitude Ice Crystal Icing
  - Volcanic ash



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# Adverse Winds



- Crosswind
- Tailwind
- Windshifts (45°)
- High gusting winds
- Gust fronts
- Low-level wind shear (LLWS)
- Helicopters – no wind
  - Transitional lift
  - Loss Tail-rotor Effectiveness (LTE)

# Adverse Winds Example

- Fiji Helicopter

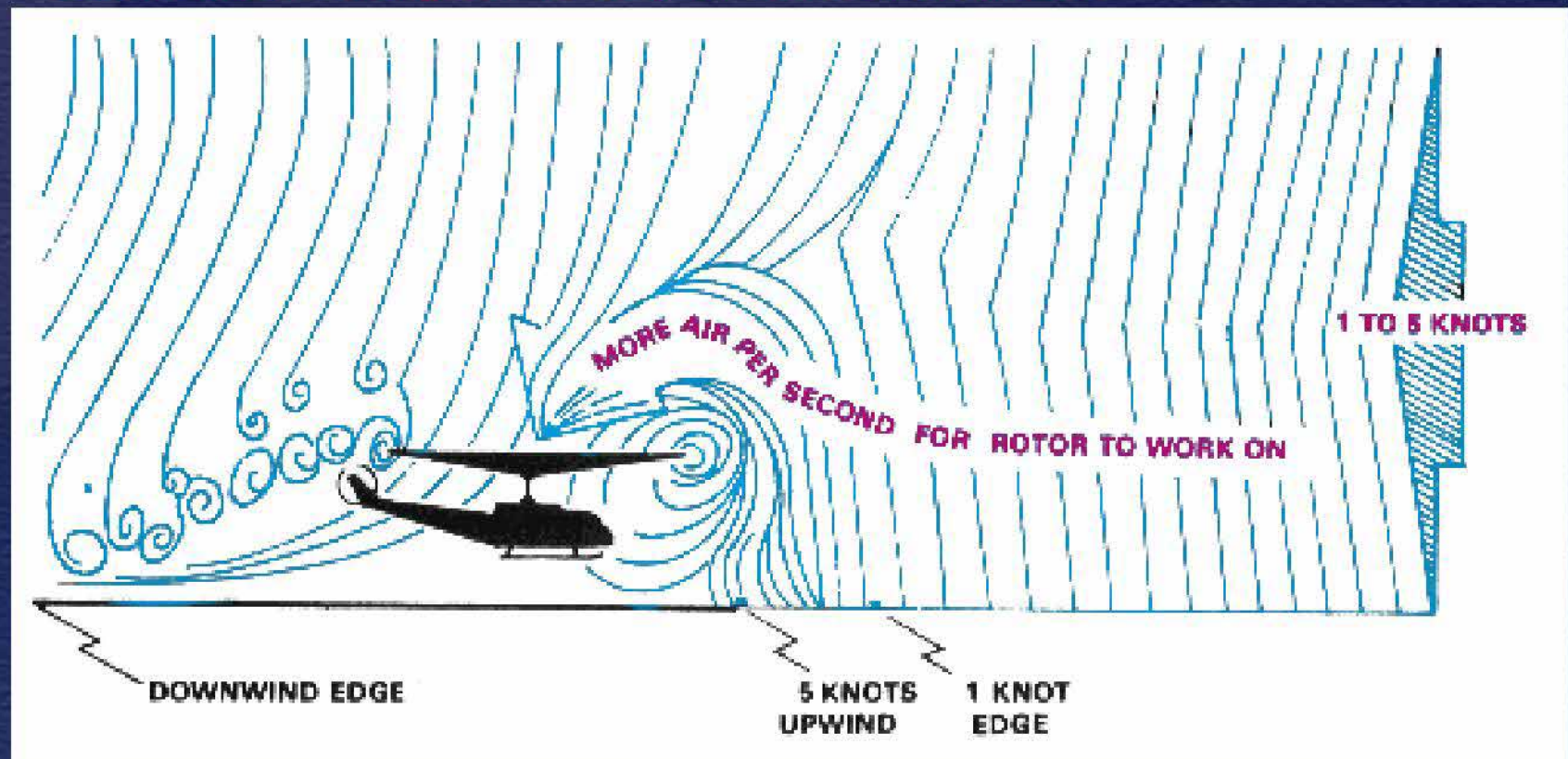




# Transitional Lift

Light winds 1-5 KT – reduce helicopter performance

Carlson Helicopter S-61, Weaverville, CA

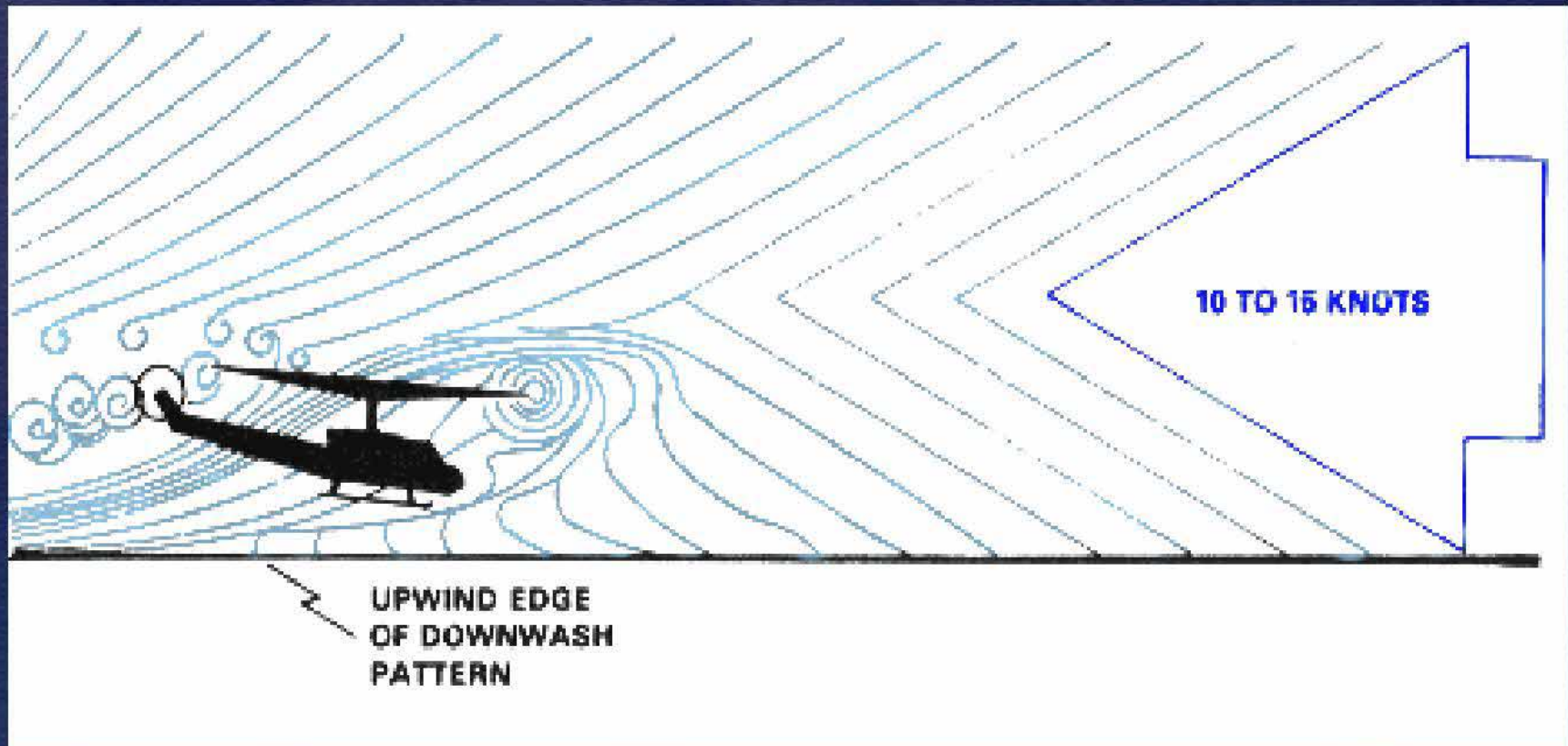


- Efficiency of the hovering rotor system is improved with each knot of wind.



# Transitional Lift

Winds 10 – 15 KT less power required

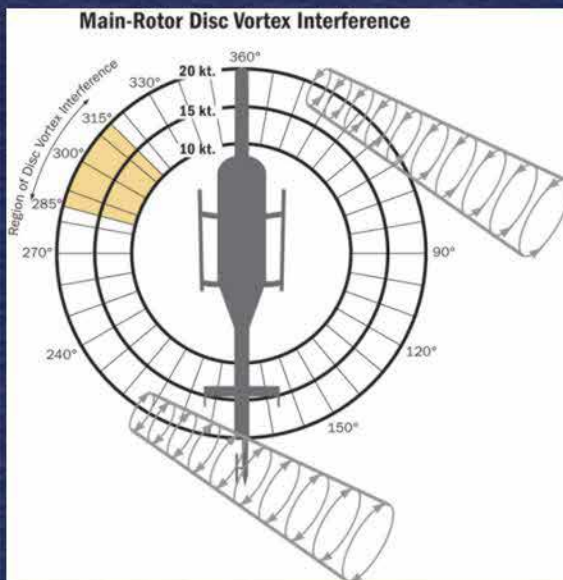


The leading edge downwash pattern is being overrun and is well back under the helicopter.

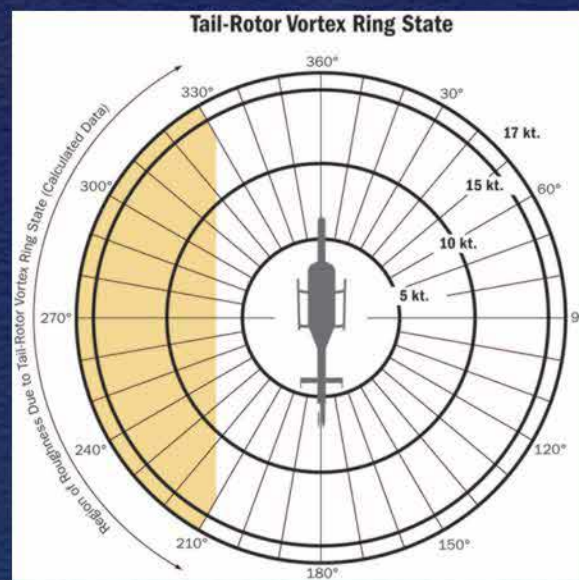


# Critical Wind Directions

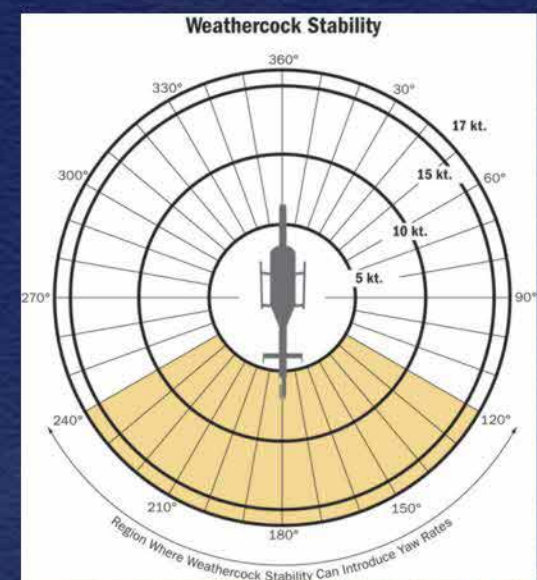
- Wind direction critical to helicopters approach, landing, or at hover:
  - Loss of tail-rotor effectiveness (LTE)
  - Vortex ring state
  - Weathercock stability



285°-315°



210°-330°



120°-240°





Mount Hood USAF UH-60  
May 30, 2002  
1351 local (2051Z)

- 10,700 feet
- **Wind shift**
- Loss of rotor RPM
- Uncontrolled right yaw
- Crew survives
- Damage \$3,750,385.29

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# Low Ceilings & Visibility

- ✈ **Not a violent or dynamic weather event**
- ✈ **Common fatal weather related accident cause:**
  - ✈ **VFR into IMC conditions**
  - ✈ **Spatial Disorientation**
  - ✈ **CFIT**
- ✈ **Flight crew not adhering to standard instrument approach procedures**

THE  
FOG

# Last comment on CVR:



Say... what's a mountain goat doing way up here in a cloud bank?





*What was the worst aircraft  
accident in history?*

# Fog and Runway Incursions



WX M1/4SM FG VV001

NTSB





# Tenerife, Canary Islands

## Pan Am and KLM B747's

March 27, 1977

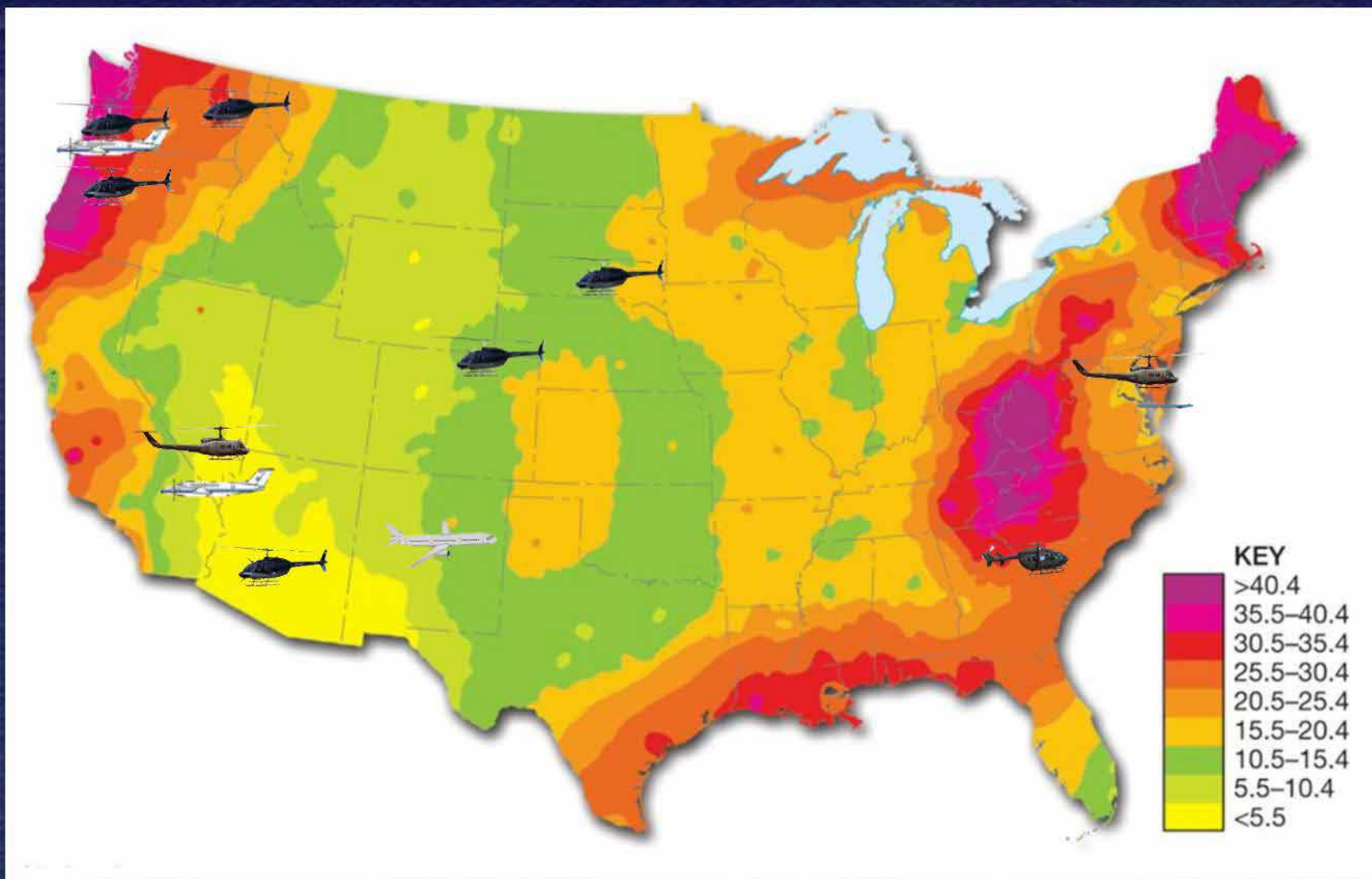


Worst aviation accident in history - 583 fatalities  
61 survivors from Pan Am

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# Average number of days per year with dense fog



Dense Fog – visibility less than 1/4SM

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# Love Ceilings & Visibility



- All aircraft impacted
- Helicopter operations most susceptible to encountering unforecast & local restricted visibility conditions
- Loss of control in IMC events almost always fatal

# DOE Flight Department Safety Manager



- DOE Bell 406 returning from survey work coming into for landing hit by gust of wind, and began to spin uncontrollable, and impacted terrain.
- Thunderstorm in vicinity
- Substantial damage & minor injuries
- NTSB limited investigation (telephone)
- Boss wants to know what happened and now!

NTSB





**CEN12LA258 – Amarillo, TX**  
**Bell 406B, N2068X**  
**April 26, 2012 @ 1645 CDT**



- Part 91 aerial observation
- Day VMC prevailed
- Pilot: commercial/CFI helicopter 1,105 hours
- Wx briefing: ForeFlight, MyRadar, Aero Weather
- Pilot aware of thunderstorms & lightning close to the airport, trying to beat storm in (heading 150°)
- Caught in wind gust, lifted helicopter & uncommanded turn, spinning to the right, impacting ground
- Helicopter destroyed, 2 shaken but uninjured
- What happened?

# ***THE INVESTIGATION***

A black and white photograph of a man, likely a detective, wearing a dark fedora and a light-colored trench coat. He has a mustache and is looking intently through a magnifying glass held in his gloved hand. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an outdoor setting with a building and a lamp post.

***Determine the facts, conditions, and circumstances relating to an accident or incident and the probable causes.***



# Elements of an Investigation

- Define the environment
- Relate the environmental conditions to the accident
- Evaluate weather products and services



# Common Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data
- Satellite imagery
- Radar imagery
- Lightning data
- NWS advisories and forecast
- Weather briefing documents
- Witness statements & interviews
- Astronomical data





# Weather Elements

- **Synoptic Conditions:**
  - NWS Surface Analysis Chart
    - Define the major pressure systems and boundaries influencing the area, wind, and weather
  - NWS Weather Depiction Charts
    - Extent of **IFR** / **MVFR** / **VFR** areas
  - Regional Radar Mosaic images
  - NWS Constant Pressure Charts
    - Upper air features and support, such as jet stream
  - NWS Prognostic Charts
    - Forecast conditions
  - Convective Outlook
    - Thunderstorm extent and severity



# Aviation Weather Services

## AVIATION WEATHER SERVICES

Advisory Circular,  
AC 00-45G,  
Change 1



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION



Photo courtesy of Aaron A. Gistad

Published July 29, 2010

## AC 00-45G

- Basic reference guide how to read and interpret all NWS weather products
- Listed as required knowledge in FAA Airmen test guides

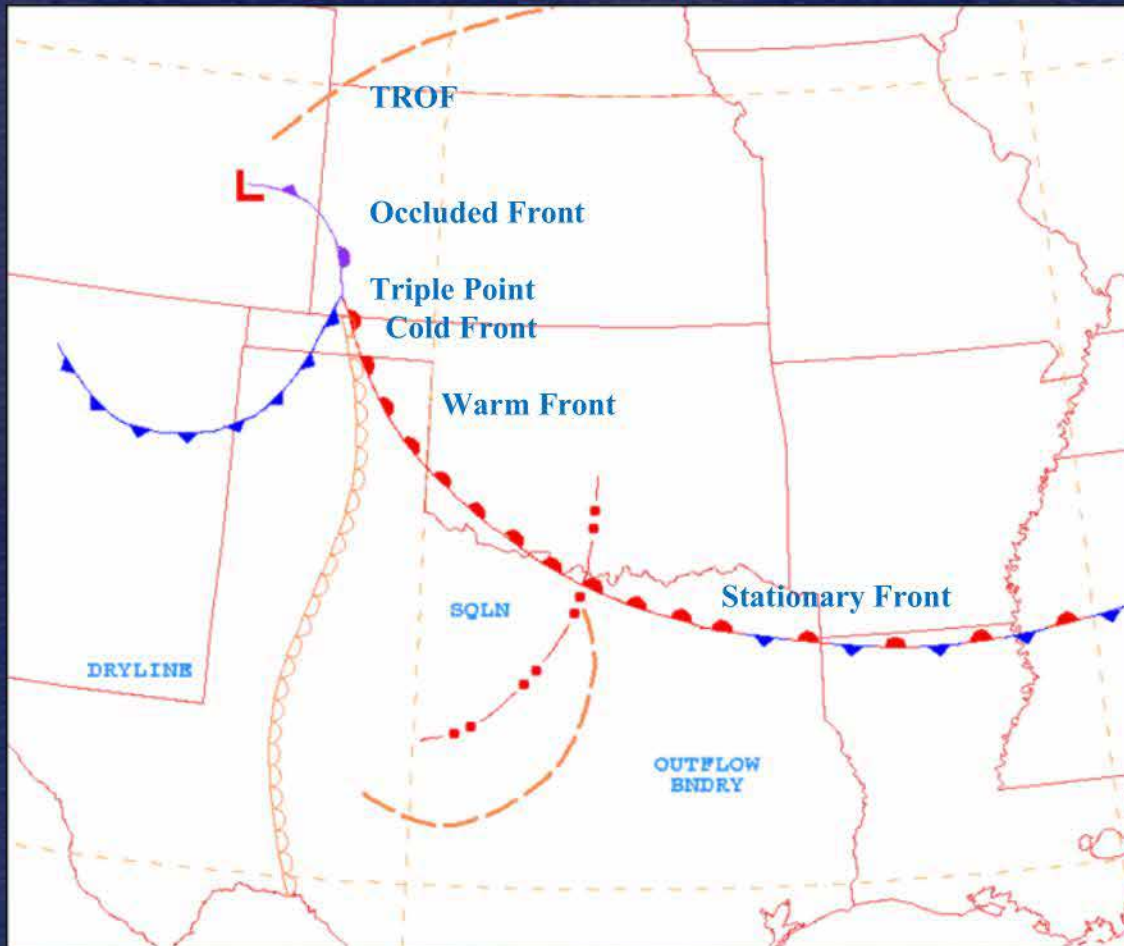
[http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/)

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# Surface Analysis



## Key features:

- Pressure systems
- Fronts
  - Occluded
  - Cold
  - Warm
  - Stationary
- Boundaries
  - Trough “trof”
  - Dryline
  - Squall line
  - Outflow

Boundaries are locations providing forceful lifting of the airmass and support wind shifts, clouds, and weather



# Synoptic Conditions: Archive Surface Analysis from Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

**National Weather Service**  
**Weather Prediction Center**

Site Map    News    Organization



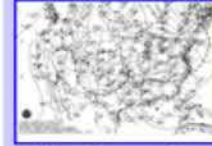
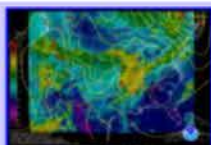
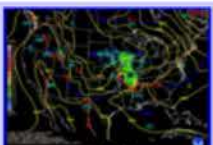
DOC NOAA NWS    NCEP Centers: AWC CPC EMC NCO NHC OPC SPC SWPC WPC

Local forecast by:  
"City, St" or Zip Code  
City, St    Go

Search WPC  
Go

**WPC's Surface Analysis Archive**  
[United States \(CONUS\)](#)    [North America](#)  
[About the Surface Archive](#)

**Recent United States (CONUS) Analyses**

 (No observations, color) <a href="#">Latest image</a> Loop: [3] [7] Days	 (With observations, color) <a href="#">Latest image</a> Loop: [3] [7] Days	 (With observations, B&W) <a href="#">Latest image</a> Loop: [3] [7] Days
 (IR Satellite Imagery) <a href="#">Latest image</a> Loop: [3] [7] Days	 (Radar Imagery) <a href="#">Latest image</a> Loop: [3] [7] Days	

**Archive of United States (CONUS) Analyses**

Select an individual map from the archive  
Earliest available map is from March 29, 2006 at 18 UTC

Date:  Time:  UTC  
Map:

**Left Sidebar:**

- NCEP Quarterly Newsletter
- WPC Home
- Analyses and Forecasts
- National Forecast Charts
- National High & Low
- WPC Discussions
- Surface Analysis
- Days 1-2: CONUS
- Days 3-7: CONUS
- Days 4-8: Alaska
- QPF
- PQPF
- Excessive Rainfall
- Mesoscale Precip Discussion
- Flood Outlook
- Winter Weather
- Storm Summaries
- Heat Index
- Tropical Products
- Daily Weather Map
- GIS Products
- Current Watches/Warnings
- Satellite and Radar Imagery
- Satellite Images
- National Radar
- Product Archive
- WPC Verification
- QPF
- Medium Range
- Model Diagnostics
- Event Reviews
- Winter Weather
- International Desk

Data from 2005

Map options:

- United States (CONUS)
- Fronts/Analysis only
- Analysis/Satellite Composite
- Analysis/Radar
- High resolution map

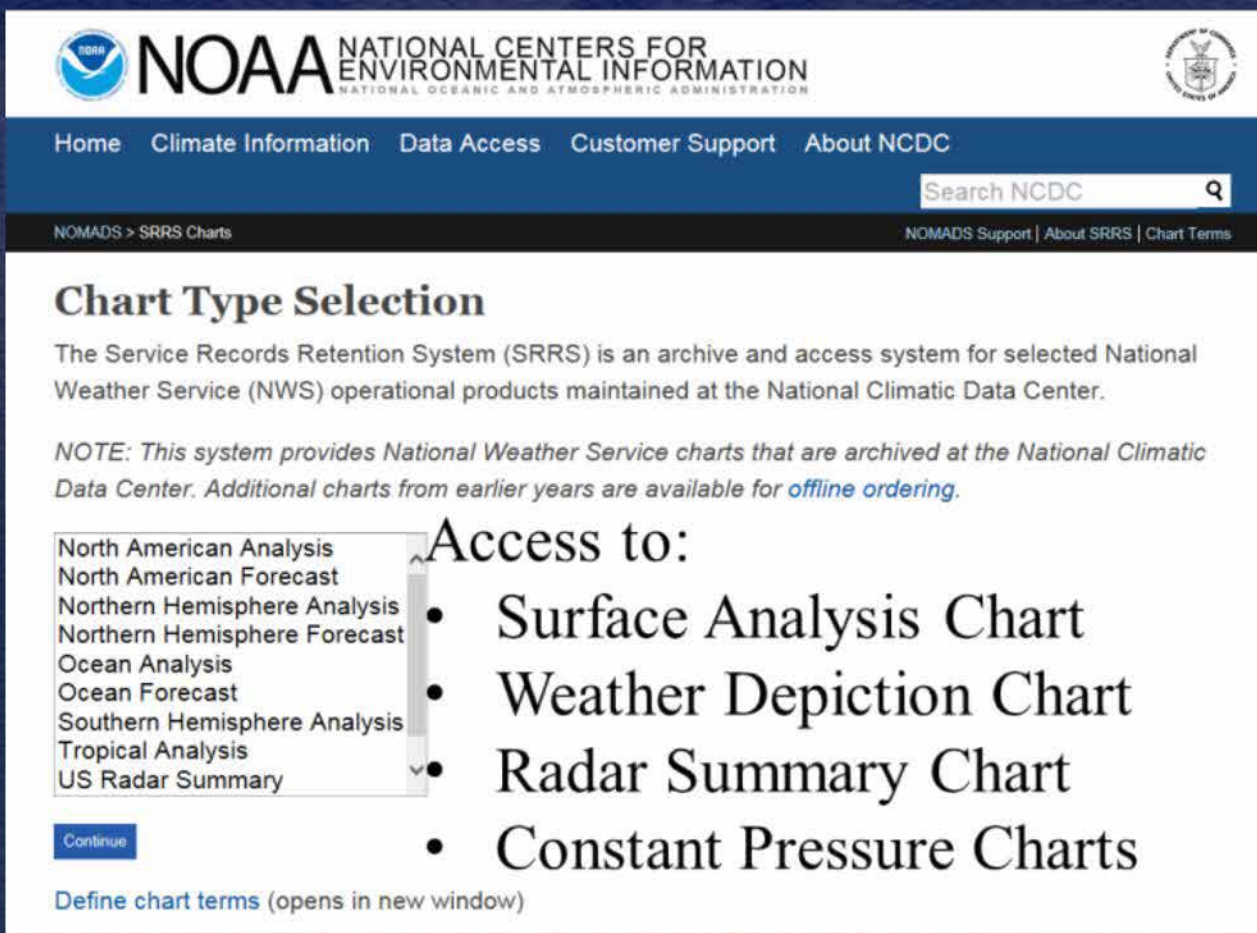
[http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/archives/web\\_pages/sfc/sfc\\_archive.php](http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/archives/web_pages/sfc/sfc_archive.php)

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# National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) Weather Chart Archive



The screenshot shows the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) website. At the top, the NOAA logo and the text "NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION" and "NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION" are visible. Below this is a navigation bar with links: Home, Climate Information, Data Access, Customer Support, and About NCDC. A search bar labeled "Search NCDC" is also present. Below the navigation bar, a dark banner contains the text "NOMADS > SRRS Charts" on the left and "NOMADS Support | About SRRS | Chart Terms" on the right. The main content area is titled "Chart Type Selection" and contains a paragraph explaining the Service Records Retention System (SRRS). Below this paragraph is a "NOTE" about the system. To the left of the "Access to:" section is a dropdown menu with the following options: North American Analysis, North American Forecast, Northern Hemisphere Analysis, Northern Hemisphere Forecast, Ocean Analysis, Ocean Forecast, Southern Hemisphere Analysis, Tropical Analysis, and US Radar Summary. To the right of the dropdown menu, under the heading "Access to:", is a bulleted list of chart types: Surface Analysis Chart, Weather Depiction Chart, Radar Summary Chart, and Constant Pressure Charts. Below the dropdown menu is a "Continue" button. At the bottom of the main content area is a link "Define chart terms (opens in new window)".

NOAA NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Home Climate Information Data Access Customer Support About NCDC

Search NCDC

NOMADS > SRRS Charts NOMADS Support | About SRRS | Chart Terms

## Chart Type Selection

The Service Records Retention System (SRRS) is an archive and access system for selected National Weather Service (NWS) operational products maintained at the National Climatic Data Center.

*NOTE: This system provides National Weather Service charts that are archived at the National Climatic Data Center. Additional charts from earlier years are available for [offline ordering](#).*

North American Analysis  
North American Forecast  
Northern Hemisphere Analysis  
Northern Hemisphere Forecast  
Ocean Analysis  
Ocean Forecast  
Southern Hemisphere Analysis  
Tropical Analysis  
US Radar Summary

### Access to:

- Surface Analysis Chart
- Weather Depiction Chart
- Radar Summary Chart
- Constant Pressure Charts

[Continue](#)

[Define chart terms](#) (opens in new window)

Formerly known as National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)  
<http://nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov/ncep/NCEP>

NTSB





2100Z SURFACE ANALYSIS  
DATE: THU APR 26 2012  
ISSUED: 2231Z THU APR 26 2012  
BY HPC ANALYST KONG  
COLLABORATING CENTERS: HPC





WEATHER WATCH AREAS

AREA	START	END
WS0191	1915Z	0100Z
WS0192	2045Z	0300Z

US DEPT OF COMMERCE  
NOAA/NWS/NCIP

2119Z THU 26 APR 2012 RADAR SUMMARY



# Radar Coded Message (RCM) Plot – Radar Summary

## Plymouth State Weather Center

Make Your Own...

### Archived Radar Control Message (RCM) Data Maps

Radar Control Message (RCM) summaries are composites of high resolution NEXRAD reflectivity data that have been mapped to 10-km gridded resolution. This process loses some detail, but it still provides much finer resolution than corresponding Manually Digitized Radar (MDR) report-based maps. RCM reports also are provided every hour to the hourly frequency of MDR reports.

Contiguous US  
New Hampshire  
New England  
Northeast  
Mid-Atlantic  
Southeast  
Midwest  
Southern Plains  
Northwest  
Southwest

center location(and zoom factor), type, date/time, county option, and size for the map.

Type:

Radar Summary

Date/Time:

2012 Apr 26 2145 Z

County Outlines:

No counties

Map Size:

640x480

Center Location: Zoom Factor:

KAMA

No Zoom

Click Here to Make the Map

Reset

- NWS discontinued making Radar Summary Charts in 2013
- RCM image provides a quick radar image

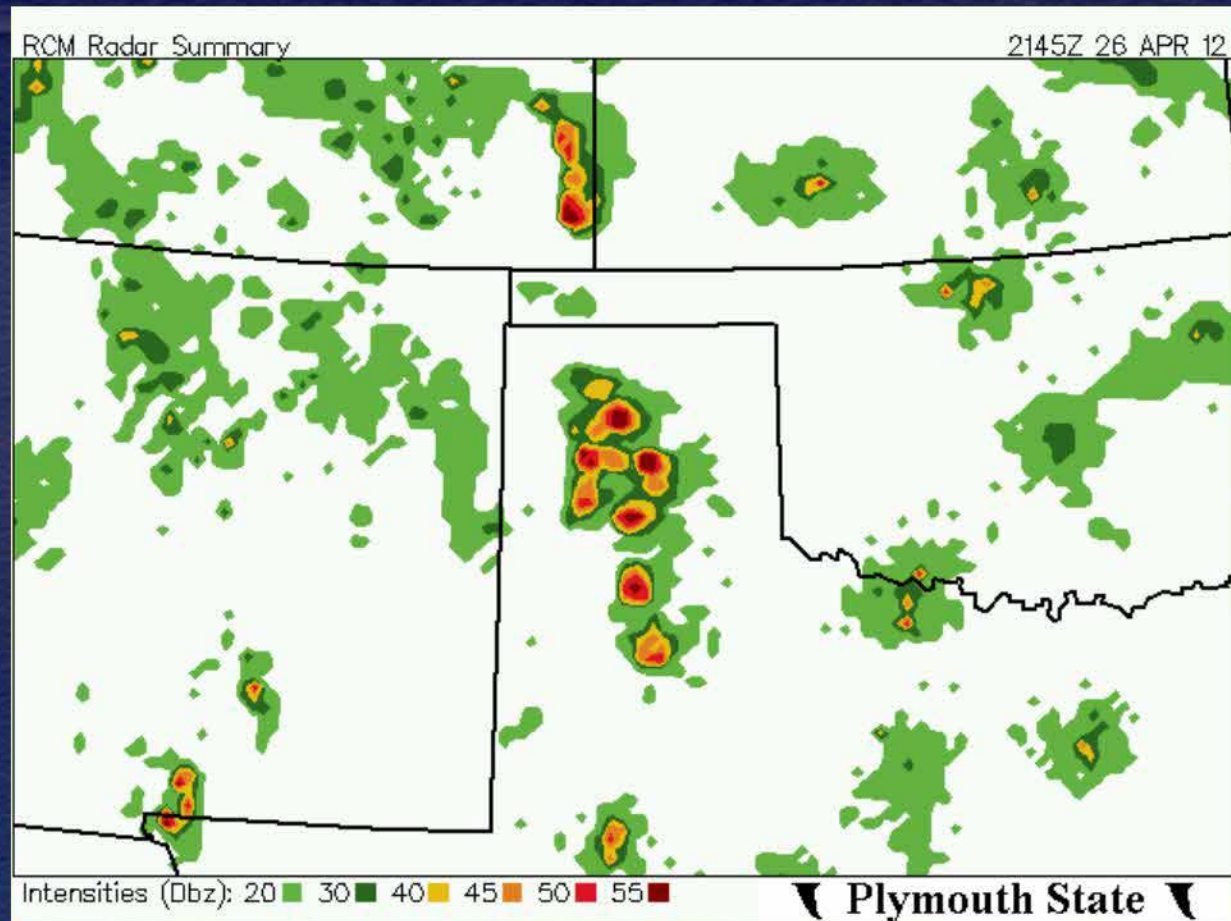
<http://vortex.plymouth.edu/rcm-u.html>

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# Plymouth State RCM Radar Display



- Several large organized areas of echoes depicted, further radar data will be required to determine potential impacts...



# Convective Activity

NOAA's National Weather Service  
**Storm Prediction Center**

Site Map News

Local forecast by "City, St" or "ZIP"  
City: St Go

Find us on Facebook  
SPC on Facebook

@NWSSPC

NCEP Quarterly Newsletter

Home (Classic)  
SPC Products  
All SPC Forecasts  
Current Watches  
Meso. Discussions  
Conv. Outlooks  
Tstm. Outlooks  
Fire Wx Outlooks  
RSS Feeds  
E-Mail Alerts  
Weather Information  
Storm Reports  
Storm Reports Dev.  
NWS Hazards Map  
Watch/Warning Map  
National RADAR  
Product Archive  
NOAA Weather Radio  
Research  
Non-op. Products  
Forecast Tools  
Svr. Tstm. Events  
SPC Publications  
SPC-NSSL HWT  
Education & Outreach  
About the SPC  
SPC FAQ  
About Tornadoes  
About Derechos  
WCM Page  
Enh. Fujita Page  
Our History  
Public Tours  
Misc.  
Staff  
Contact Us  
SPC Feedback

## Today's Convective Outlooks

Updated: Mon Jun 13 12:39:53 UTC 2016 (1h 35m ago)

### Current Convective Outlooks

#### Current Day 1 Outlook



Forecaster: HART/LEITMAN  
Issued: 13/1225Z  
Valid: 13/1300Z - 14/1200Z  
Forecast Risk of Severe Storms: **Enhanced Risk**

#### Current Day 2 Outlook



Forecaster: KERR  
Issued: 13/0535Z  
Valid: 14/1200Z - 15/1200Z  
Forecast Risk of Severe Storms: **Enhanced Risk**

#### Current Day 3 Outlook



Forecaster: KERR  
Issued: 13/0729Z  
Valid: 15/1200Z - 16/1200Z  
Forecast Risk of Severe Storms: **Slight Risk**

#### Current Day 4-8 Outlook



Forecaster: KERR  
Issued: 13/0844Z  
Valid: 16/1200Z - 20/1200Z  
**Note:** A severe weather area depicted in the Day 4-8 period indicates a 15%, 30% or higher probability for severe thunderstorms (e.g. a 15%, 30% chance that a severe thunderstorm will occur within 25 miles of any point).

### Thunderstorm Outlooks

## Retrieving Previous Outlooks

Enter the date range for previous convective outlooks (e.g., 20030123 for January 23, 2003).

Web-based archive available since **January 23, 2003**.

Start Date:  End Date:

[Top/Forecast Products/Home](#)

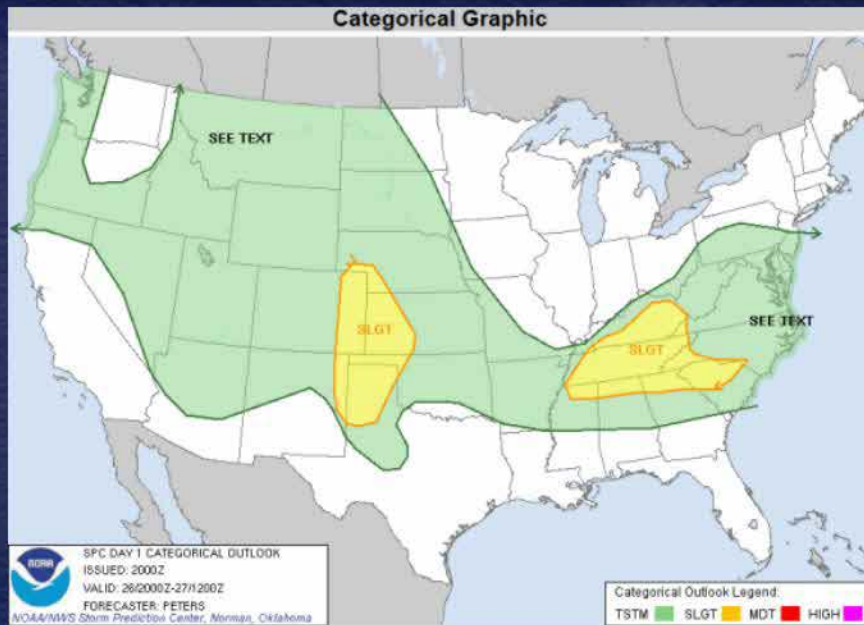
<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/>

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# Convective Outlook (AC)



SPC AC 262000

DAY 1 CONVECTIVE OUTLOOK  
NWS STORM PREDICTION CENTER NORMAN OK  
0300 PM CDT THU APR 26 2012

VALID 262000Z - 271200Z

...THERE IS A SLGT RISK OF SVR TSTMS ACROSS PARTS OF THE CENTRAL AND SRN HIGH PLAINS...

...THERE IS A SLGT RISK OF SVR TSTMS ACROSS KY/TN TO SC AND SRN NC...

...SRN/CENTRAL HIGH PLAINS THIS AFTERNOON TROUGH TONIGHT...  
A COMPACT SHORTWAVE TROUGH OVER SRN CA THIS MORNING WILL EJECT ENEWD TO THE FOUR CORNERS THIS EVENING AND SE CO-NRN TX PANHANDLE BY 27/12Z...IN RESPONSE TO THE INLAND MOVEMENT OF A LARGER-SCALE TROUGH OVER THE PAC NW. LEE CYCLOGENESIS WILL OCCUR ACROSS THE HIGH PLAINS OF E/SE CO LATER TODAY INTO TONIGHT IN ADVANCE OF THE MIDLEVEL TROUGH. THE LEE CYCLOGENESIS WILL INDUCE STRENGTHENING SELY LOW-LEVEL FLOW AND NNWD ADVECTION OF THE 55-65 F BOUNDARY LAYER DEWPOINTS NOW OBSERVED ACROSS WRN OK/ERN TX PANHANDLE... BENEATH A VERY WARM ELEVATED MIXED LAYER. GIVEN THE PRESENCE OF THE STRONG CAP...RELATIVELY LATE ARRIVAL OF THE SHORTWAVE TROUGH... AND A SUBSTANTIAL PLUME OF MID/HIGH-LEVEL MOISTURE/CLOUDS...THE MORE PROBABLE AREA FOR DAYTIME STORM INITIATION WILL BE ON THE HIGH PLAINS FROM NE NM INTO SE CO. HERE...AFTERNOON TEMPERATURES OF 80-85 F WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO REMOVE CONVECTIVE INHIBITION...AND STORM DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED ALONG THE SHARPENING LEE TROUGH.

THE INITIAL STORMS WILL LIKELY BE HIGH-BASED SUPERCELLS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING LARGE HAIL/DAMAGING WINDS GIVEN SOMEWHAT LIMITED BOUNDARY LAYER MOISTURE THIS AFTERNOON...WHILE THE LOWER PLAINS REMAIN CAPPED. TONIGHT...FOCUSED ASCENT IN ADVANCE OF THE MIDLEVEL TROUGH WILL HELP ERODE THE CAP...AS A WARM FRONT MOVES NNW ACROSS THE TX PANHANDLE/WRN OK AND RICHER MOISTURE SURGES NNWD. LOW-LEVEL SHEAR WILL LIKELY INCREASE...RESULTING IN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS MORE FAVORABLE FOR A COUPLE OF NOCTURNAL TORNADIC SUPERCELLS FROM EXTREME SE CO INTO SW KS. THE SRN EXTENT OF THE OVERNIGHT SEVERE THREAT BECOMES MORE QUESTIONABLE DUE TO STRONGER CAPPING.

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# Elements of a Weather Study

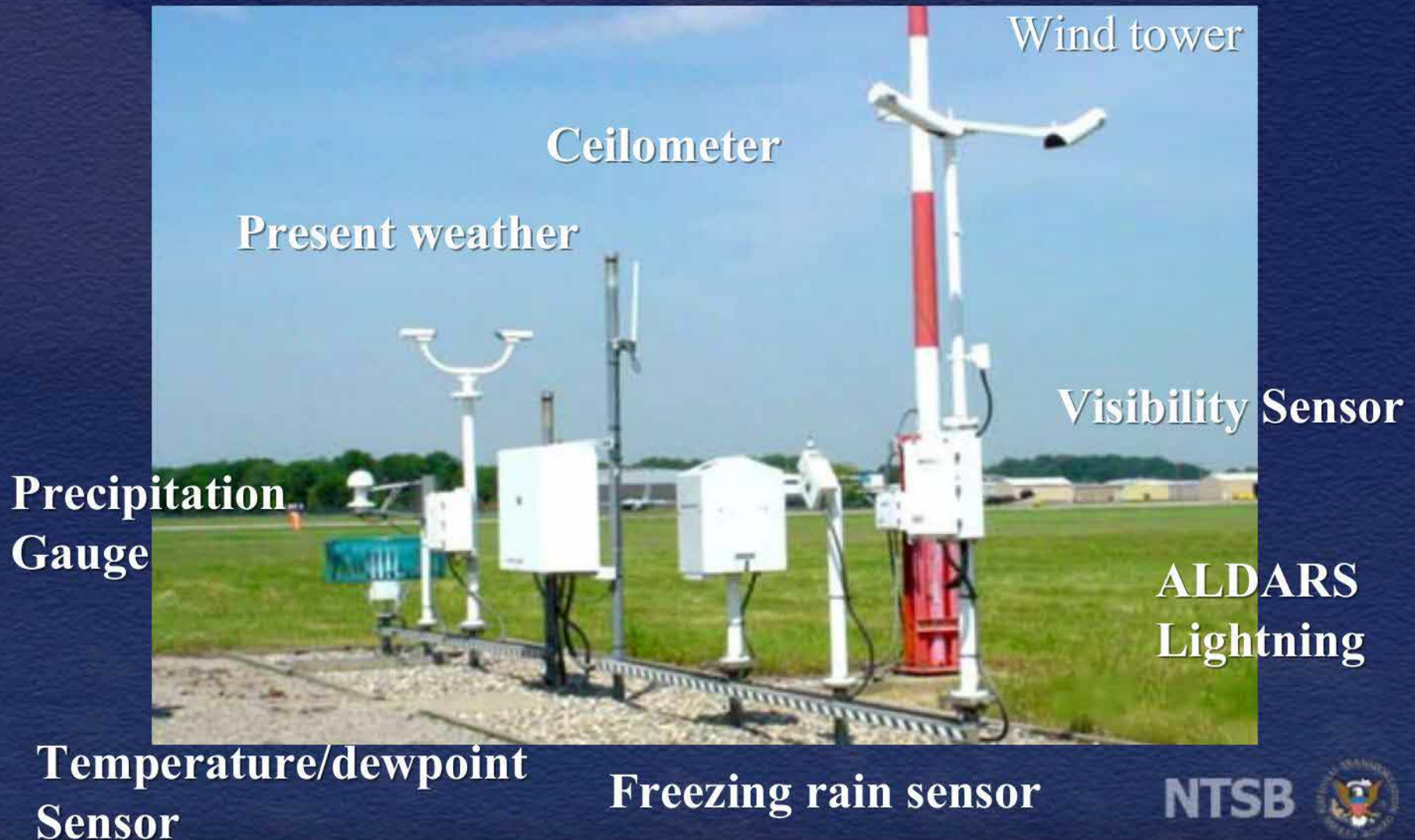
- Synoptic conditions
- **Observations**
  - **Automated Surface Observation System (ASOS)**
    - Federally installed & maintained systems - NWS
    - NWS synoptic stations
    - Major airports – full sensor array
    - Almost always augmented by observers – 0600-2200 local
    - High resolution data: 5-min & 1-min data
  - **Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS)**
    - Federal/State funded - FAA
    - Secondary airports
    - Airports with instrument approach procedures
    - Varying sensors – levels 1, 2, 3
    - Typically unaugmented “AUTO”
    - Observations every 20-min long line (wx circuits)





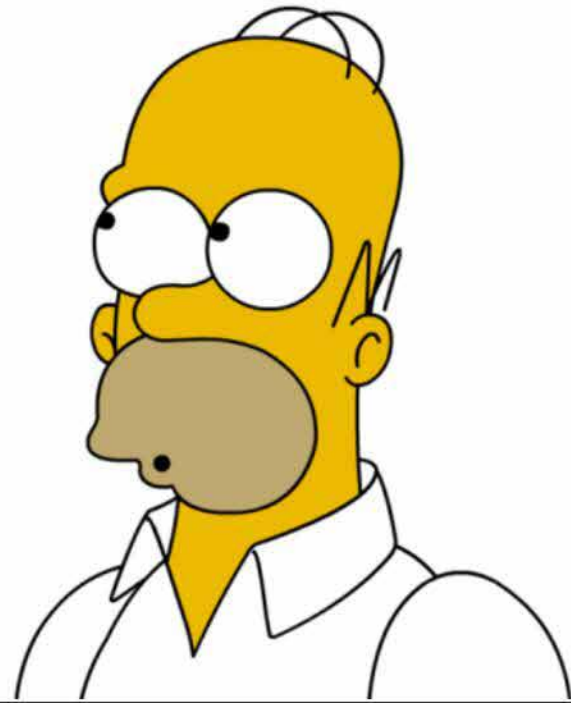
# Automated Surface Observation System (ASOS) – Federal NWS Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) – Non-Federal

- Typical location near touchdown zone of primary runway



***CAN YOU READ THIS FAST  
WITH UNDERSTANDING?***

***METAR KAMA 262153Z 12019G25KT 10SM TS  
FEW090 SCT110 28/14 A2984 RMK AO2 PK WND  
11027/2134 TSB47 SLP054 T02780144***





# Meteorological Aerodrome Reports (METARs) and Specials (SPECI)

**TYPE   STATION   DATE/TIME   WIND   VISIBILITY   WEATHER   CLOUDS**

METAR KAMA 262153Z 12019G25KT 10SM TS FEW090  
SCT110 28/14 A2984 RMK AO2 PK WND 11027/2134 TSB47  
SLP054 T02780144

**TEMPERATURE/  
DEWPOINT**

**ALTIMETER  
QNH**

**RMK SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION**

*ASOS*



**See Decode Sheet in Reference Notes**

**NTSB**





## KEY TO DECODE AN ASOS (METAR) OBSERVATION

METAR KABC 121755Z AUTO 21016G24KT 180V240 1SM R11/P6000FT -RA BR BKN015 OVC025 06/04 A2990  
 RMK AO2 PK WND 20032/25 WSHFT 1715 VIS 3/4V1 1/2 VIS 3/4 RWY11 RAB07 CIG 013V017 CIG 017 RWY11 PRESFR  
 SLP125 P0003 60009 T00640036 10066 21012 58033 TSNO \$

<b>TYPE OF REPORT</b>	METAR: hourly (scheduled) report; SPECI: special (unscheduled) report.	METAR
<b>STATION IDENTIFIER</b>	Four alphabetic characters; ICAO location identifier.	KABC
<b>DATE/TIME</b>	All dates and times in UTC using a 24-hour clock; two-digit date and four-digit time; always appended with <u>Z</u> to indicate UTC.	121755Z
<b>REPORT MODIFIER</b>	Fully automated report, no human intervention; removed when observer signed-on.	AUTO
<b>WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED</b>	Direction in tens of degrees from true north (first three digits); next two digits: speed in whole knots; as needed <u>G</u> usts (character) followed by maximum observed speed; always appended with <u>K</u> T to indicate knots; 00000KT for calm; if direction varies by 60° or more a <u>V</u> ariable wind direction group is reported.	21016G24KT 180V240
<b>VISIBILITY</b>	Prevailing visibility in statute miles and fractions (space between whole miles and fractions); always appended with <u>S</u> M to indicate statute miles; values <1/4 reported as M1/4.	1SM
<b>RUNWAY VISUAL RANGE</b>	10-minute RVR value in hundreds of feet; reported if prevailing visibility is ≤ one mile or RVR ≤ 6000 feet; always appended with <u>F</u> T to indicate feet; value prefixed with <u>M</u> or <u>P</u> to indicate value is lower or higher than the reportable RVR value.	R11/P6000FT
<b>WEATHER PHENOMENA</b>	RA: liquid precipitation that does not freeze; SN: frozen precipitation other than hail; UP: precipitation of unknown type; intensity prefixed to precipitation: light (-), moderate (no sign), heavy (+); FG: fog; FZFG: freezing fog (temperature below 0°C); BR: mist; HZ: haze; SQ: squall; maximum of three groups reported; augmented by observer: FC (funnel cloud/tornado/waterspout); TS (thunderstorm); GR (hail); GS (small hail; <1/4 inch); FZRA (intensity; freezing rain); VA (volcanic ash).	-RA BR
<b>SKY CONDITION</b>	Cloud amount and height: CLR (no clouds detected below 12000 feet); FEW (few); SCT (scattered); BKN (broken); OVC (overcast); followed by 3-digit height in hundreds of feet; or vertical visibility ( <u>V</u> V) followed by height for indefinite ceiling.	BKN015 OVC025
<b>TEMPERATURE/DEW POINT</b>	Each is reported in whole degrees Celsius using two digits; values are separated by a solidus; sub-zero values are prefixed with an <u>M</u> (minus).	06/04
<b>ALTIMETER</b>	Altimeter always prefixed with an <u>A</u> indicating inches of mercury; reported using four digits: tens, units, tenths, and hundredths.	A2990



REMARKS IDENTIFIER: RMK	RMK
TORNADIC ACTIVITY: Augmented; report should include TORNADO, FUNNEL CLOUD, or WATERSPOUT, time begin/end, location, movement; e.g., TORNADO B25 N MOV E.	
TYPE OF AUTOMATED STATION: AO2; automated station with precipitation discriminator.	AO2
PEAK WIND: PK WND dddff(f)/(hh)mm; direction in tens of degrees, speed in whole knots, and time.	PK WND 20032/25
WIND SHIFT: WSHFT (hh)mm	WSHFT 1715
TOWER OR SURFACE VISIBILITY: TWR VIS vvvvv; visibility reported by tower personnel, e.g., TWR VIS 2; SFC VIS vvvvv; visibility reported by ASOS, e.g., SFC VIS 2.	
VARIABLE PREVAILING VISIBILITY: VIS v <sub>1</sub> v <sub>2</sub> v <sub>3</sub> v <sub>4</sub> v <sub>5</sub> Vv <sub>1</sub> v <sub>2</sub> v <sub>3</sub> v <sub>4</sub> v <sub>5</sub> ; reported if prevailing visibility is < 3 miles and variable.	VIS 3/4V1 1/2
VISIBILITY AT SECOND LOCATION: VIS vvvvv [LOC]; reported if different than the reported prevailing visibility in body of report.	VIS 3/4 RWY11
LIGHTNING: [FREQ] LTG [LOC]; when detected the frequency and location is reported, e.g., FRQ LTG NE.	
BEGINNING AND ENDING OF PRECIPITATION AND THUNDERSTORMS: w'w'B(hh)mmE(hh)mm; TSB(hh)mmE(hh)mm	RAB07
VIRGA: Augmented; precipitation not reaching the ground, e.g., VIRGA.	
VARIABLE CEILING HEIGHT: CIG h <sub>1</sub> h <sub>2</sub> h <sub>3</sub> Vh <sub>1</sub> h <sub>2</sub> h <sub>3</sub> ; reported if ceiling in body of report is < 3000 feet and variable.	CIG 013V017
CEILING HEIGHT AT SECOND LOCATION: CIG hhh [LOC]; Ceiling height reported if secondary ceilometer site is different than the ceiling height in the body of the report.	CIG 017 RWY11
PRESSURE RISING OR FALLING RAPIDLY: PRESRR or PRESFR; pressure rising or falling rapidly at time of observation.	PRESFR
SEA-LEVEL PRESSURE: SLPppp; tens, units, and tenths of SLP in hPa.	SLP125
HOURLY PRECIPITATION AMOUNT: Prrrr; in .01 inches since last METAR; a trace is P0000.	P0003
3- AND 6-HOUR PRECIPITATION AMOUNT: 6RRRR; precipitation amount in .01 inches for past 6 hours reported in 00, 06, 12, and 18 UTC observations and for past 3 hours in 03, 09, 15, and 21 UTC observations; a trace is 60000.	60009
24-HOUR PRECIPITATION AMOUNT: 7R <sub>24</sub> R <sub>24</sub> R <sub>24</sub> R <sub>24</sub> ; precipitation amount in .01 inches for past 24 hours reported in 12 UTC observation, e.g., 70015.	
HOURLY TEMPERATURE AND DEW POINT: T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>a</sub> T <sub>a</sub> T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>a</sub> T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>a</sub> ; tenth of degree Celsius; s <sub>n</sub> : 1 if temperature below 0°C and 0 if temperature 0°C or higher.	T00640036
6-HOUR MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE: 1s <sub>n</sub> T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>s</sub> ; tenth of degree Celsius; 00, 06, 12, 18 UTC; s <sub>n</sub> : 1 if temperature below 0°C and 0 if temperature 0°C or higher.	10066
6-HOUR MINIMUM TEMPERATURE: 2s <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> ; tenth of degree Celsius; 00, 06, 12, 18 UTC; s <sub>n</sub> : 1 if temperature below 0°C and 0 if temperature 0°C or higher.	21012
24-HOUR MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURE: 4s <sub>n</sub> T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>s</sub> T <sub>s</sub> s <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> T <sub>n</sub> ; tenth of degree Celsius; reported at midnight local standard time; 1 if temperature below 0°C and 0 if temperature 0°C or higher, e.g., 400461006.	
PRESSURE TENDENCY: 5appp; the character (a) and change in pressure (ppp; tenths of hPa) the past 3 hours.	58033
SENSOR STATUS INDICATORS: RVRNO: RVR missing; PWINO: precipitation identifier information not available; PNO: precipitation amount not available; FZRANO: freezing rain information not available; TSNO: thunderstorm information not available; VISNO [LOC]: visibility at secondary location not available, e.g., VISNO RWY06; CHINO [LOC]: (cloud-height-indicator) sky condition at secondary location not available, e.g., CHINO RWY06.	TSNO
MAINTENANCE CHECK INDICATOR: Maintenance needed on the system.	\$

If an element or phenomenon does not occur, is missing, or cannot be observed, the corresponding group and space are omitted (body and/or remarks) from that particular report, except for Sea-Level Pressure (SLPppp). SLPNO shall be reported in a METAR when the SLP is not available.



# How to obtain METARs

- Multiple sources for observations:
  - **OGIMET** International data base  
<http://www.ogimet.com/metars.phtml.en>
  - **Plymouth State** Weather Center  
<http://vortex.plymouth.edu/myo/sfc/statlog-a.html>
  - **University of Wyoming** 30-day International data base  
<http://weather.uwyo.edu/surface/meteorogram/>
  - **NWS AWC** last 36 hours & graphic  
<http://aviationweather.gov/adds/metars/>
  - **NCAR** 5-day archive  
<http://www.rap.ucar.edu/weather/surface/>
  - **NCDC** Official NWS database  
<http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/qcclcd/QCLCD?prior=N>



# OGIMET – METAR/TAFs

## OGIMET

FREE

### Metar/Speci/Taf reports selection query

**ICAO INDEXES**  **TYPE** ALL **SORT ORDER** Newest the first **NIL REPORTS** NIL reports included **FORMAT** HTML

**TIME INTERVAL**

	Year	Month	Day	Hour
BEGIN:	2012	March	20	12
END:	2012	March	21	12

**Station Date/Time**

You have to set:

1. The **ICAO indexes** from desired stations, with a comma or space separating indexes. If you don't know the index, you can visit [this page](#)
2. The type of report you want to get
  - o **ALL** It will show METAR, SPECI and TAF reports
  - o **SA** METAR y SPECI.
  - o **SP** only SPECI.
  - o **FC** Only short TAF reports (validity 9 Hours).
  - o **FT** Only large TAF reports (18 or 24 Hours).
3. Order of displayed results. You can select chronological or reverse order
4. You also can decide about to get "NIL" void reports
5. Output format
  - o **HTML** Rich HTML output format
  - o **TXT** Single plain TXT mode
6. Begin and end of time interval query. Time is UTC

<http://www.ogimet.com/metars.phtml.en>

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# Plymouth State – METAR Archive



## Plymouth State Weather



Surface Satellite Radar Upper Air Forecast Tropical **Data Archive** Research Extras About Us

### Archived Surface Data Meteograms and Text Listings

Enter a four- to six-digit station identifier, output type, year, month, and day.

Station Identifier:

KJFK

Type of Output:

Raw Hourly & Special METAR Obs Listing ▼

Year:

2016 ▼

Month:

Jan ▼

Day:

20 ▼

Web/Print:

Web Page ▼

[Click Here to View Summary](#)

[Reset](#)

Notes:

**Station**

**METAR format**

**Date**

- Check a [map](#) or this [list](#) for possible station identifiers.
- Click the following links for information on interpreting: [meteograms](#), [Raw METARs](#), or [decoded text summaries](#).
- Online archived data go back to July 30, 1998.
- Limit 50 data requests per day.

<http://vortex.plymouth.edu/myo/sfc/statlog-a.html>

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# University of Wyoming - METARs

Choose "Region" of the world, select Type of Output as "METARs", then select ending date/time for period of interest. 30 day archive.

University of Wyoming  
College of Engineering

Department of Atmospheric Science

FREE

Weather

Wyoming Cities Surface Upper Air Observations Forecasts Polar

| Observations | Maps | Fronts | Climate |

## Surface Observations

Type of Output determines what is generated. Listing, METARs, and GIF Meteogram will obtain 24 hours of data for the selected station. The Hour is not used. Latest Observations will get the latest observation available. All Observations and All METARs will get all the observations for the selected Hour for all the stations in the state of the selected station.

Region	Type of Output	Date	Hour	Units	Station
Western United States	Listing	24 Aug 2012	Current	American	KLAR
Select a station from the map above..					

- Latest Observations
- Listing
- METARs
- GIF Meteogram
- All Observations
- All METARs



<http://weather.uwyo.edu/surface/meteogram/>

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# Observations

- **Departure conditions**
- METAR KAMA 261953Z 12009KT 10SM CLR 31/11 A2991 RMK AO2 SLP074 T03110111
- METAR KAMA 262053Z 12016G24KT 10SM CLR 32/13 A2986 RMK AO2 PRESFR SLP057 T03170128 58030
- **Accident 2145Z**
- METAR KAMA 262153Z **12019G25KT 10SM TS FEW090** SCT110 28/14 A2984 RMK AO2 **PK WND 11027/2134 TSB47** SLP054 T02780144=
- METAR KAMA 262253Z **29029G40KT 1 1/2SM** R04/6000VP6000FT +TSRA SCT036 SCT060 BKN070 17/14 A2990 RMK AO2 PK WND 29040/2252 RAB2154E13B40 SLP088 LTGICCG OVHD P0010 T01670139=
- Falling pressure, stronger pressure gradient & winds
- Wind direction ~30° left of nose
- High based thunderstorm – microburst conditions or gust front possibly involved?



# NWS Observations & Forecasts



The screenshot shows the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) website. The header includes the NOAA logo and the text "NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION" and "NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION". Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, Climate Information, Data Access, Customer Support, Contact, and About. A breadcrumb trail shows "Home > Data Access > Land-Based Station Data". A search bar is located on the right. On the left, a "Quick Links" sidebar lists various data categories with expandable arrows. The main content area is titled "Land-Based Station Data" and contains a paragraph about land-based observations and a list of data products.

**NOAA** NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Formerly the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)... [more about NCEI](#)

Home Climate Information Data Access Customer Support Contact About

Home > Data Access > Land-Based Station Data

**Quick Links**

- Land-Based Station
- Datasets
- Find a Station
- Station Metadata
- Climate Data Online
- Data Publications
- Satellite
- Radar
- Model
- Weather Balloon
- Marine / Ocean
- Paleoclimatology
- Severe Weather
- Blended & Global - Land + Ocean

## Land-Based Station Data

Land-based observations from instruments sited at every continent. They include dew point, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, atmospheric pressure, and weather occurrences such as thunder. NCEI provides a service associated with land-based observations. These include collection, quality control, removal of biases associated with instrumentation through time multiyear timescales are a

- **Global Historical Climatology Network - Daily (GHCND)**  
*GHCN-Daily is the official archived dataset, and it serves as a replacement product for older NCEI-maintained datasets that are designated for daily temporal resolution (i.e., DSI 3200, DSI 3201, DSI 3202, DSI 3205, DSI 3206, DSI 3208, DSI 3210, etc.).*
- **National Solar Radiation Data Base (3284)**
- **Integrated Surface Hourly Data Base (3505)**
- **ASOS 1-Minute Data (6405)**
- **ASOS 5-Minute Data (6401)**
- **15-Minute Precipitation (3260)**
- **Hourly Precipitation (3240)**
- **Climate Indices (National, Regional, Statewide, Divisional)**

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/data-access/land-based-station-data>

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## High Resolution Data 5-minute ASOS Observations Includes Station Pressure, RH%, Density Alt., magnetic wind

- 15:25:31 5-MIN KAMA 262125Z 11019G24KT 10SM CLR 29/13 A2982 3710 35 6200 110/19G24 RMK AO2 PRESFR
- 15:30:31 5-MIN KAMA 262130Z 11020G26KT 10SM CLR 29/12 A2981 3710 35 6200 110/20G26 RMK AO2 PK WND 09026/2127 PRESFR
- 15:35:31 5-MIN KAMA 262135Z 11021G27KT 10SM CLR 29/13 A2982 3700 36 6100 100/21G27 RMK AO2 PK WND 11027/2134
- 15:40:31 5-MIN KAMA 262140Z 10020G27KT 10SM CLR 29/13 A2982 3700 38 6100 100/20G27 RMK AO2 PK WND 11027/2134
- 15:45:31 5-MIN KAMA 262145Z 12020G26KT 10SM FEW090 28/14 A2983 3690 40 6100 110/20G26 RMK AO2 PK WND 11027/2134
- 15:50:31 5-MIN KAMA 262150Z 11019G25KT 10SM TS FEW090 SCT110 28/14 A2983 3690 42 6000 100/19G25 RMK AO2 PK WND 11027/2134 TSB47
- 15:55:31 5-MIN KAMA 262155Z 13017G25KT 10SM -TSRA FEW100 SCT110 27/15 A2984 3680 46 5900 120/17G25 RMK AO2 RAB54 P0000
- 16:00:31 5-MIN KAMA 262200Z 15013G23KT 10SM -TSRA SCT095 BKN110 27/14 A2982 3700 45 6000 140/13G23 RMK AO2 RAB2154 P0000
- Note wind 100°-120° at 20-27 KT



# Limitations of Automated Systems



- Only determine wx conditions directly over sensors, not over approach & departure routes
- Not all wx types identifiable, especially freezing precip
- Several different types of AWOS systems and service levels – some don't report weather type
- Not all AWOS's in NWS/FAA weather data bases for dissemination – available locally only

# Observation Site Locations



Federal Aviation  
Administration

FAA Home ► Air Traffic

Air Traffic 101

Air Traffic Plans and  
Publications

Environmental Reviews

Flight Information

International Aviation

National Airspace  
System

Separation Standards

Technology

## Surface Weather Observation Stations ASOS/AWOS

Print

Share

State

Go

Weather station   
airport ID

Go

example: KVNy for Van Nuys, CA



### Top Tasks

Check airport status &  
delays

Become an air traffic  
controller

View the Air Traffic  
Controller Workforce  
Plan

- AWOS A:
- AWOS AV:
- AWOS I:
- AWOS II:
- AWOS III:
- AWOS IIIP:
- AWOS IIIT:
- AWOS IIIP/T:
- ASOS:
- AWSS:
- AWOS IV:
- Misc.:

[https://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/weather/asos/](https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/weather/asos/)

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# AWOS Systems – varying sensors

- Varying service levels of AWOS

Type	Wind	Visibility	Temp Dev/ Pt	Altimeter	Density Altimeter	Cloud Ceiling	Precipitation	Thunderstorm Lighting	Rainfall Accumulation	Runway Surface	Freezing Rain	Remarks
AWOS-A				✓								
AWOS-A/V		✓		✓								
AWOS-2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
AWOS-3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
AWOS-3P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
AWOS-3T	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
AWOS-3P/T	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
AWOS-4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

*Not all systems are alike!*

# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- **Upper air data**
  - RAOB “balloon” reports
  - AMDAR/TAMDAR aircraft data
  - Numerical Model data



# Upper Air data



- Worldwide over 900 sites, with ~100 NWS sites.
- Rawinsondes launched at 0000Z & 1200Z
- Observed information on:
  - Structure of the atmosphere
  - Temperature & moisture profile
  - Freezing level data
  - Cloud bases & tops
  - Precipitation type
  - Stability indices
  - Wind profile







# Upper Air Data - Soundings

University of Wyoming

College of Engineering

Department of Atmospheric Science

Region

Type of plot

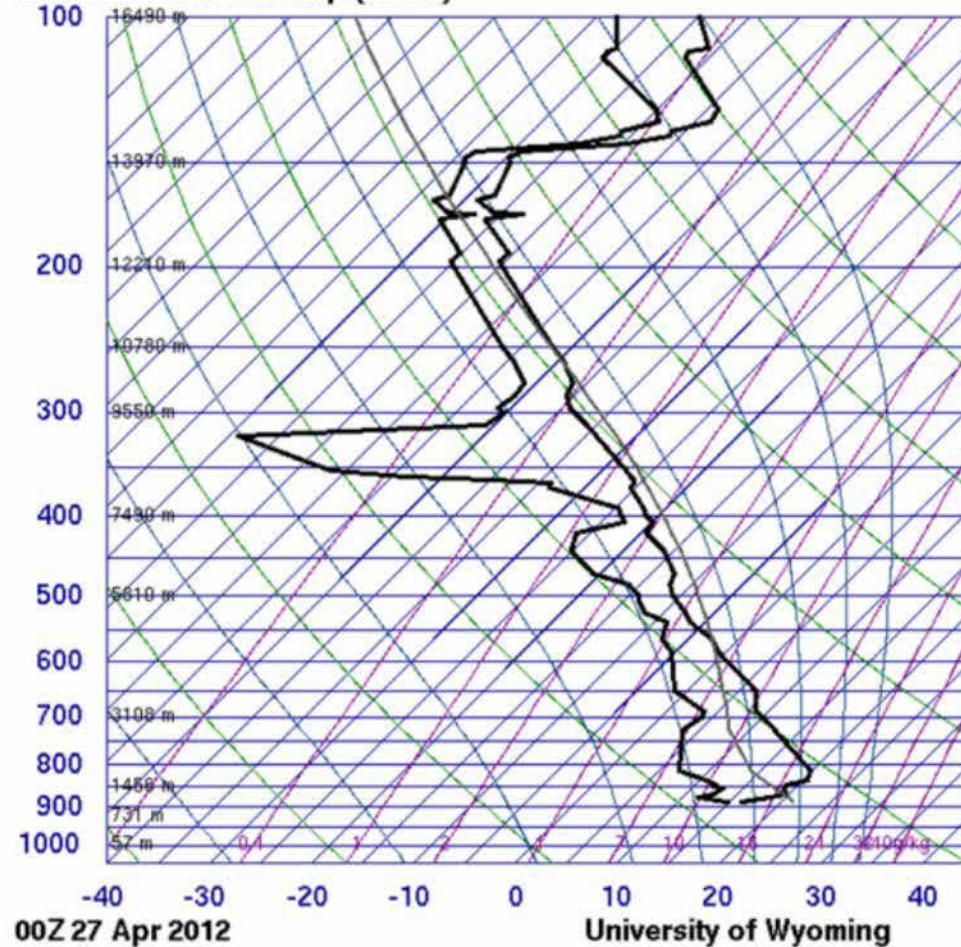
North America

Text: List

Click on the image to request a sounding

Skew-T plot  
RAW Data

72363 AMA Amarillo Arpt(Awos)



SLAT 35.23  
SLON -101.70  
SELV 1099.  
SHOW -2.88  
LIFT -2.53  
LFTV -2.79  
SWET 285.0  
KINX 35.70  
CTOT 22.70  
VTOT 29.70  
TOTL 52.40  
CAPE 360.3  
CAPV 397.2  
CINS -381.  
CINV -341.  
EQLV 263.3  
EQTV 262.9  
LFCT 564.1  
LFCV 582.3  
BRCH 1.77  
BRCV 1.96  
LCLT 284.1  
LCLP 782.2  
MLTH 304.8  
MLMR 10.68  
THCK 5753.  
PWAT 27.77

Station Number: 72672

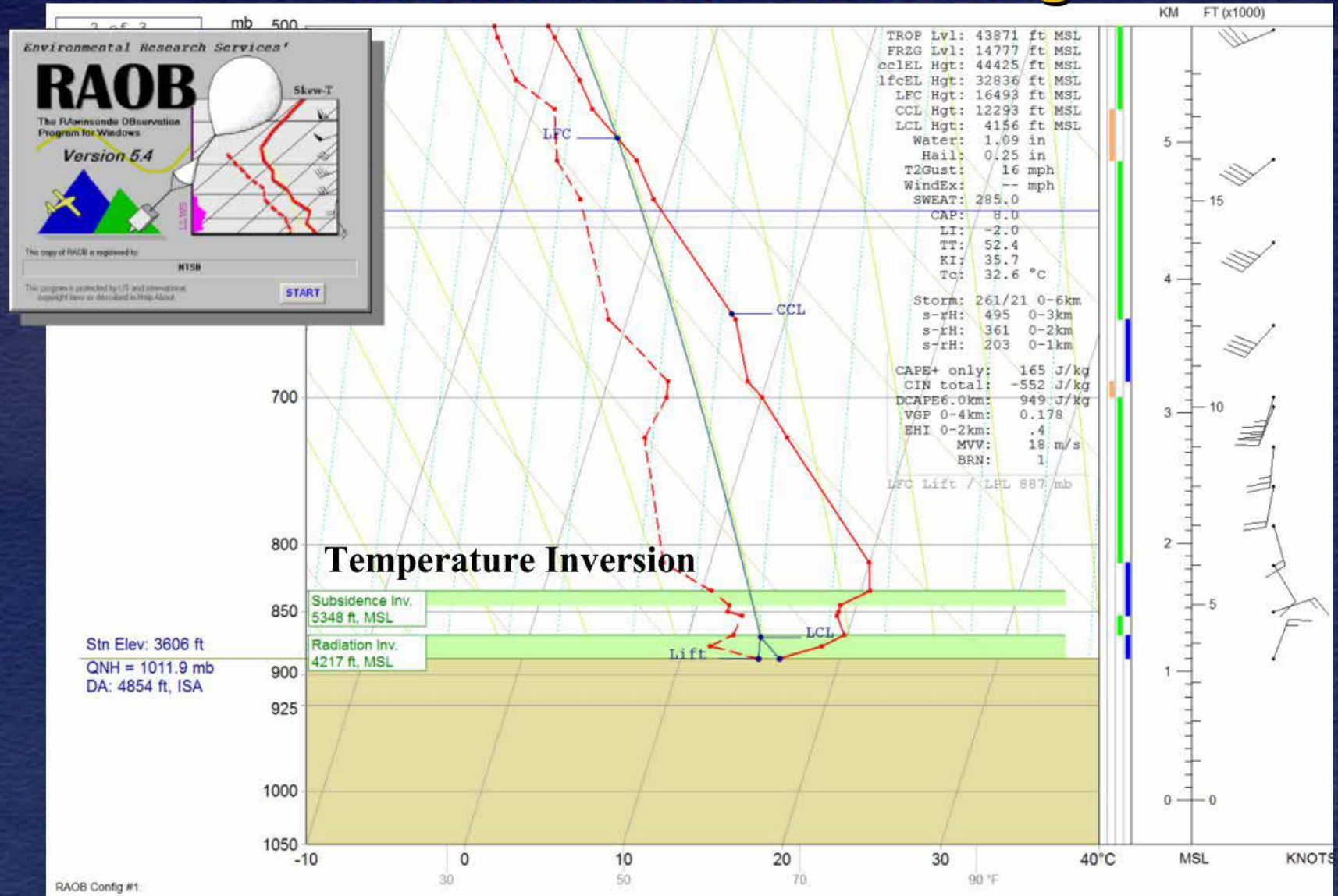
Description of the [sounding indices](#).

<http://weather.uwyo.edu/upperair/sounding.html>





# KAMA 0000Z sounding



<http://www.raob.com/>

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Height (ft-AGL)	Pres (mb)	T (C)	Td (C)	RH (%)	DD/FF (deg/kts)	CAT (AF)	LLWS	Icing - Type (S-F clouds)	Wave/x-W-Turb nm fpm max
0	887	16.2	14.9	92	20/14				
319	877	18.6	11.6	64					
611	868	19.8	12.8	64					
1104	853	19.0	13.0	68		L-M	LIGHT		
1204	850	19.0	12.0	64	70/17				
1371	845	19.0	12.0	64					
1742	834	20.6	10.6	53		L-M	LIGHT		
2465	813	20.0	7.0	43	150/9				
3394	786				165/14	L-M			
4394	759				190/22				
5394	732				185/23				3.45 1296 MD-SV
5626	726	12.4	3.4	54		L-M			
6394	706				200/27	L-M			
6627	700	10.0	4.0	66	195/35				
7019	690	8.8	3.8	71		L-M			

## Observed data:

- Pressure
- Height
- Temp/Dew T
- Relative Humidity
- Wind data

## Analytical data:

- Turbulence (CAT)
- LLWS
- Icing
- MTN Wave

## **Requirements for thunderstorms:**

- 1. Moisture**
- 2. Instability**
- 3. Lifting source**





Parameter	Weak	Moderate	Strong
-----	----	-----	-----
200 mb Wind Speed (kt)	51		
500 mb Wind Speed (kt)		39	
700 mb Wind Speed (kt)		35	
700 mb Dewpoint Depression (C)		6.0	
850 mb Wind Speed (kt)	17		
850 mb Dewpoint (C)		12.0	
700 - 500 mb lapse rate (C/km)	-7.7		
Boyden Index			101.6
BRN - Bulk Richardson No.	1		
BRN Shear (m <sup>2</sup> /s <sup>2</sup> )			207.4
CAP Strength	8.0		
CAPE 0-3 km, AGL	0		
CAPE Total	-387		
Craven SigSvr Parameter (mixed-layer lift)	6		
CT - Cross Totals		22.7	
DCAPE 6.0 km, AGL		949	
Delta Theta-e (ePT)	8.3		
EH1 - Energy Helicity Index	0.4		
GOES HMI (Hybrid Microburst Index)	6		
Hail (inches)		0.25	
HI - Humidity Index			16.4
JI - Jefferson Index			32
K Index			35.7
KO Index			-4.7
LFC-LCL height (m)	3760		
LFC - Level of Free Convection (mb)	553		
LI - Lifted Index	-2.0		
MDPI - Microburst Day Potential Index	0.4		
NCAPE (Normalized CAPE)	0.03		
S Index			46.4
SCP - Supercell Composite Parameter			12.3
Severity - Thunderstorm Severiry Index			0.9
SHIP - Significant Hail Parameter	0.3		
SI - Showalter Index		-2.8	
srH - storm-relative Helicity (0-3 km)			495
STP - Significant Tornado Parameter	0.1		
Surface Dewpoint (C)		14.9	
SWEAT Index	285.0		
T2 Gust (kt)	14		
TI - Thompson Index			38
TQ Index		14	
TT - Total Totals		52.4	
VGP - Vorticity Generation Parameter		0.178	
VT - Vertical Totals			29.7
Waterspout Index			
WBZ - WetBulb Zero Hgt (ft,AGL)		9905	
Windex (kt)			
WMSI - Wet Microburst Severity Index	1		
	=====	=====	=====
Weighted Category Totals:	21	13	12

RPM = 26%

# Stability of the Atmosphere

- Lifted Index (LI)
- K-Index
- Total Totals
- CAPE
- WINDEX

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## **Event occurs:**

- **In between observations times**
- **Remote location**
- **Helicopter event far from reporting sites**

## **Options:**

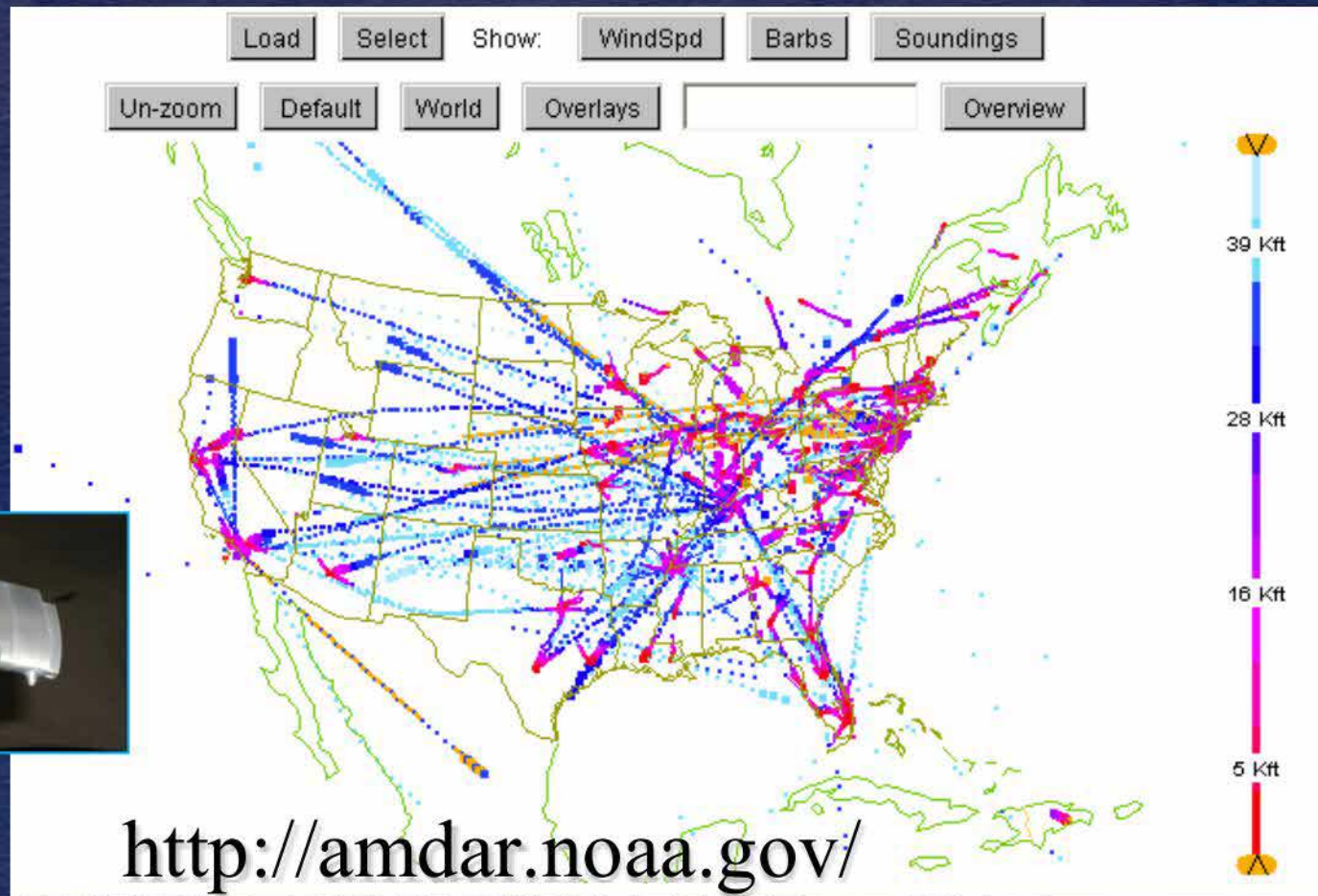
- **Aircraft observations**
- **Model data**





# Aircraft Sounding Data

- Aircraft Communication Addressing and Reporting System (ACARS)
- Meteorological Data Collection and Reporting System (MDCRS)
- **Aircraft Meteorological Data And Reporting (AMDAR)**





# NOAA/ARL Model Sounding

**ARL**  
Air Resources Laboratory  
Conducting research and development in the fields of air quality, atmospheric dispersion, climate, and boundary layer

Enter search term(s)  Go  
☒ ARL site only ☐ All NOAA  
[Advanced Search](#)

- ARL Home
- HYSPLIT Model
- READY
  - READY News
  - Transport & Dispersion
    - GetRun HYSPLIT
    - Volcanic Ash
    - Transfer Coefficient Matrix for Fukushima Daiichi
    - Short-Range Ensemble Dispersion Forecasts
    - Gaussian Plume Model
    - Balloon Flight Forecasting Tools
  - Current & Forecast Meteorology
    - North America
  - [Archived Meteorology >>](#)
    - North America
    - Air Quality

### Latitude/longitude decimal format

Internal Use Only

- READY Status
- READY Tools
- Forecast Data Information
  - Extract Forecast Data
- Archived Data Information
  - Extract Archived Data
- READY Information
- Related Servers & Links
- READY FAQs
- HYSPLIT Verification Methods

Air Quality

Atmospheric Dispersion

### READY Archived Meteorology

#### Archived Model Graphics

Choose a forecast location by entering a 3 or 4-character station identifier or a 6-digit WMO index number or a latitude/longitude pair and then click the Continue button, or by clicking on the location in the map. You will be taken to the model products section. Information on ARL's data archive is available at <http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/archives.php>.

Select a Location

Using a Code Identifier  
 Airport or WMO ID:  [Search for Code](#)

OR By Selecting a U.S. or World City  
 Or choose a city -->

OR by Latitude & Longitude  
 Latitude (degrees):  [Convert Decimal-Frac Into Decimal Degrees](#)  
 Longitude (West < 0):

OR click a location on the map below.

Links to Other Surface and Upper-air Data Archives

The following NOAA NCDC Archived Products may be helpful.

- NEXRAD National Radar Mosaic
- State Storm Events

Good source for  
foreign accident  
investigation  
where data is  
sparse and other  
remote locations,  
and for in between  
sounding launches


<http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/READYamet.php>






# Archive Model Data

**ARL**  
**Air Resources Laboratory**  
Conducting research and development in the fields of air quality, atmospheric dispersion, climate, and boundary layer



[ARL Home](#) > [READY](#) > [Archived Meteorology](#) > READY Program Options Menu

## READY Program Options Menu



READY PRODUCTS FOR LOCATION: 40.91 -123.25

DISPLAY PROGRAM <a href="#">What is UTC, GMT, Z time?</a>	METEOROLOGICAL DATA <a href="#">Information on archived datasets</a>
METEOROGRAM	<input type="text" value="Choose An Archived Dataset"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/>
WINDGRAM	<input type="text" value="Choose An Archived Dataset"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/>
WINDROSE	NAM (12km, 3 hourly, U.S.) <input type="button" value="Go"/>
SOUNDING	<input type="text" value="Choose An Archived Dataset"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/>
STABILITY TIME-SERIES	<input type="text" value="Choose An Archived Dataset"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/>
2D MAP (NCAR GRAPHICS)	NAM (12km, 3 hourly, U.S.) <input type="button" value="Go"/>
2D MAP (PSPLOT)	<input type="text" value="Choose An Archived Dataset"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/>

Select display and model data

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# Archive Model Data

**ARL**  
**Air Resources Laboratory**  
Conducting research and development in the fields of air quality, atmospheric dispersion, climate, and boundary layer

ARL Home > READY > Archived Meteorology > NAM12 ARLplot

## NAM12 Metmap

This program will plot user selected meteorological fields on a map with options for color filled, color lines, and map size/location.

The NAM12 archive file contains data beginning at 0000 UTC 8/06/2009.


**Change Default Model Parameters and Display Options**

**Note:** choosing a contour interval (X) for Wind Vectors causes only every X vector to be plotted.

<b>Choose date/time:</b>	08	Day: 06	Hour: 03
<b>Overlay two fields?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No Overlay <input type="radio"/> Overlay		
<b>Meteorological Field(s) Available</b> (SFC = surface field; 3D = above surface field)	<b>Level to plot</b>	<b>Contour Settings</b>	
		<b>type</b>	<b>interval</b>
First Field: Wind Flags (SFC/3D)	SFC	Color Contours	0.0
Overlay Field (if selected above): Mean Sea Level Pressure (SFC)	SFC		0.0
<b>Graphic size (pixels):</b>	<input type="radio"/> 500 <input type="radio"/> 700 <input type="radio"/> 900 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1200		
<b>Create PDF?</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		
<b>Map Domain</b>	<input type="radio"/> Full Grid <input checked="" type="radio"/> Subgrid		
<b>Map Subgrid Center</b>	Latitude (degrees): 40.91		Longitude (degrees): -123.25
<b>Map Subgrid Radius (degrees)</b>	2.0		

Type your access code (displayed at right) into the text box. This code is an image that cannot be read by a computer. This access code prevents automated programs from requesting access to READY products, which have saturated the system denying others from obtaining products in a timely manner.

[READY Use Agreement](#)



Enter the access code from the box above to request product (case insensitive): IZPNVR

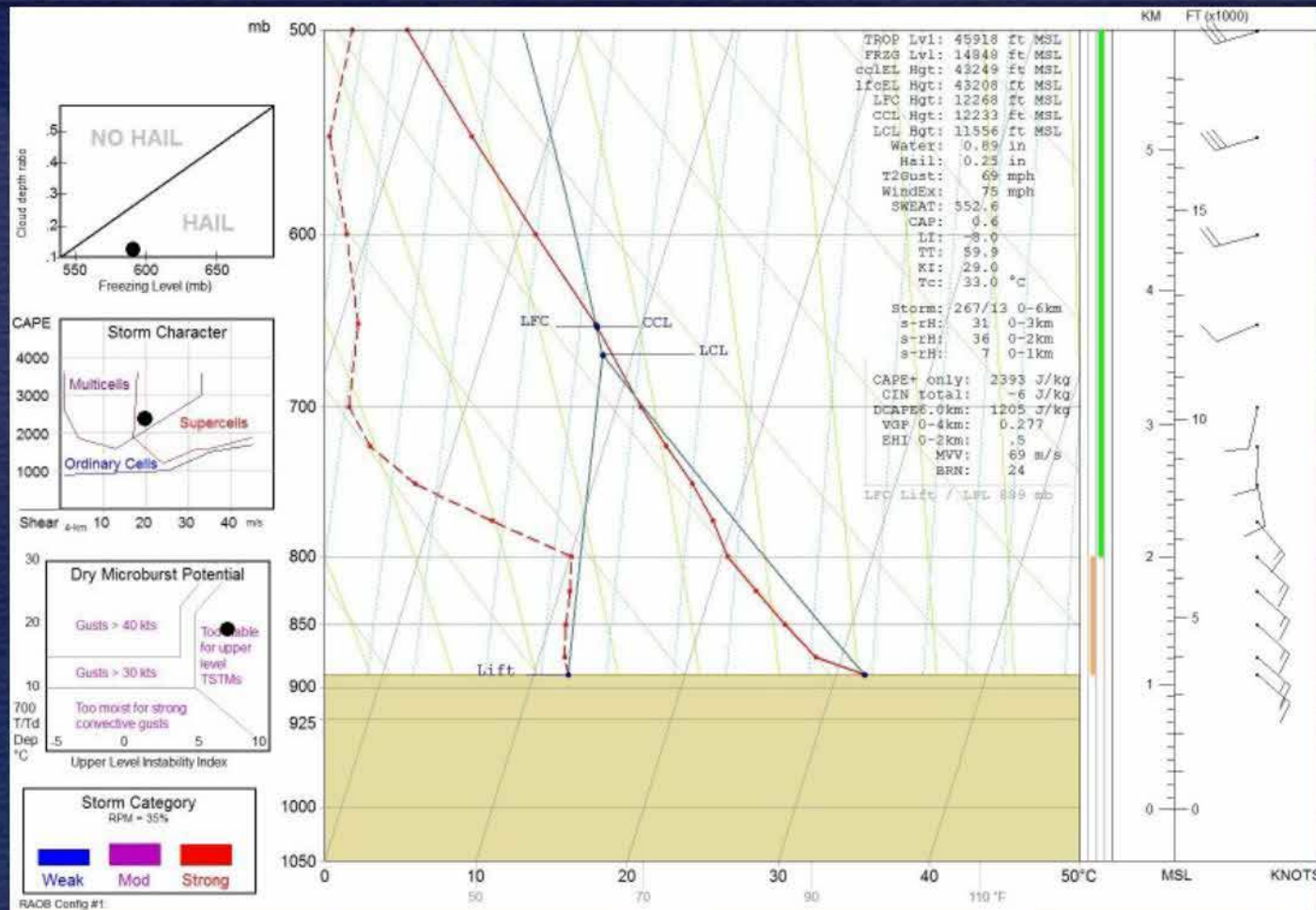
North American  
Mesoscale (NAM)  
numerical model  
12KM, 3 hourly  
data for the U.S.  
or  
Global Data  
Assimilation  
System (GDAS) for  
1° gridded data

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# North American Mesoscale (NAM) numerical model for 2100Z over KAMA



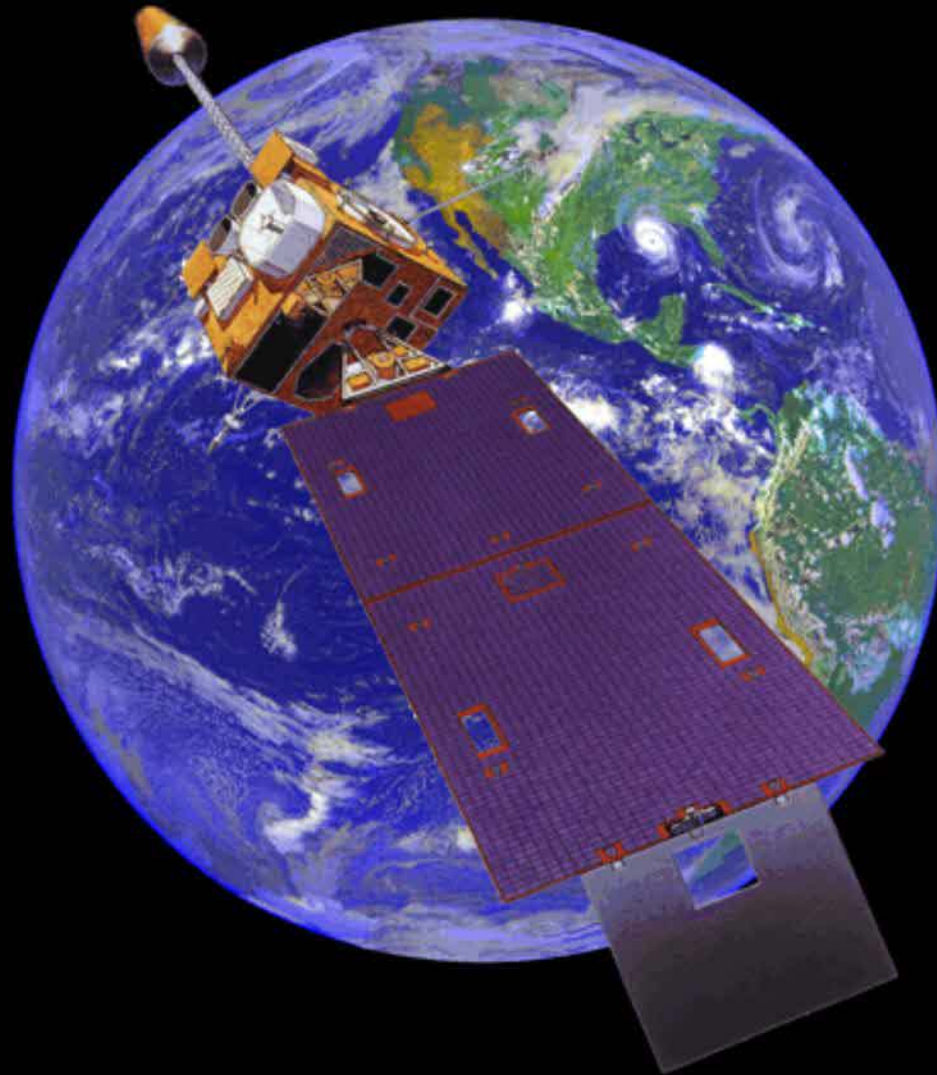
Unstable atmosphere (LI -8) with moderate-strong likelihood of strong to severe multicellular to supercell type TSTMS due to increased shear

# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data
- **Satellite imagery**
  - **Infrared** – cloud tops temperatures (CTT)
  - **Water vapor** – jet stream, troughs, turbulence signature - moisture channel darkening
  - **Visible** – high resolution imagery (1 KM)



# Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES)



# Alternate source for Satellite Imagery

## Short term archive – 5 days

**NCAR**

The National Center for Atmospheric Research  
Operated by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

**FREE**

**RAP Real-Time Weather Data**

Home / RAP : **Weather Home** **Satellite** Radar Surface Upper-Air Forecast

Images from GOES-12 and GOES-10 satellites:

- ☒ Visible
- ☐ Infrared (Color)
- ☐ Infrared (B/W)
- ☐ Water Vapor\*
- ☐ Shortwave IR\*

\* Contiguous U.S. images only

Multi-Spectral:

- ☐ Channels 2-4\*
- ☐ s/w IR reflectance\*
- ☐ Icing Product\*

End date: 23 Apr 2007 ▼

End time: 2000 UTC ▼

Loop duration: Single image ▼

☒ Small size ☐ Large size



<http://www.rap.ucar.edu/weather/satellite/>

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# NOAA

## GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITE SERVER

[GOES Home](#) | [Imagery at a Glance](#)



### GLOBAL

[Full Disk](#)

### HEMISPHERIC

[GOES-East](#)  
[GOES-West](#)  
[Meteosat-10 \(MSG\)](#)  
[MTSAT](#)  
[East / West Composites](#)

### REGIONAL

[Northwest](#)  
[West Central](#)  
[Southwest](#)  
[Northern Plains](#)  
[Central Plains](#)  
[South Central](#)  
[Great Lakes](#)  
[Midwest](#)  
[Southeast](#)  
[Northeast](#)  
[Mid-Atlantic](#)

### STATE WFO SITES

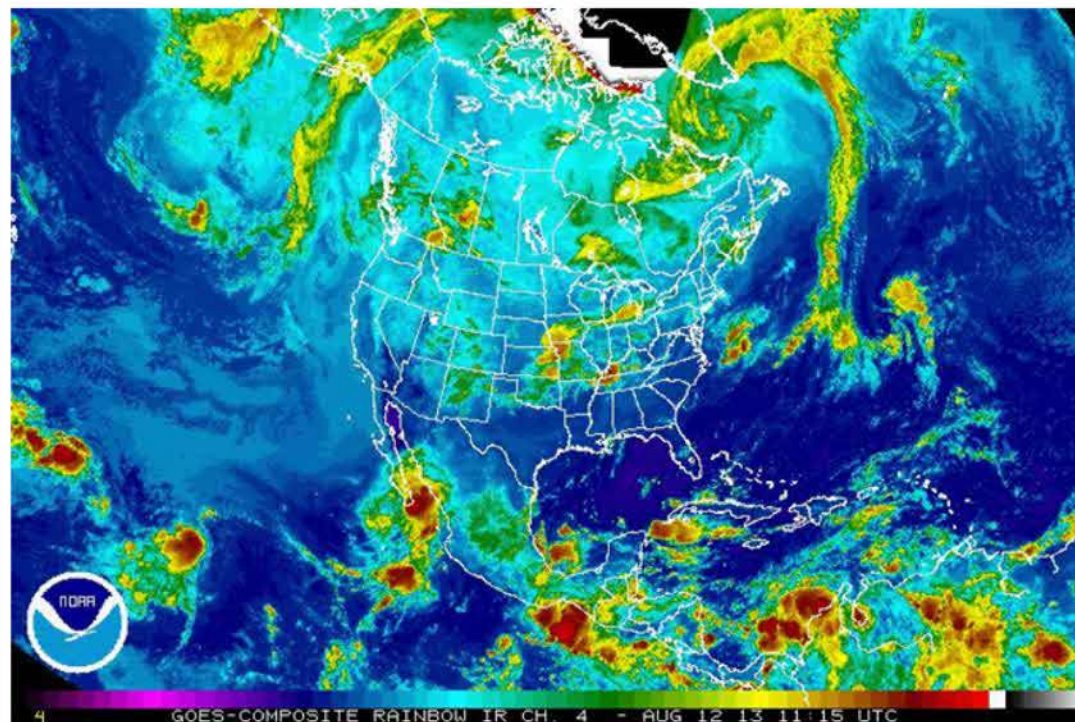
[Eastern](#)  
[Southern](#)  
[Central](#)  
[Western](#)  
[Alaska](#)  
[Hawaii](#)

### SPECIAL IMAGE SETS

[Tropical Floaters](#)  
[Special Hazard Floaters](#)  
[Tropical Atlantic \(Wide\)](#)  
[Tropical East Pacific \(Wide\)](#)  
[Tropical West Pacific \(Wide\)](#)  
[GOES East Archives](#)  
[GOES West Archives](#)

### MISCELLANEOUS

[Previous Web Site](#)



Continental US (NHEM) Sector Infrared

GOES-West	GOES-East	Meteosat-10 (MSG)	Meteosat-7	MTSAT
<a href="#">Global [IR   VIS]</a>	<a href="#">Global [IR   VIS]</a>	<a href="#">Global [IR   VIS]</a>	<a href="#">Global [IR   VIS]</a>	<a href="#">Global [IR   VIS]</a>
<a href="#">Hemispheric</a>	<a href="#">Hemispheric</a>	<a href="#">Hemispheric</a>		<a href="#">Hemispheric</a>

<http://www.goes.noaa.gov/>

**Note:** Most of the previous version of the [GOES Geostationary Server web site](#) continues to exist and in time will be integrated into the new look and feel. » [Previous web site](#)

**FREE**

3 week  
archive  
available  
from  
NOAA

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# Obtaining archive satellite images



# NOAA

## OFFICE OF SATELLITE AND PRODUCT OPERATIONS

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, AND INFORMATION SERVICE

ORGANIZATION

SERVICES

PRODUCTS

OPERATIONS

## Satellite Imagery Products

[Archive](#) | [Composite](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Geographical Information Systems \(GIS\)](#) | [Geostationary Satellite Server](#) | [Land Sectors](#)  
[Ocean Sectors](#) | [Current Image Overview](#) | [Hazard Specific Imagery](#) | [Fire/Smoke](#) | [Tropical Systems](#) | [Volcanic Ash](#)

### Archived Satellite Imagery



[Detailed Product Information](#)

#### Local Archive

21 Day GOES Archive - [GOES East](#) | [GOES West](#)

#### Additional Archives

[Comprehensive Large Array-data Stewardship System \(CLASS\)](#)

[NCDC GOES Archive](#)

[NGDC GOES Archive](#)

[University of Wisconsin \(SSEC\)](#)

#### Historical Imagery

[Operational Significant Event Imagery \(OSEI\)](#)

Saved Tropical Imagery:

[Hurricanes of 2005](#)

[Hurricane Sandy](#) (October, 2012)

[Super Typhoon Haiyan](#) (November, 2013)

21 day archive

<http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/imagery/index.html>

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### GLOBAL

Full Disk

### HEMISPHERIC

GOES-East

GOES-West

Meteosat-10 (MSG)

MTSAT

East / West Composites

### REGIONAL

Northwest

West Central

Southwest

Northern Plains

Central Plains

South Central

Great Lakes

Midwest

Southeast

Northeast

Mid-Atlantic

### STATE WFO SITES

Eastern

Southern

Central

Western

Alaska

Hawaii

## GOES East Image Search

Choose the sector, channel, day and time you want to view. Only the last 21 days of images are online.

### WHAT SECTOR?

GOES EAST CONUS

GOES EAST HURRICANE SECTOR

### WHAT CHANNEL?

INFRARED

VISIBLE

WATER VAPOR

### WHAT DAY?

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

### WHAT WEEK?

THIS WEEK

LAST WEEK

2ND WEEK AGO

3RD WEEK AGO

### WHAT TIME?

(scroll to see more times available)

0015Z

0045Z ^

0115Z

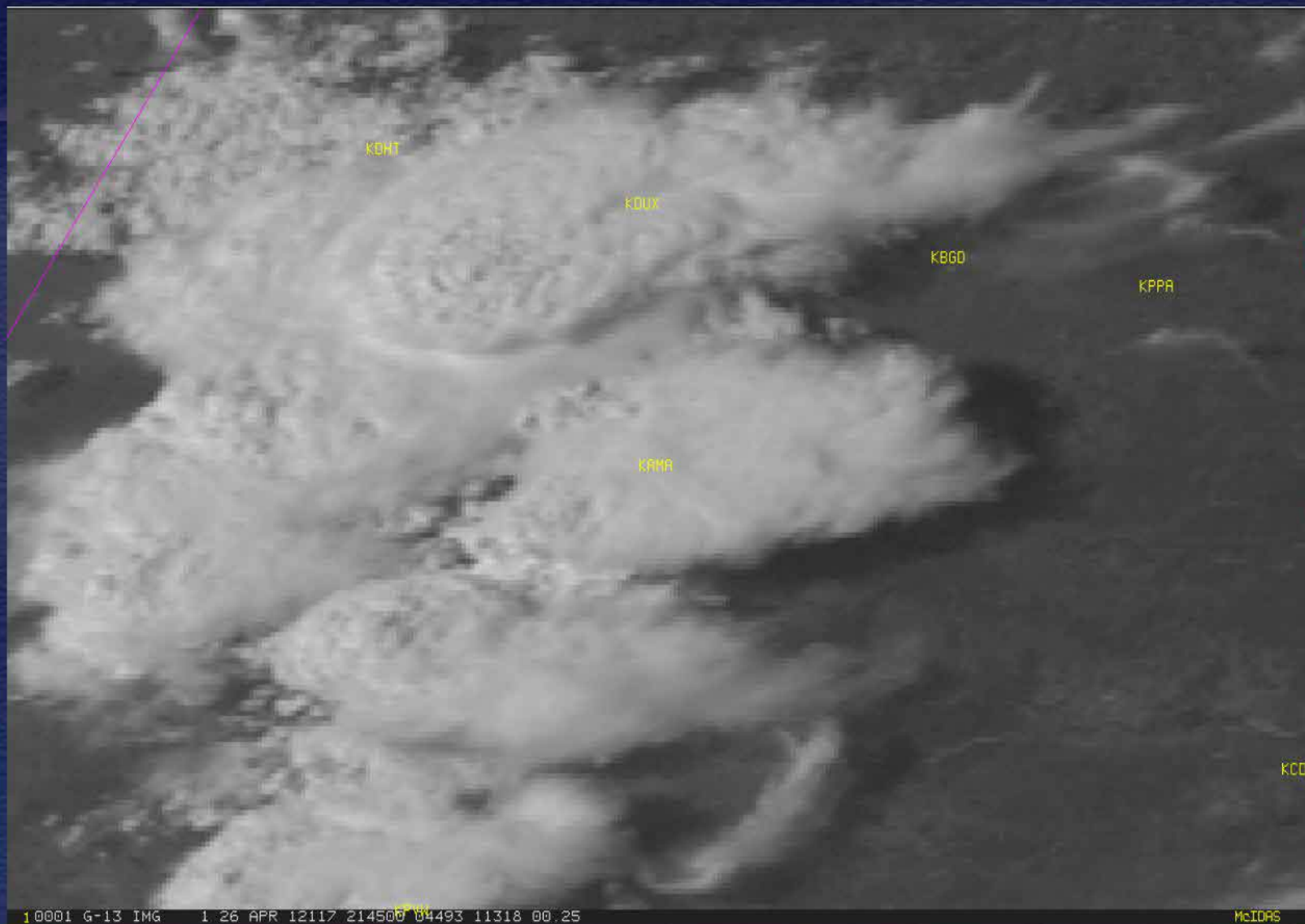
0145Z v

0215Z

Submit Choice

Reset





GOES-13 Imagery 2145Z on April 26, 2012  
CCT 212° K (-61° C) KAMA sounding tops 41,500 ft

NTSB



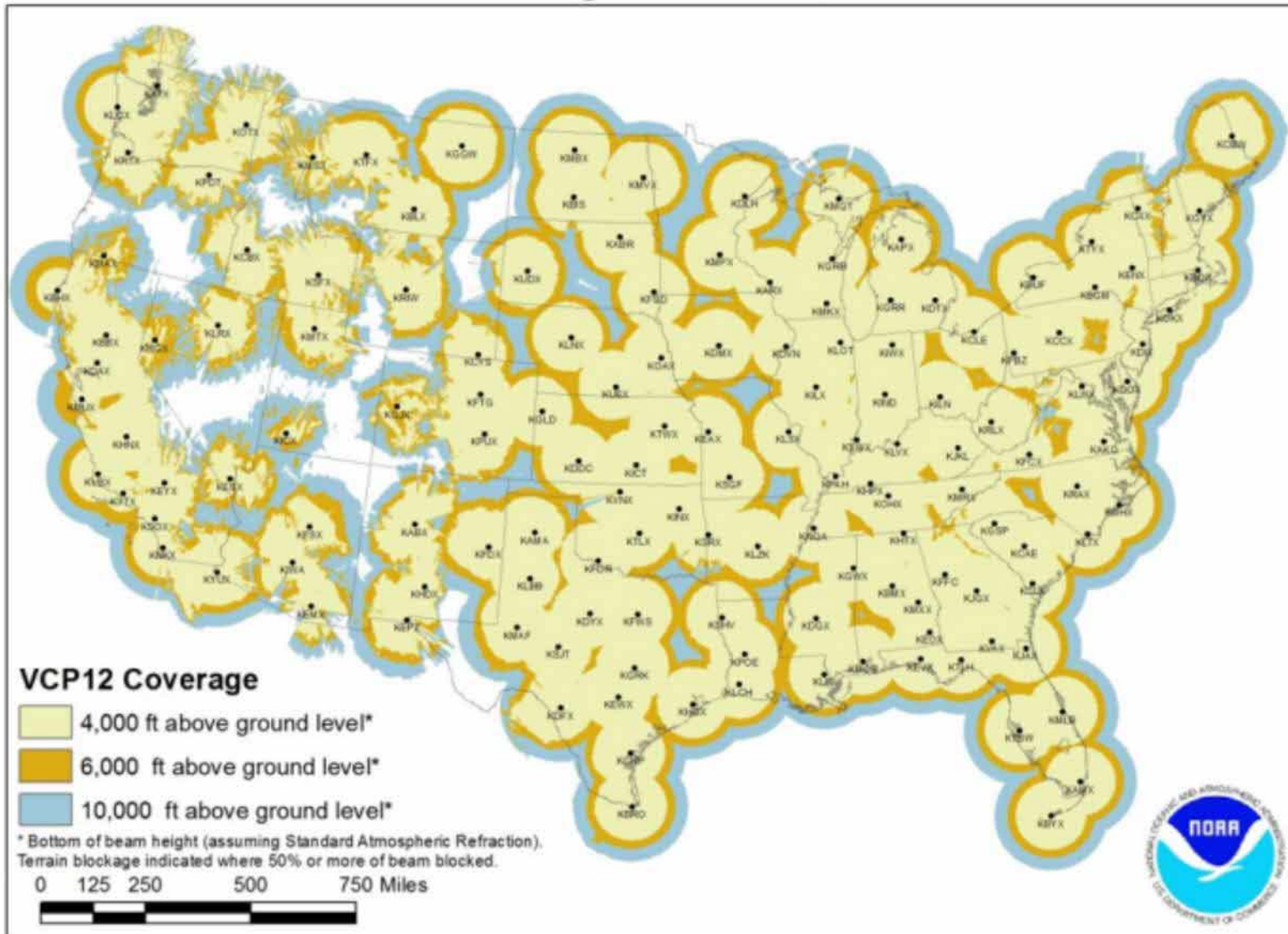


# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
  - Surface Analysis
  - Radar Summary
  - Convective Outlook
- Observations
- Upper air data
  - Stability indices
- Satellite imagery
  - Overshooting cloud tops
  - Enhanced V-shape
- **Radar imagery - WSR-88D “Nexrad”**

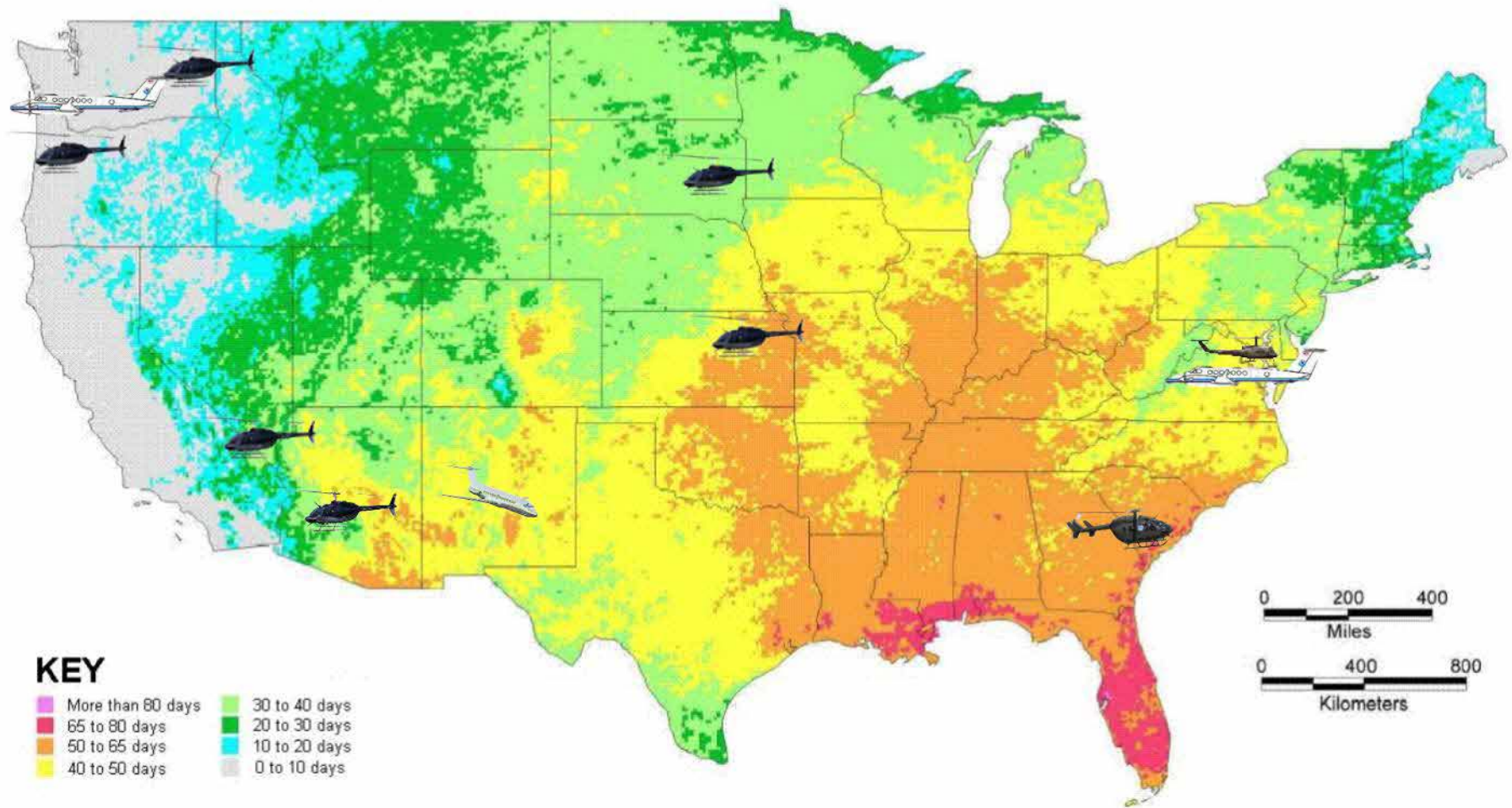
# WSR-88D Radar Coverage

NEXRAD Coverage Below 10,000 Feet AGL



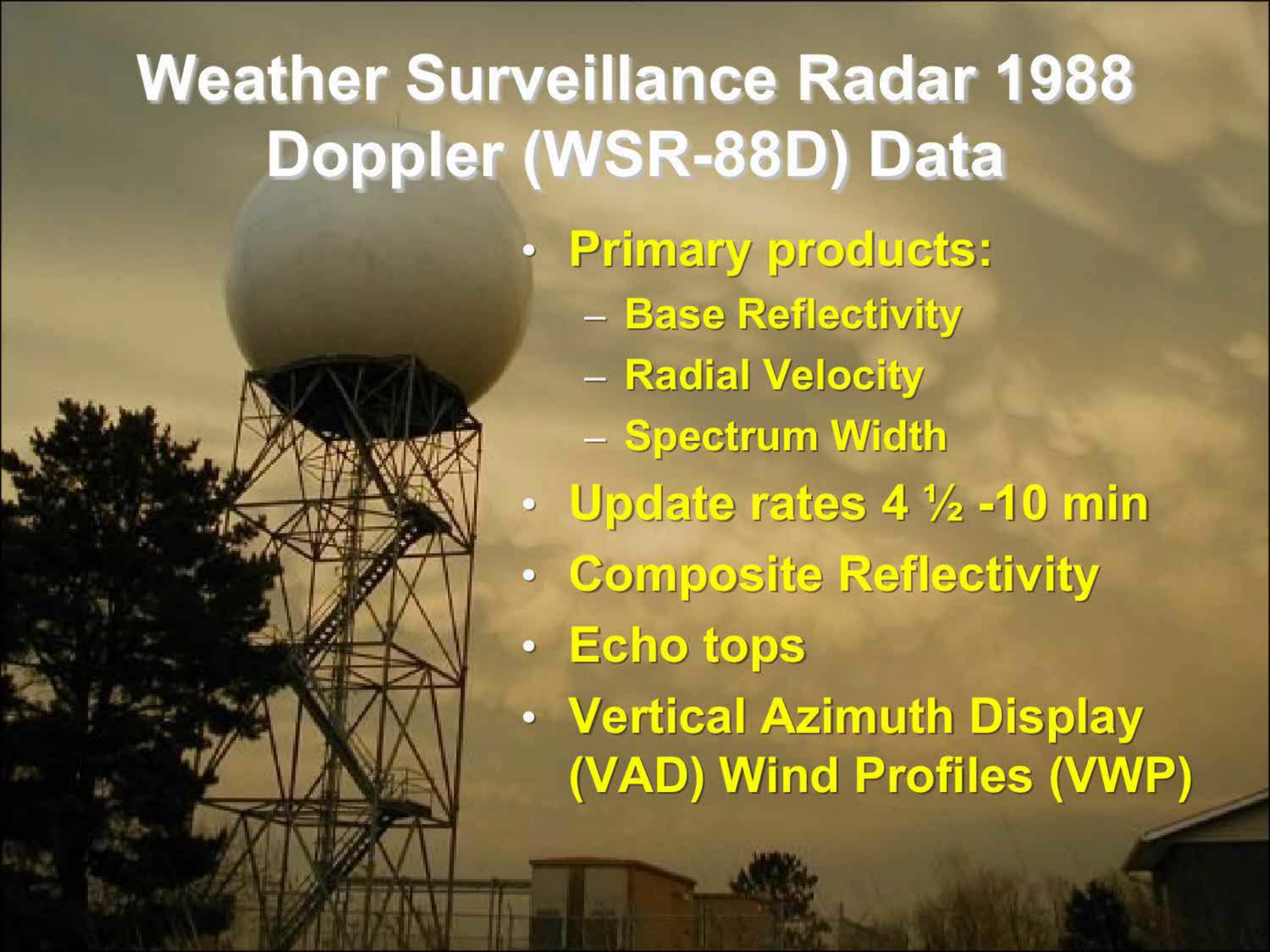


# Average Number of Thunderstorm Days per Year




# Weather Surveillance Radar 1988 Doppler (WSR-88D) Data

- **Primary products:**
  - Base Reflectivity
  - Radial Velocity
  - Spectrum Width
- **Update rates 4 ½ -10 min**
- **Composite Reflectivity**
- **Echo tops**
- **Vertical Azimuth Display (VAD) Wind Profiles (VWP)**





# Obtaining Archive Radar Data

 **NCAR** **RAP Real-Time Weather Data**  
The National Center for Atmospheric Research  
Operated by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

Home / RAP : [Weather Home](#) [Satellite](#) [Radar](#) [Surface](#) [Upper-Air](#) [Forecast](#)

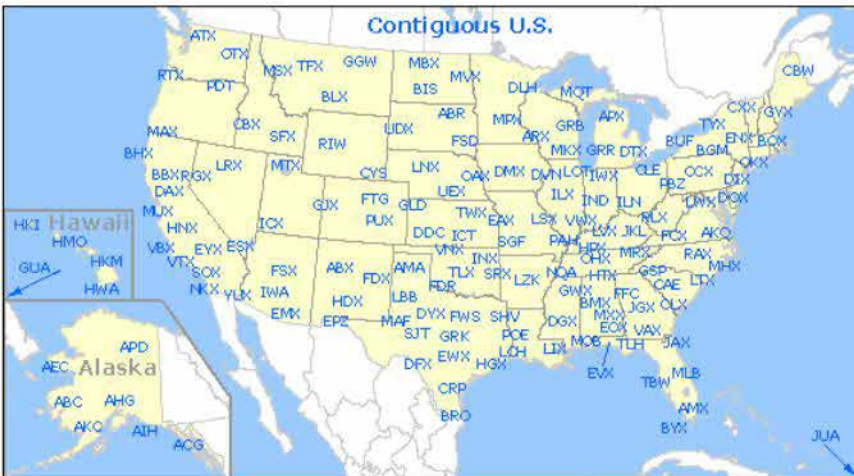
NEXRAD images from WSR-88D radars

**Product:**  
☒ 0.5° Reflectivity  
☐ 0.5° Velocity  
☐ Regional reflectivity\*  
☐ Lightning\*\*

**Background:**  
☒ black  
☐ gray-shaded terrain  
☐ color-shaded terrain

**End date:** Today  
**End time:** Most recent  
**Loop duration:** Single image

**FREE**



\* Regional images are only available for Contiguous U.S. and the choice of background color does not apply.  
\*\* Lightning data plots are only available to .ucar.edu addresses.

NCAR - RAP  
Research  
Applications  
Program

5-day archive

<http://www.rap.ucar.edu/weather/radar/>

- National Weather Service [national mosaic](#)


- National Weather Service

[Radars by State](#)

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# NWS Archive Radar Data

**NOAA** NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
Formerly the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)... [more about NCEI](#) »

Home Climate Information Data Access Customer Support Contact About

Quick Links

Land-Based Station ▾

Satellite ▾

Radar ▴

Radar Data in the NOAA Big Data Project

Display and Conversion Tools

Decoding Utilities and Examples

Interactive Map Tool

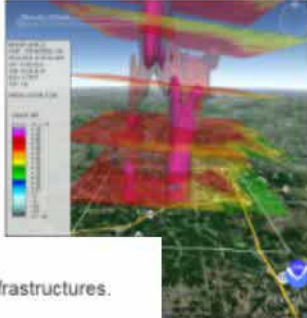
NEXRAD

NEXRAD Radar Products

Terminal Doppler

## Radar Data

Radar, an acronym for radio detection and ranging, is an object detection system that uses radio waves to determine the range, altitude, direction of movement, and speed of objects. The antenna transmits pulses of radio waves or microwaves, which bounce off any object in their path. The object



Reflectivity sweeps in Google Earth for the tornado. The image NOAA Weather and the Earth.

- **Radar Data in the NOAA Big Data Project**  
All Level-2 NEXRAD Radar data is currently available in cloud infrastructures.
- **Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD)**  
Information on the NEXRAD network, history, documentation, base data, and derived products.
- **Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR)**  
Information on the TDWR network, history, documentation, and derived products.
- **Radar Display and Conversion Tools**  
Radar data is in a custom binary format. The visualization and decoding of the data requires specialized software.
- **Interactive Radar Map Tool**  
Supplemental data in support of the radar archive, including historical five-minute reflectivity mosaics for the continental United States, radar coverage maps, and map-based site selection tools.
- **Severe Weather Data**  
Several severe weather datasets exist including the Severe Weather Data Inventory (SWDI), Lightning Products and Services, Storm Data, and International Best Track Archive for Climate Stewardship. SWDI contains a database of the NEXRAD/TDWR tracked storm attributes, including storm structure, hail, mesocyclone, and tornado vortex signature.

collected by  
tal events.

etection  
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rating

<http://v>

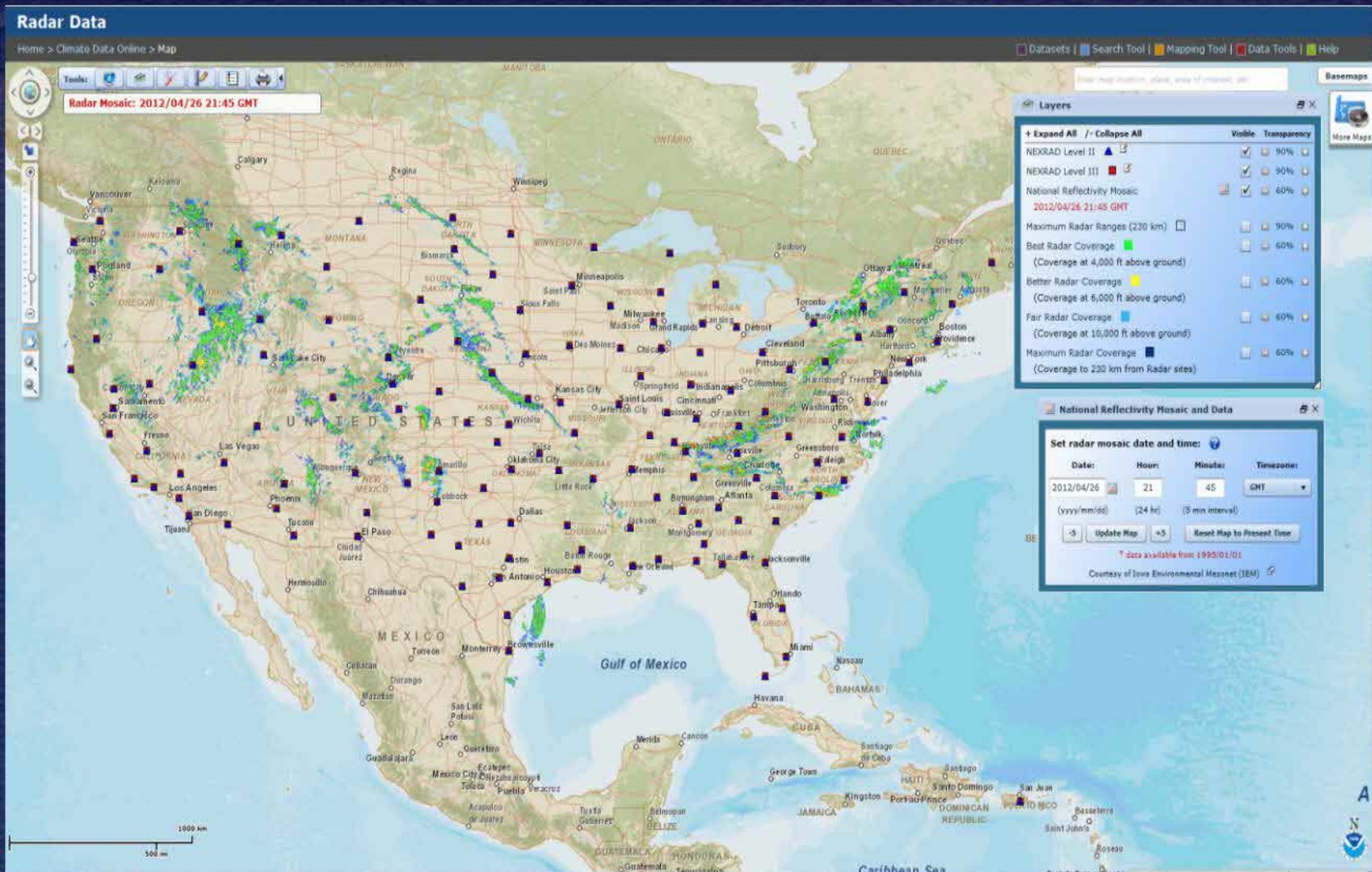
SS

NTSB





# NWS National Radar Composite Archive

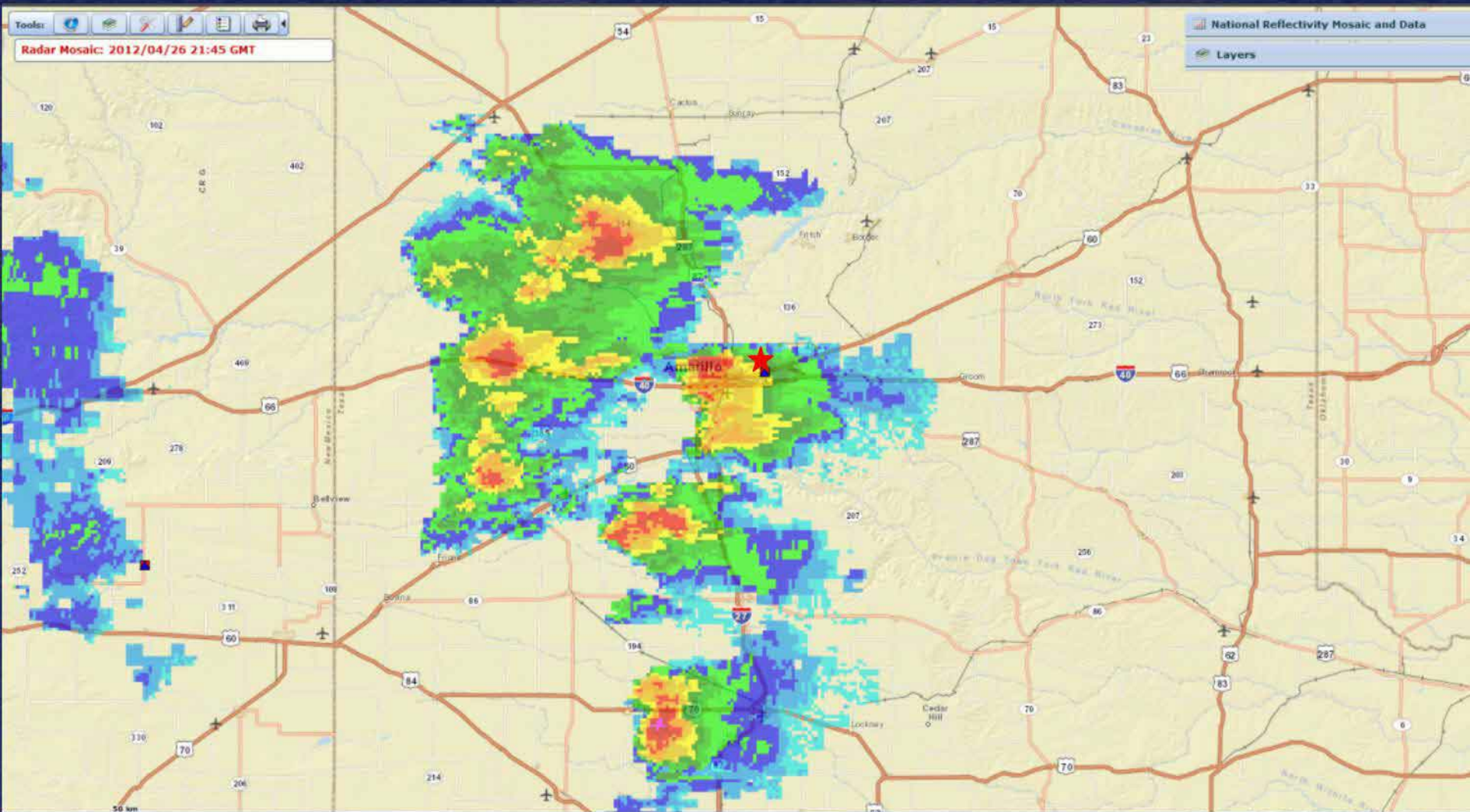


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# NWS National Composite Reflectivity Archive Data at 2145Z April 26, 2012







[NCEI](#) > [Radar Data](#) > [NEXRAD inventory](#)

**NEXRAD Archive Access**

### Data Access

- [Home](#)
- [Select By Map](#)
- [Select By List](#)
- [Select By County, City, Zip Code](#)
- [\(Climate Data Online\)](#)
- [Historical Reflectivity and Coverage Maps](#)
- [Select By Archive File \(Bulk Order\)](#)

## Documentation

- Archive and Access Statistics
- Overview, History
- NEXRAD Product List
- Network Metadata
- Radar Operations Center

### External Resources

NOAA/NWS Current Radar  
NOAA Training (WDTB)

## NEXRAD Data Archive, Inventory and Access



KPOT - PENNETON, OR (04/20/1996 / 12/16/2013)  
 KPGE - FORT POLK, LA (06/28/1996 / 12/18/2013)  
 KPXF - PUEBLO, CO (06/13/1995 / 12/18/2013)  
 KRAX - RALEIGH/DUR, NC (05/30/1994 / 12/17/2013)  
 KRQX - RENO, NV (02/24/1996 / 12/18/2013)  
 KRW - RIVERTON, WY (10/02/1996 / 12/18/2013)  
 KRXX - CHARLESTON, WV (08/20/1994 / 12/18/2013)  
 KRXX - GRIFFISS AFB, NY (07/11/1996 / 06/30/1997)  
 KRTM - PORTLAND, OR (03/13/1996 / 12/18/2013)  
 KSFX - POCATELLO, ID (09/27/1996 / 12/18/2013)  
 KSGF - SPRINGFIELD, MO (04/24/1995 / 12/18/2013)  
 KSMV - SHREVEPORT, LA (08/28/1995 / 12/18/2013)  
 KSJ - KATY, TEXAS (04/28/1996 / 12/18/2013)

[Select By Site List](#)  
(WSR-88D and TDWR sites)

[Select by County, City, Zip Code](#)  
(Multiple Sites and Days)

[Select by Archived File](#)  
(Generic Access to the NCDC Archive.  
Useful for Bulk Orders and Advanced  
Users)



<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/nexradinv/>

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**NEXRAD Archive Access**

**Data Access**

- [Home](#)
- [Select By Map](#)
- [Select By List](#)
- [Select By County, City, Zip Code](#)  
(Climate Data Online)
- [Historical Reflectivity and](#)  
[Coverage Maps](#)
- [Select By Archive File \(Bulk Order\)](#)

**Documentation**

- [Archive and Access Statistics](#)
- [Overview, History](#)
- [NEXRAD Product List](#)
- [Network Metadata](#)
- [Radar Operations Center](#)

**External Resources**

- [NOAA/NWS Current Radar](#)
- [NOAA Training \(WDTB\)](#)

## NEXRAD Inventory: Choose Day and Product

**KAMA - AMARILLO, TX**


[\(Site Metadata\)](#)

**Period of Record:**

Level-II: 03/17/1994 to 06/13/2016

Level-III: 01/14/1994 to 06/10/2016

**Examine Inventory:**

Choose Date:     (GMT)

**Choose Product:**

- Level-II (Base Data)**
- Level-III (Products) (ALL)
- L3 [N0R] - Short Range Base Reflectivity (16 Level / 230 KM) (~ 0.5 Deg)
- L3 [N1R] - Short Range Base Reflectivity (16 Level / 230 KM) (~ 1.5 Deg)
- L3 [N2R] - Short Range Base Reflectivity (16 Level / 230 KM) (~ 2.4 Deg)
- L3 [N3R] - Short Range Base Reflectivity (16 Level / 230 KM) (~ 3.4 Deg)
- L3 [N0Q] - Long Range Base Reflectivity (256 Level / 460 KM) (~ 0.5 Deg)
- L3 [NAQ] - Long Range Base Reflectivity (256 Level / 460 KM) (~ 0.9 Deg)

Product Filter:

Clear

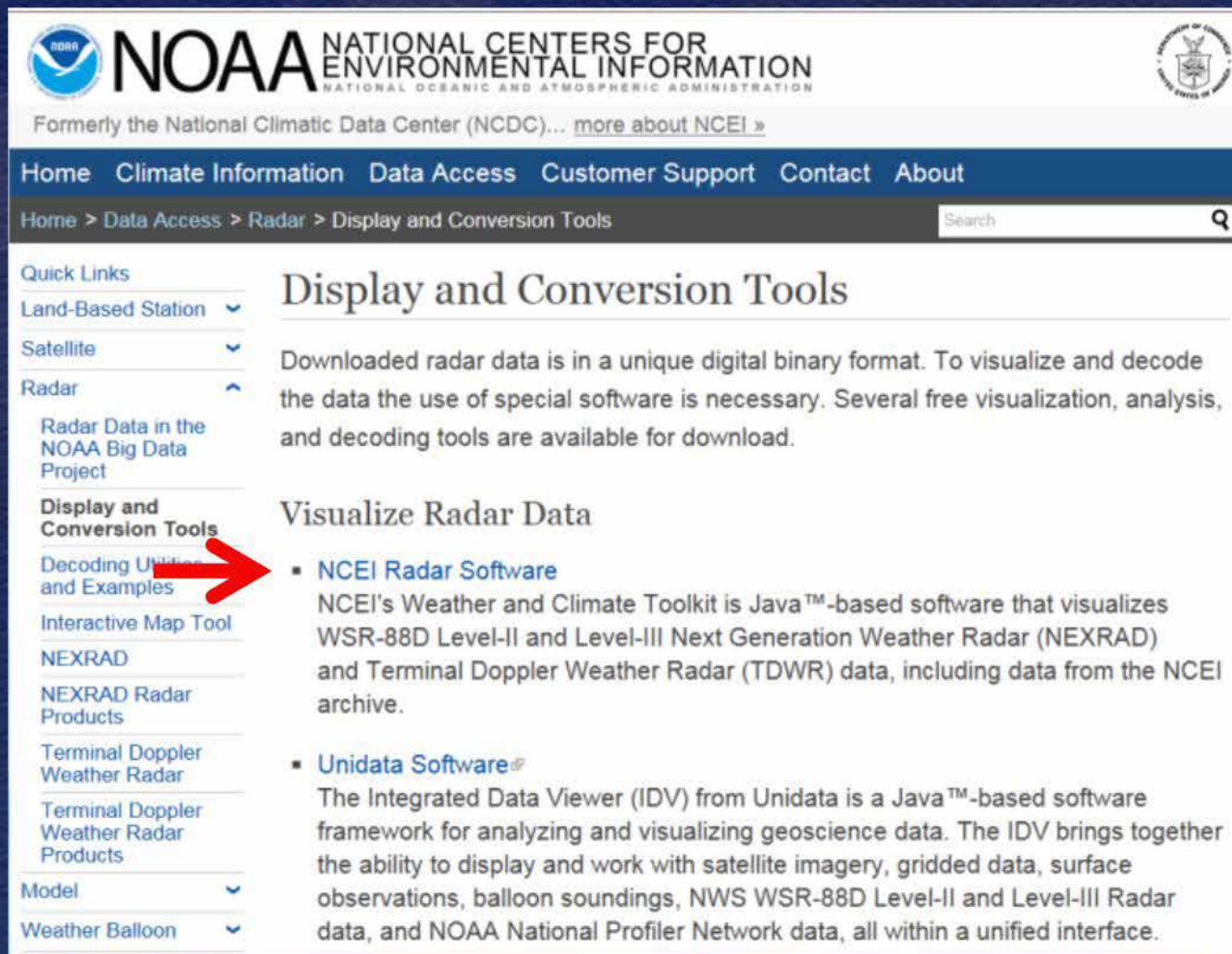
Create Graph


Hold 'Shift' or 'Control' to select multiple Level-III Products



# NWS Weather and Climate Toolkit

## Allows user to display raw WSR-88D data



 **NOAA** NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Formerly the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)... [more about NCEI](#) »

[Home](#) [Climate Information](#) [Data Access](#) [Customer Support](#) [Contact](#) [About](#)

Home > Data Access > Radar > Display and Conversion Tools

**Quick Links**

- Land-Based Station
- Satellite
- Radar
  - Radar Data in the NOAA Big Data Project
- Display and Conversion Tools**
  - [Decoding Utilities and Examples](#)
  - [Interactive Map Tool](#)
  - [NEXRAD](#)
  - [NEXRAD Radar Products](#)
  - [Terminal Doppler Weather Radar](#)
  - [Terminal Doppler Weather Radar Products](#)
- Model
- Weather Balloon

## Display and Conversion Tools

Downloaded radar data is in a unique digital binary format. To visualize and decode the data the use of special software is necessary. Several free visualization, analysis, and decoding tools are available for download.

### Visualize Radar Data

- [NCEI Radar Software](#)  
NCEI's Weather and Climate Toolkit is Java™-based software that visualizes WSR-88D Level-II and Level-III Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD) and Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR) data, including data from the NCEI archive.
- [Unidata Software](#)  
The Integrated Data Viewer (IDV) from Unidata is a Java™-based software framework for analyzing and visualizing geoscience data. The IDV brings together the ability to display and work with satellite imagery, gridded data, surface observations, balloon soundings, NWS WSR-88D Level-II and Level-III Radar data, and NOAA National Profiler Network data, all within a unified interface.

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## NOAA's Weather and Climate Toolkit

### Quick Links

[Weather and Climate Toolkit Home](#)

#### Data Access:

- Station
- Radar
- Satellite
- Model
- Severe Weather

### Toolkit

[Download/Installation](#)  
[Find Data](#)  
[Image Gallery](#)  
[Java Requirements](#)  
[Export Formats](#)  
[Batch Processing](#)  
[Credits](#)  
[API / Source Code](#)

### Documentation

[User Guide/Tutorials](#)  
[FAQ](#)  
[Presentations](#)

### Introduction

NOAA's Weather and Climate Toolkit (WCT) is free, platform independent software distributed from NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). The WCT allows the visualization and data export of weather and climate data, including Radar, Satellite and Model data. The WCT also provides access to weather/climate web services provided from NCEI and other organizations.

The WCT provides tools for background maps, animations and basic filtering. The export of images and movies is provided in multiple formats. The data export feature supports conversion of data to a variety of common formats including GeoJSON, KMZ, Shapefile, Well-Known Text, GeoTIFF, ESRI Grid and Gridded NetCDF. These data export features promote the interoperability of weather and climate information with various scientific communities and common software packages such as ArcGIS, Google Earth, MatLAB, QGIS, R and many more. Advanced data export support for Google Earth enables the 2-D and 3D export of rendered data and isosurfaces.

Current data types supported:

- CF-compliant Gridded NetCDF
- Generic CF-compliant Irregularly-Spaced/Curvilinear Gridded NetCDF/HDF
- GRIB1, GRIB2, GINI, GEMPAK, HDF (CF-compliant) and more gridded formats
- GOES Satellite AREA Files
- NEXRAD Radar Data (Level-II and Level-III)
- U.S. Drought Monitor Service (from the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC))
- OPeNDAP support for Gridded Datasets

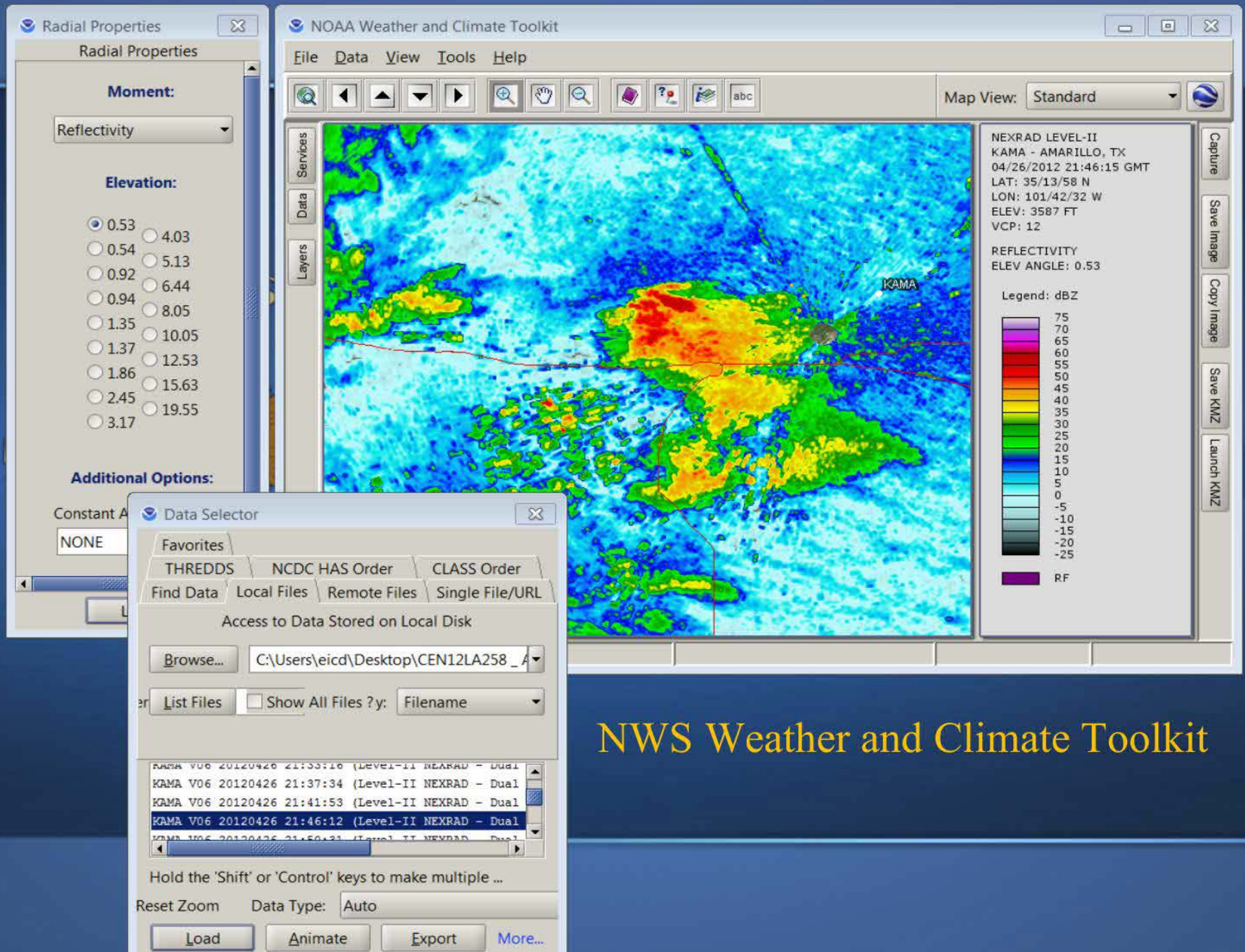
[Download / Launch](#)

[New Features](#) / [FAQ](#) / [Tutorials](#)



NOAA's Climate.gov created an [article](#) and [video introduction](#) to the Weather and Climate Toolkit. If you are a first time user, please check out this video for more information on the Toolkit's capabilities.

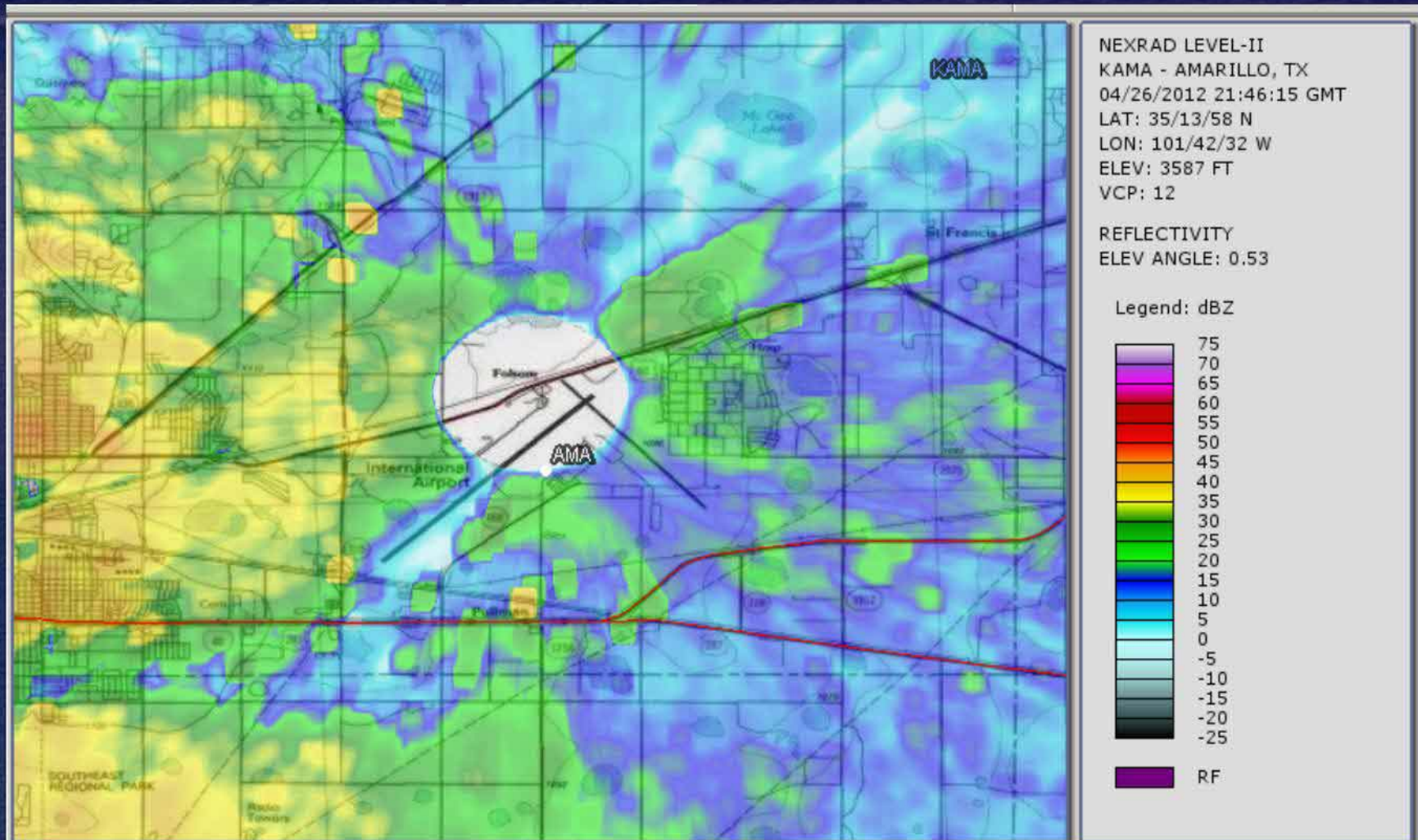




NWS Weather and Climate Toolkit



# KAMA WSR-88D 0.5° base reflectivity image at 2146Z



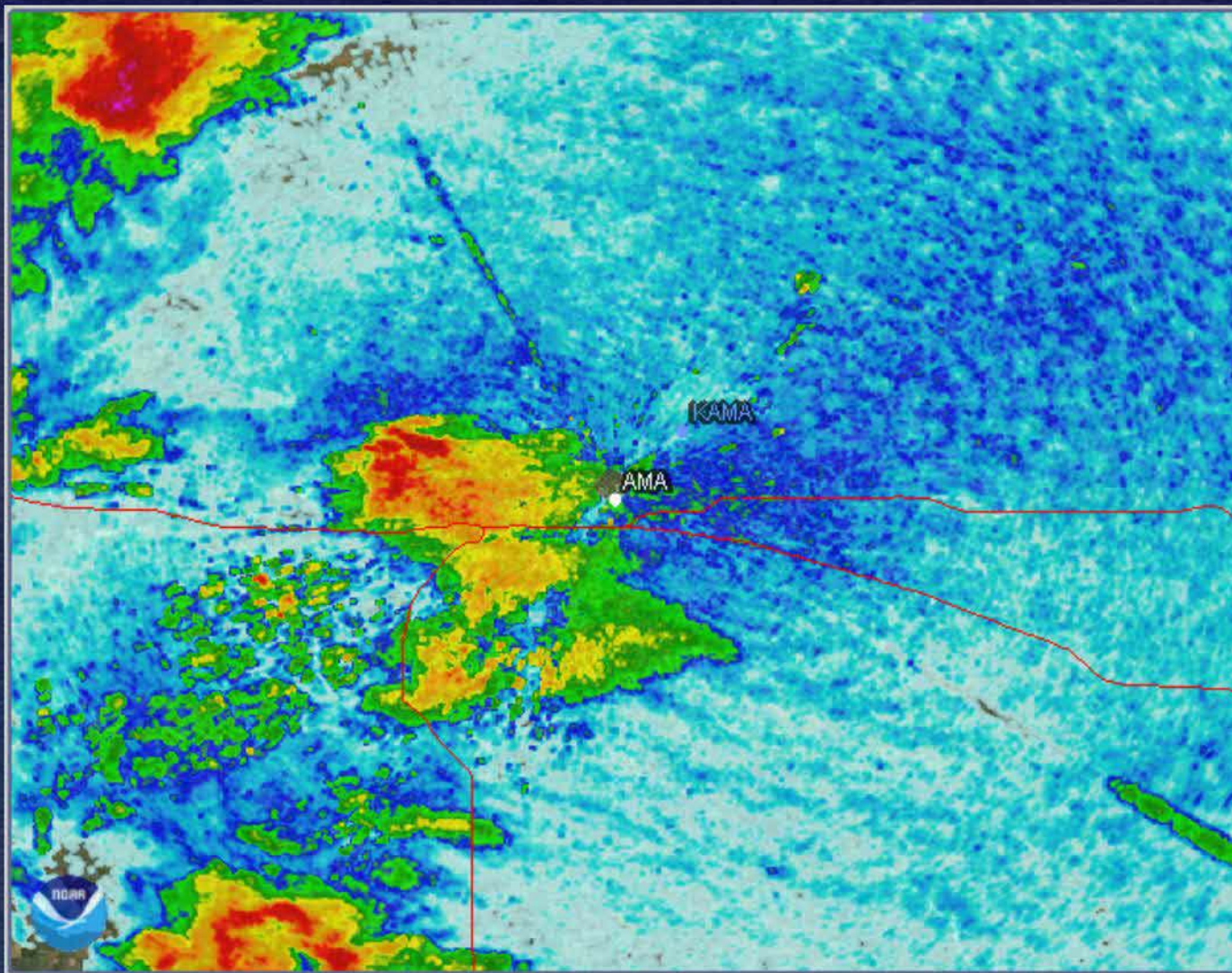
50% transparency applied to show airport

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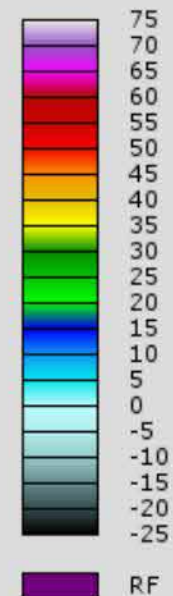
# KAMA WSR-88D 0.5° Base Reflectivity image at 2146Z



NEXRAD LEVEL-II  
KAMA - AMARILLO, TX  
04/26/2012 21:46:15 GMT  
LAT: 35/13/58 N  
LON: 101/42/32 W  
ELEV: 3587 FT  
VCP: 12

REFLECTIVITY  
ELEV ANGLE: 0.53

Legend: dBZ

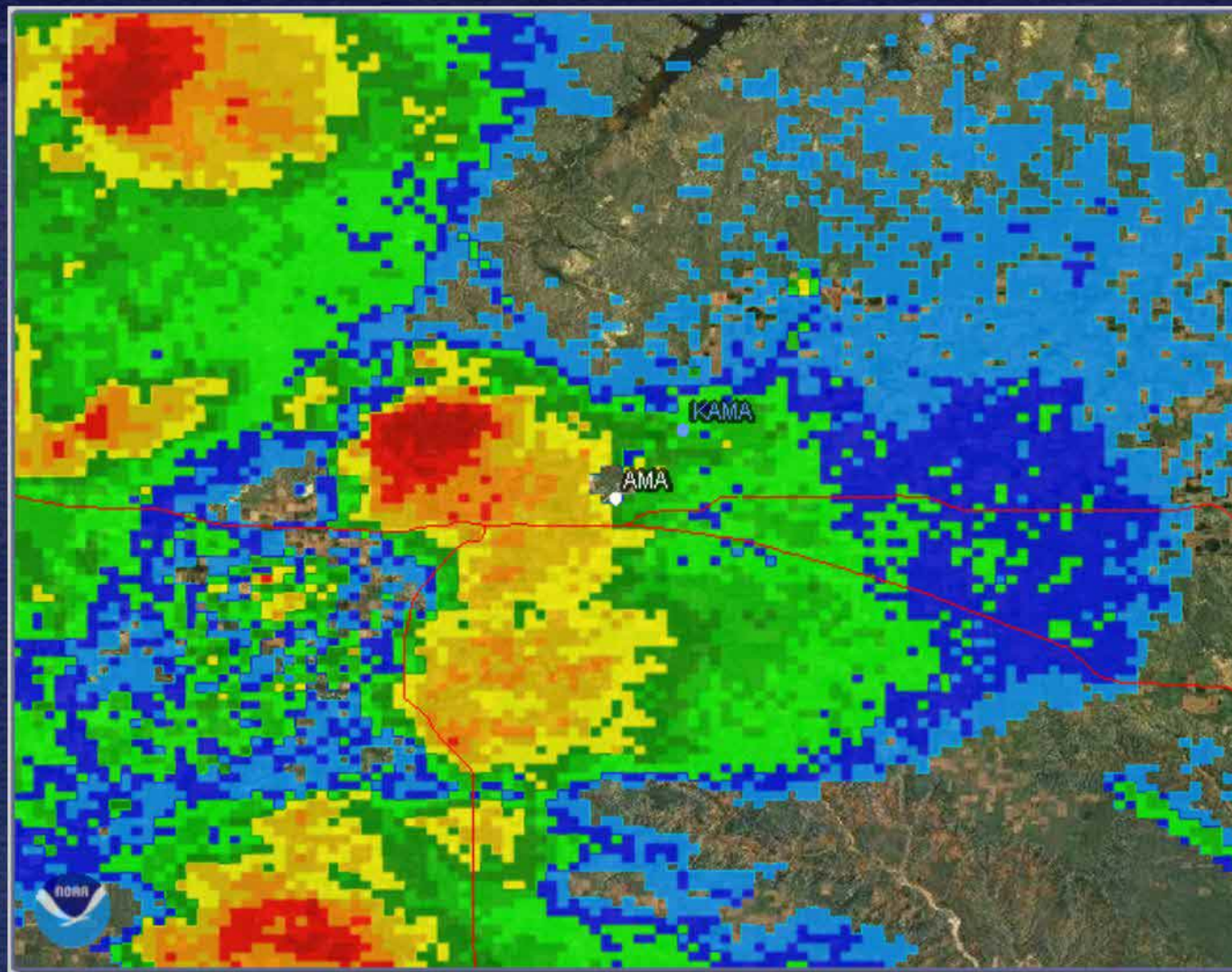


NTSB





# KAMA Composite Reflectivity image at 2146Z



NEXRAD LEVEL-III  
COMPOSITE REF. 124NM  
KAMA - AMARILLO, TX  
04/26/2012 21:46:12 GMT  
LAT: 35/13/58 N  
LON: 101/42/32 W  
ELEV: 3703 FT  
MODE/VCP: A / 12

MAX: 64 dBZ  
BOT: 0 KFT  
TOP: 0 KFT

Legend: dBZ (Category)

	75 (15)
	70 (14)
	65 (13)
	60 (12)
	55 (11)
	50 (10)
	45 (9)
	40 (8)
	35 (7)
	30 (6)
	25 (5)
	20 (4)
	15 (3)
	10 (2)
	5 (1)

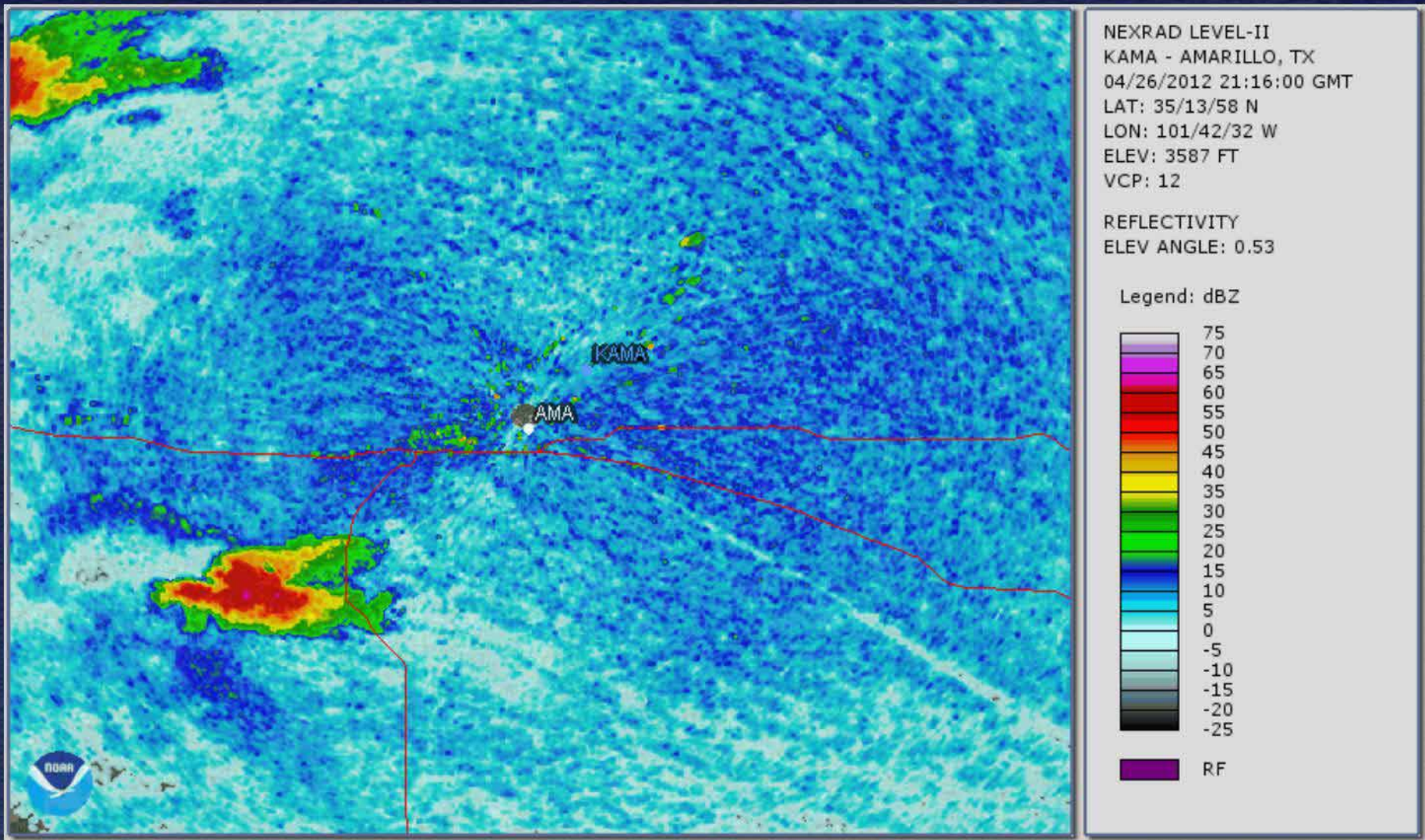


NTSB





# KAMA WSR-88D Animation

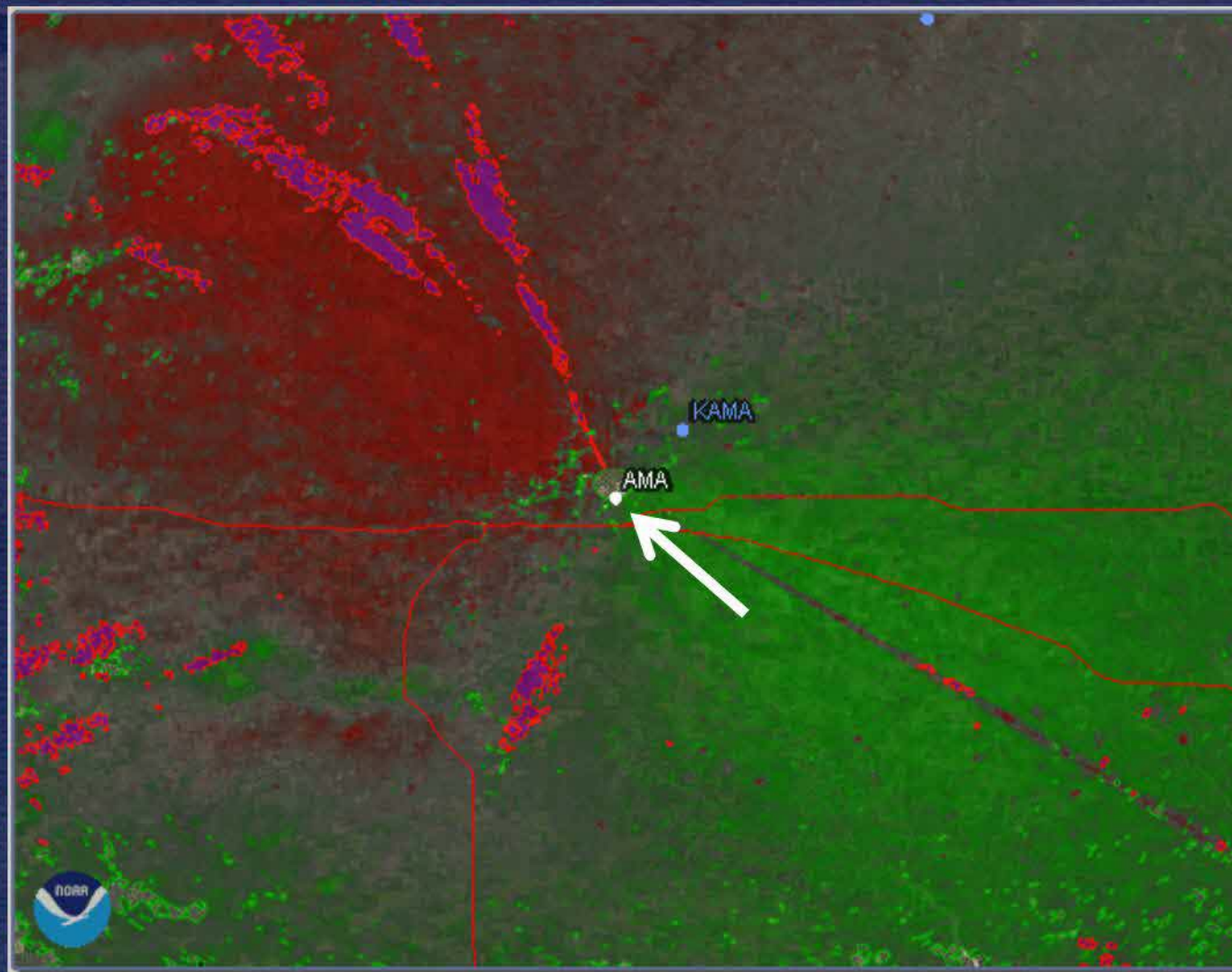


NTSB





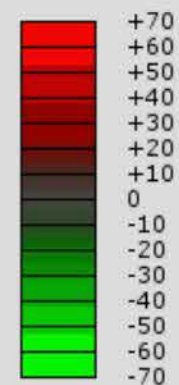
# KAMA WSR-88D Radial Velocity Imagery



NEXRAD LEVEL-II  
KAMA - AMARILLO, TX  
04/26/2012 21:16:00 GMT  
LAT: 35/13/58 N  
LON: 101/42/32 W  
ELEV: 3587 FT  
VCP: 12

RADIAL VELOCITY  
ELEV ANGLE: 0.54

Legend: KT



RF

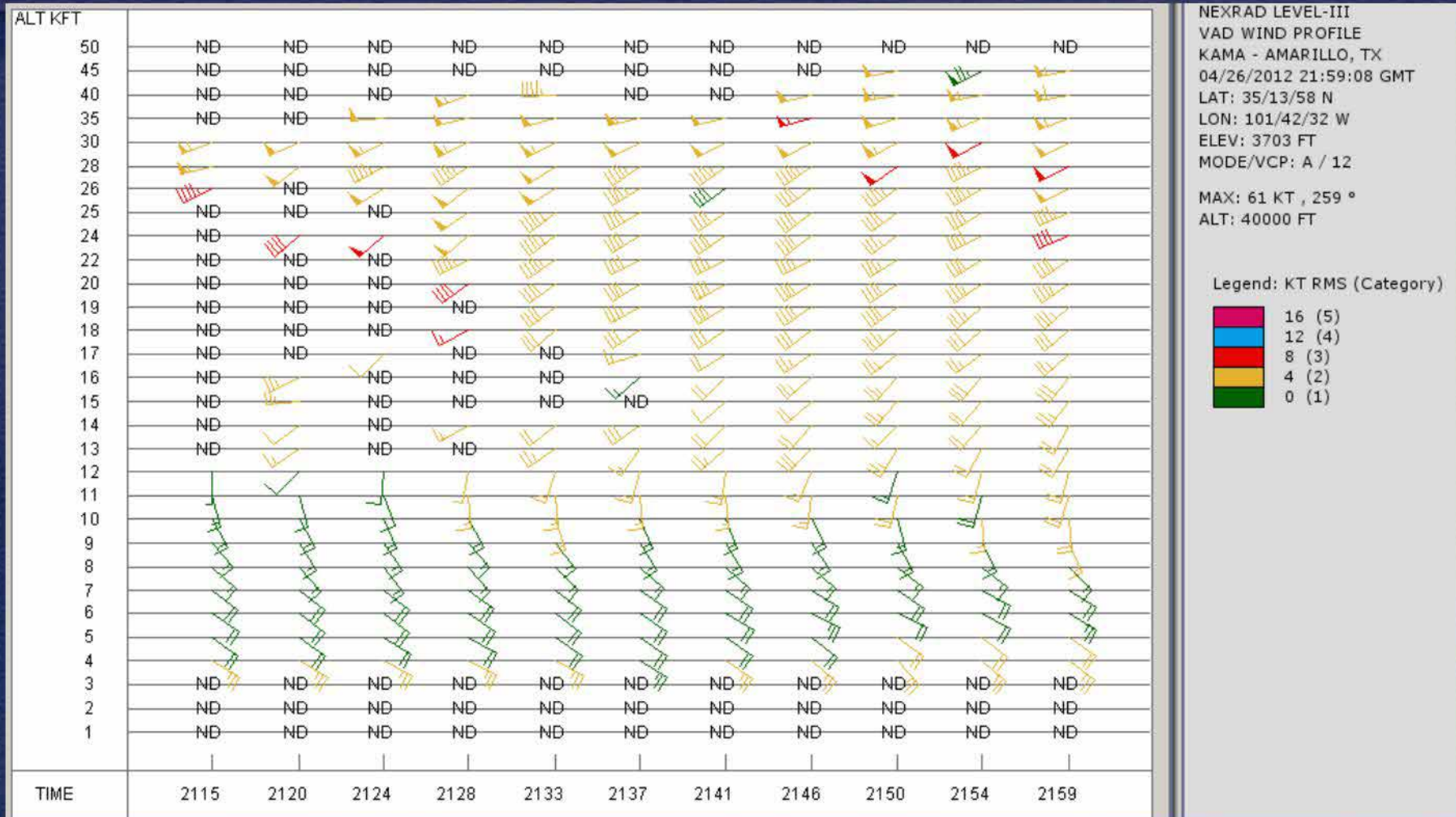


NTSB





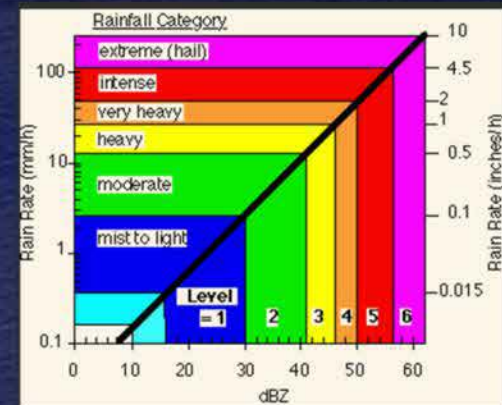
# WSR-88D VAD Wind Profile



No echoes below 3,000 ft  
4,000 ft wind from 120° 25-30KT

# VIP/dBZ Conversion Chart

NWS VIP	WSR-88D LVL	PRECIP MODE dBZ	RAINFALL
0	0 1 2	<5 5 to 9 10 to 14	
1 VERY LIGHT	3 4 5	15 to 19 20 to 24 25 to 29	.02 /hr
2 LIGHT TO MODERATE	6 7	30 to 34 35 to 39	.09/hr
3 STRONG	8	40 to 44	.48/hr
4 VERY STRONG	9	45 to 49	2.50/hr
5 INTENSE	10	50 to 54	5.70/hr
6 EXTREME	11 12 13 14 15	55 to 59 60 to 64 65 to 69 70 to 74 ≥ 75	12.0/hr



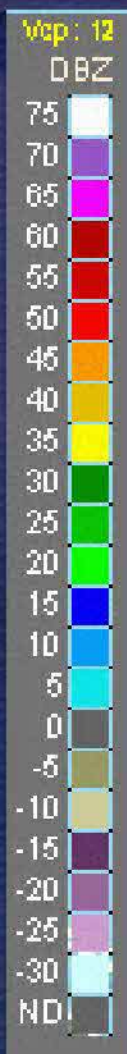
\* VIP levels used in old Radar Summary Chart

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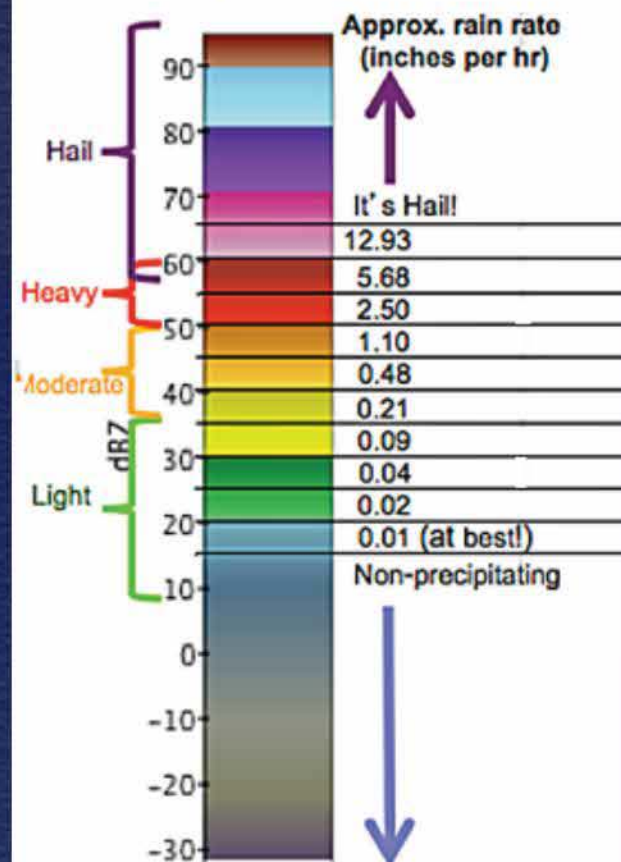
# Radar dBZ reflectivity scale and rainfall rates



dBZ versus Rainrate

dBZ	R (mm/h)	Rate (in/hr)	Intensity
5	0.07	< 0.01	Hardly Noticeable
10	0.15	< 0.01	Light Mist
15	0.3	0.01	Mist
20	0.6	0.02	Very Light
25	1.3	0.05	Light
30	2.7	0.1	Light to Moderate
35	5.6	0.22	Moderate Rain
40	11.53	0.45	Moderate Rain
45	23.7	0.92	Moderate to Heavy
50	48.6	1.90	Heavy
55	100	4	Very Heavy / Small Hail
60	205	8	Extreme / Moderate Hail
65	421	16.6	Extreme / Large Hail

Enhanced  
(8-bit)



# Updated AC 00-24C Thunderstorms

- Ground based weather radar
  - Echo Intensity (Reflectivity) -dBZ
  - WSR-88D clear air & precip modes
  - Base & composite reflectivity images
  - Flight planning
  - Weather in-cockpit displays
    - Not real time – time lag
- Airborne avoidance radar
  - 20 NM avoidance
  - Attenuation
- Do's & Don'ts rules on thunderstorms

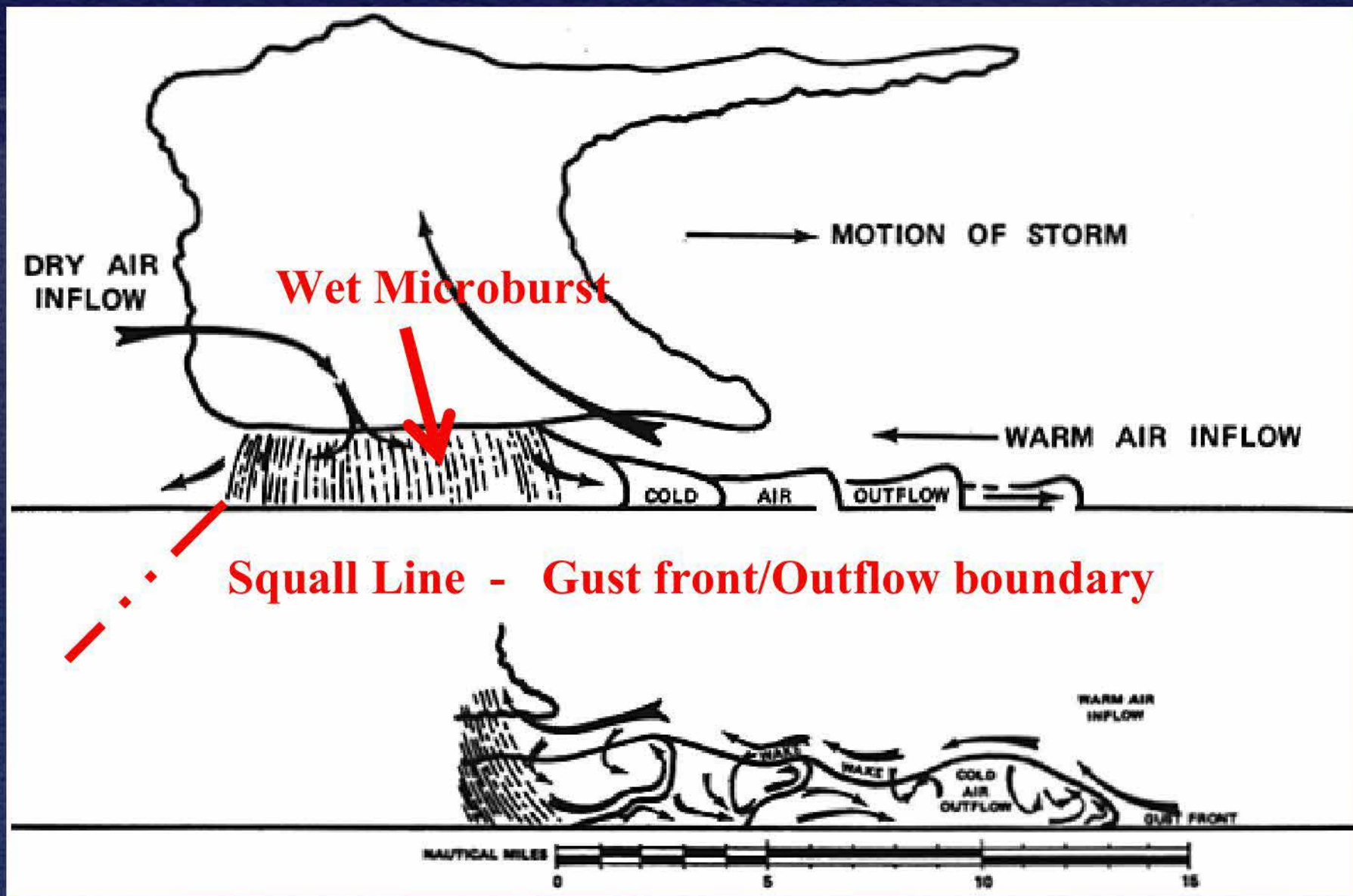




# *Thunderstorm Hazards*

- 
- ✈️ Tornadoes
    - ✈️ Supercells
  - ✈️ Turbulence
  - ✈️ Windshear
    - ✈️ Gust Front
    - ✈️ Microbursts
  - ✈️ Icing
  - ✈️ Hail
  - ✈️ Low ceilings & visibilities
  - ✈️ Altimeter errors
  - ✈️ Lightning
  - ✈️ Engine water ingestion

**\* Updated 2013: AC 00-24C - Thunderstorms**



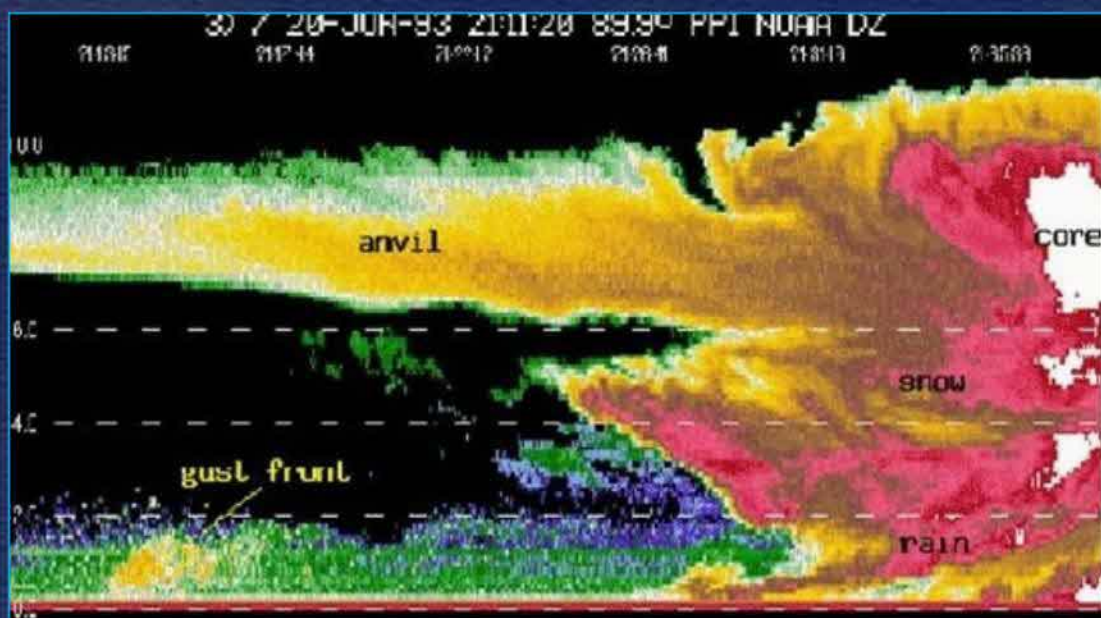


## Thunderstorm Avoidance Rules:

*(1) Don't land or takeoff in the face of an approaching thunderstorm. A sudden gust front of low-level turbulence could cause loss of control.*

Note Warning Signs!



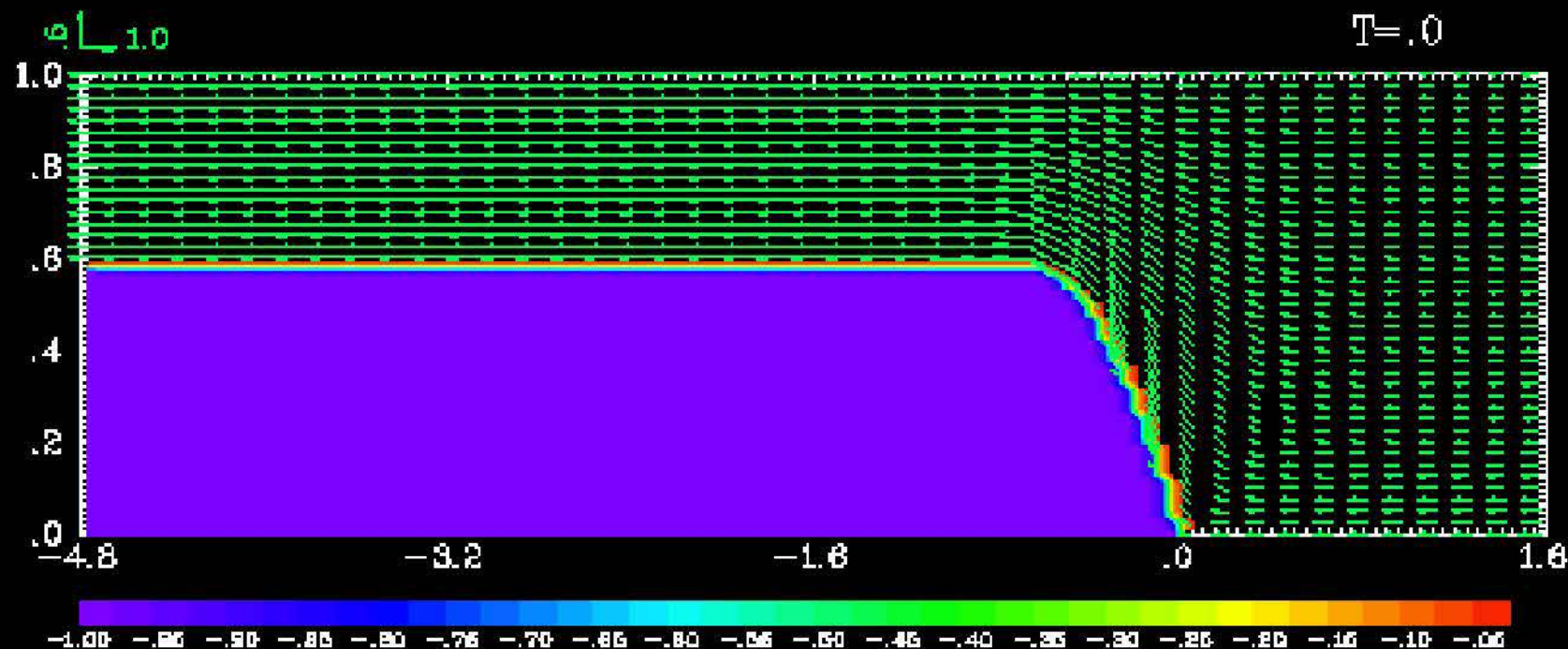


NTSB

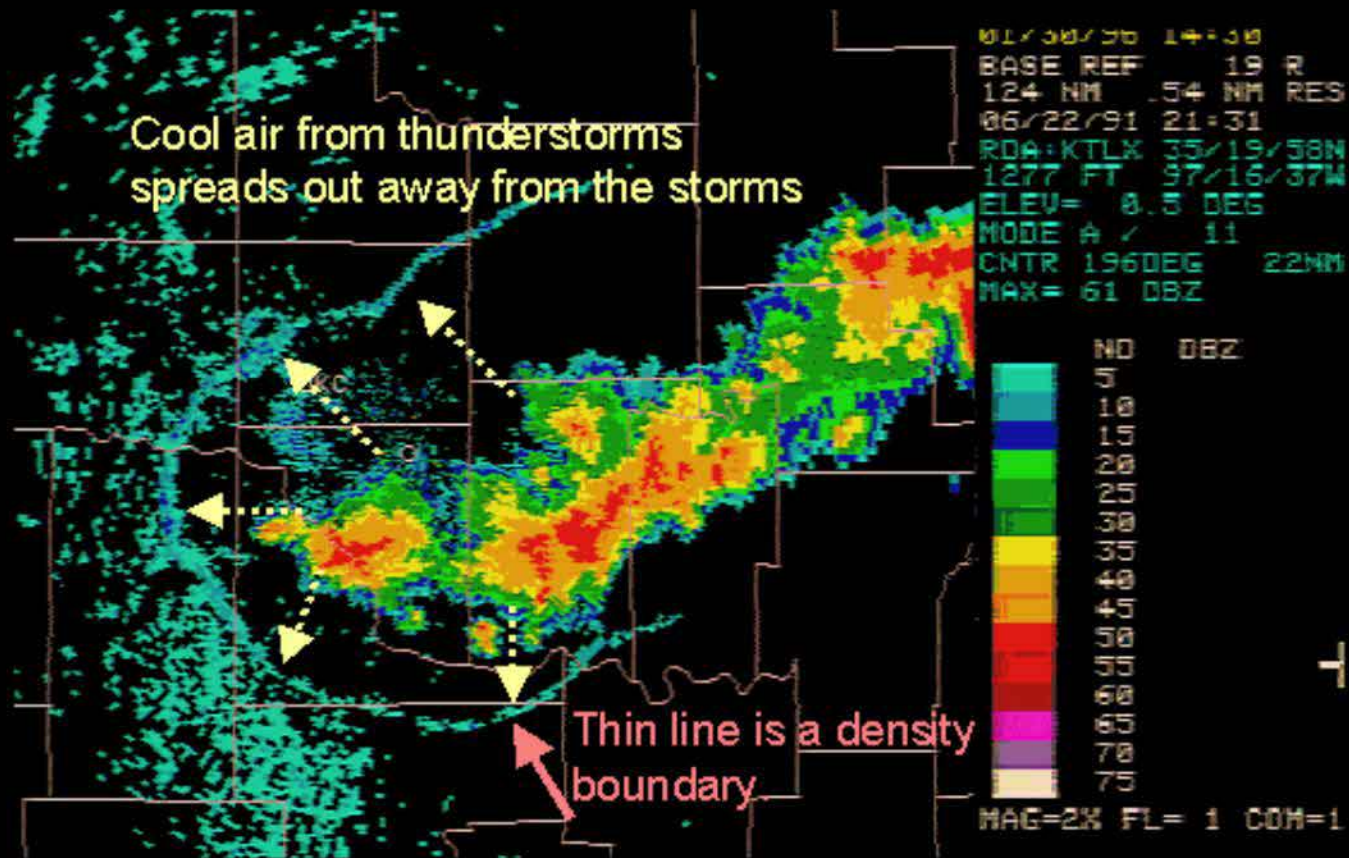




# Gust Front Hazard – takeoff & landing



## Outflow Boundary Example



Cool air from the thunderstorms spreads out in all directions away from the storms. These boundaries (separating the cool air from warmer ambient air) can act as focusing mechanisms for additional activity.

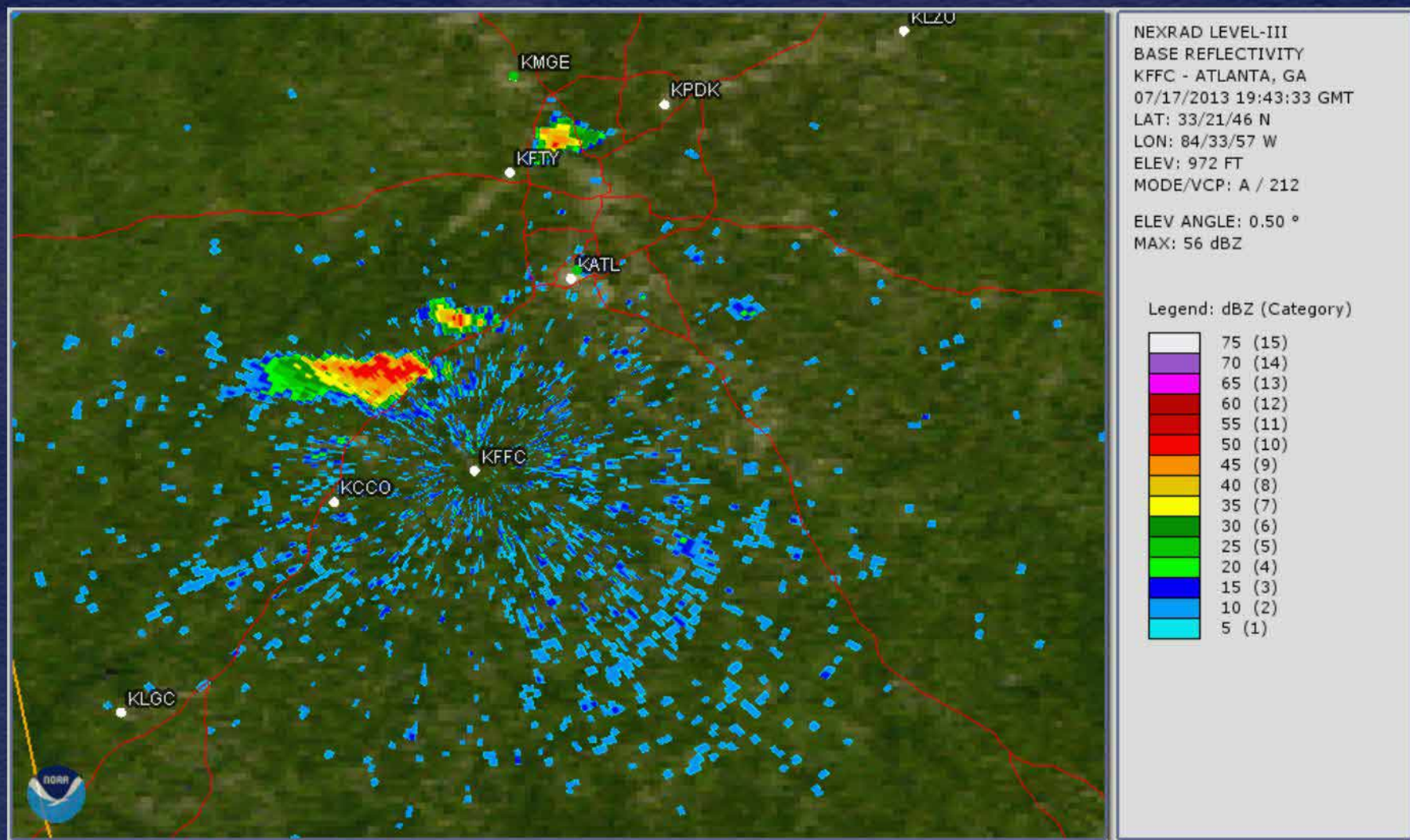
**Warning – not identifiable in all radar displays, WSR-88D base**





# Atlanta, GA - Outflow boundary example

## July 17, 2013





# CEN11FA500 - Rantoul, IL

## Piper Malibu PA-46, N46TW

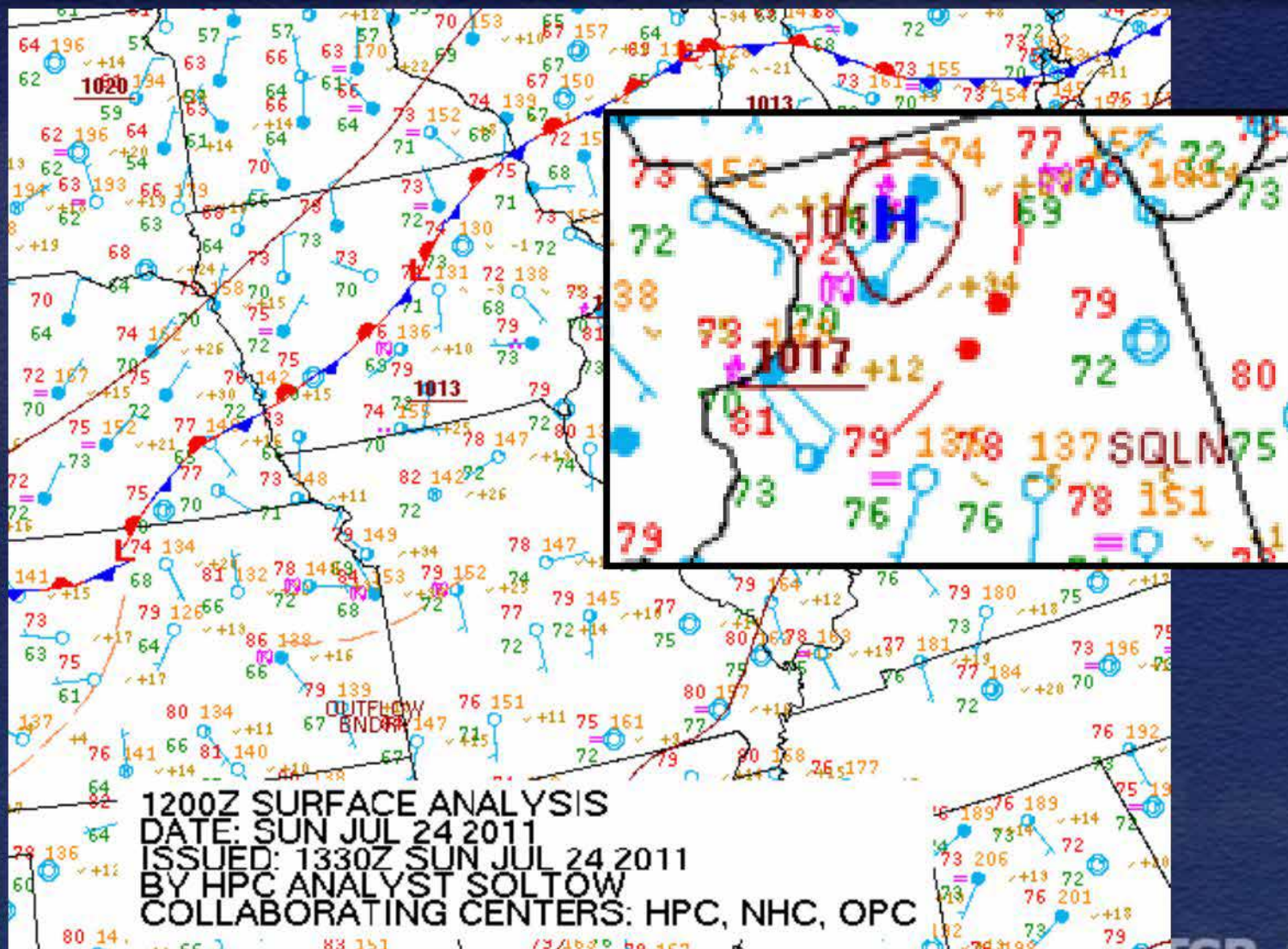
### July 24, 2011

- Part 91 personal IFR flight
- Pilot – 1850 hr
- Rantoul (KTIP) to Sarasota (KSRQ)
- Pilot obtained internet weather briefing & filed IFR flight plan
- In hurry to beat the weather front moving through area
- Fatal family of 3





# Surface Analysis



## 1200Z SURFACE ANALYSIS

DATE: SUN JUL 24 2011

ISSUED: 1330Z SUN JUL 24 2011

BY HPC ANALYST SOLTOW

COLLABORATING CENTERS: HPC, NHC, OPC



# CEN11FA500 - Rantoul, IL



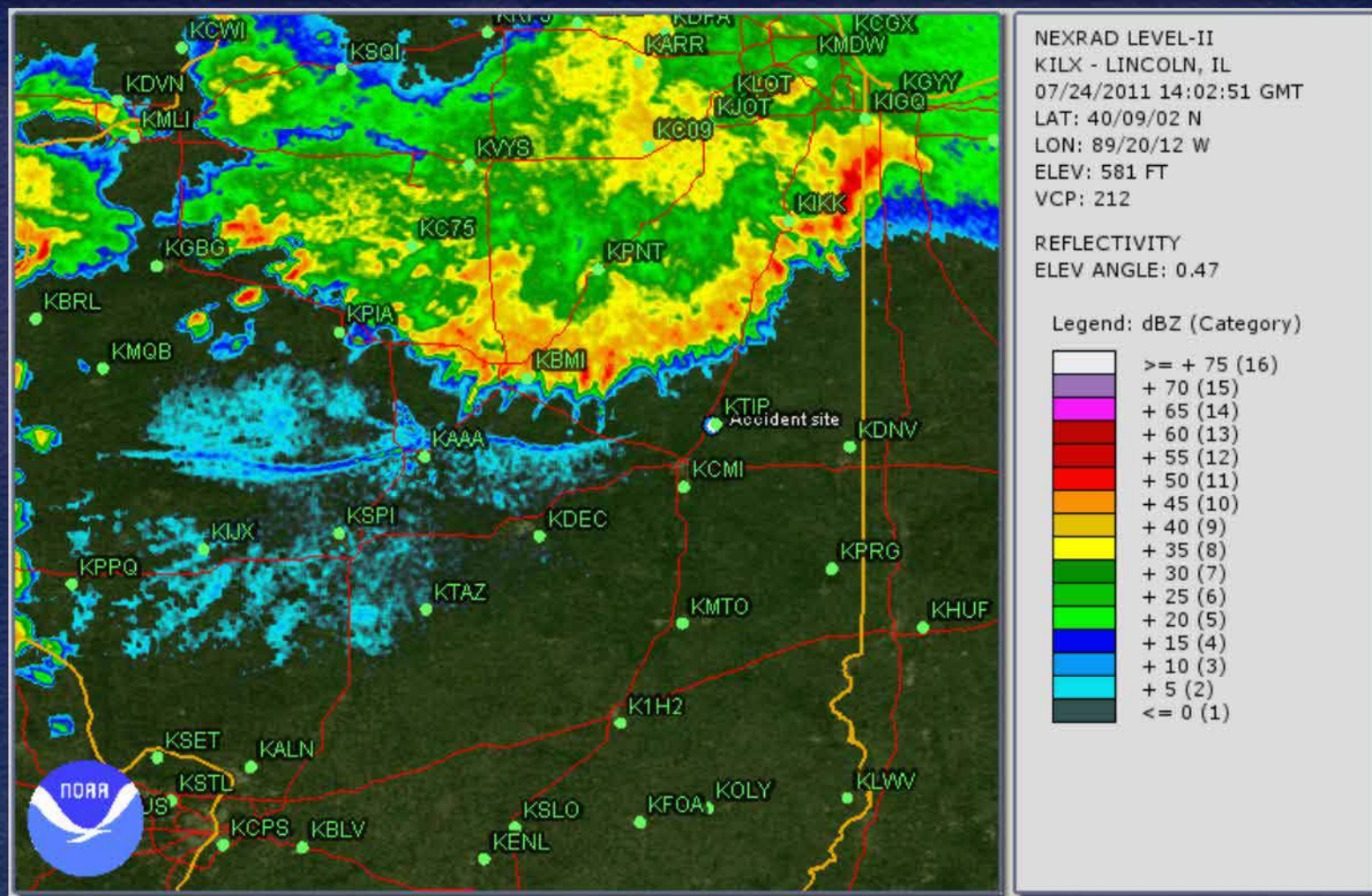
Photo's taken by passenger on board accident airplane

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# CEN11FA500 - Rantoul, IL



1,163 lightning strikes within 30NM and 15-min of accident

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# CEN11FA500 - Rantoul, IL



NTSB





**Probable Cause** – the pilot did not maintain airplane control during takeoff with approaching thunderstorms. **Contributing factor** was the pilot's decision to depart into adverse weather conditions.



# Microbursts

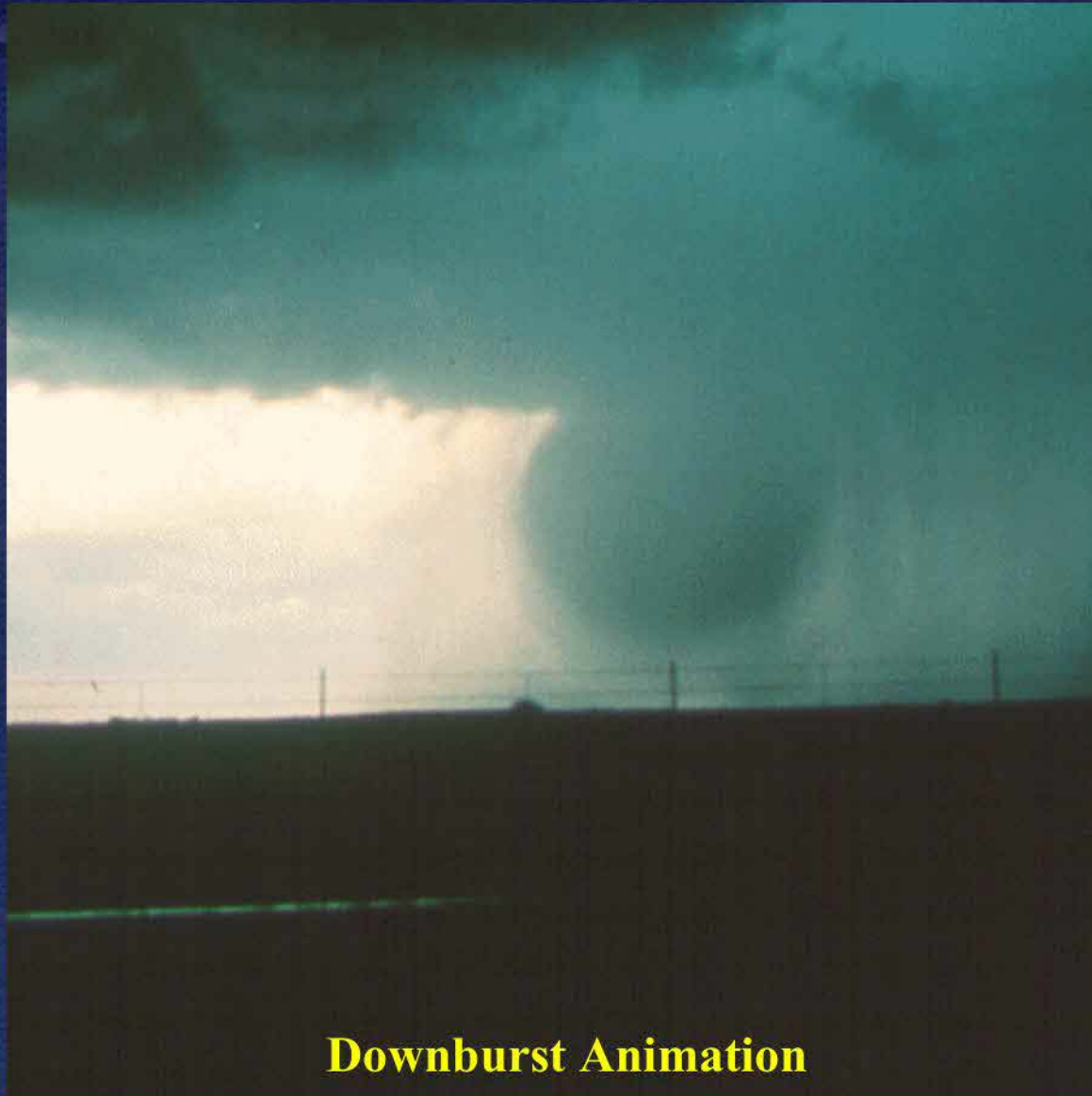


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# The Microburst



**Downburst Animation**

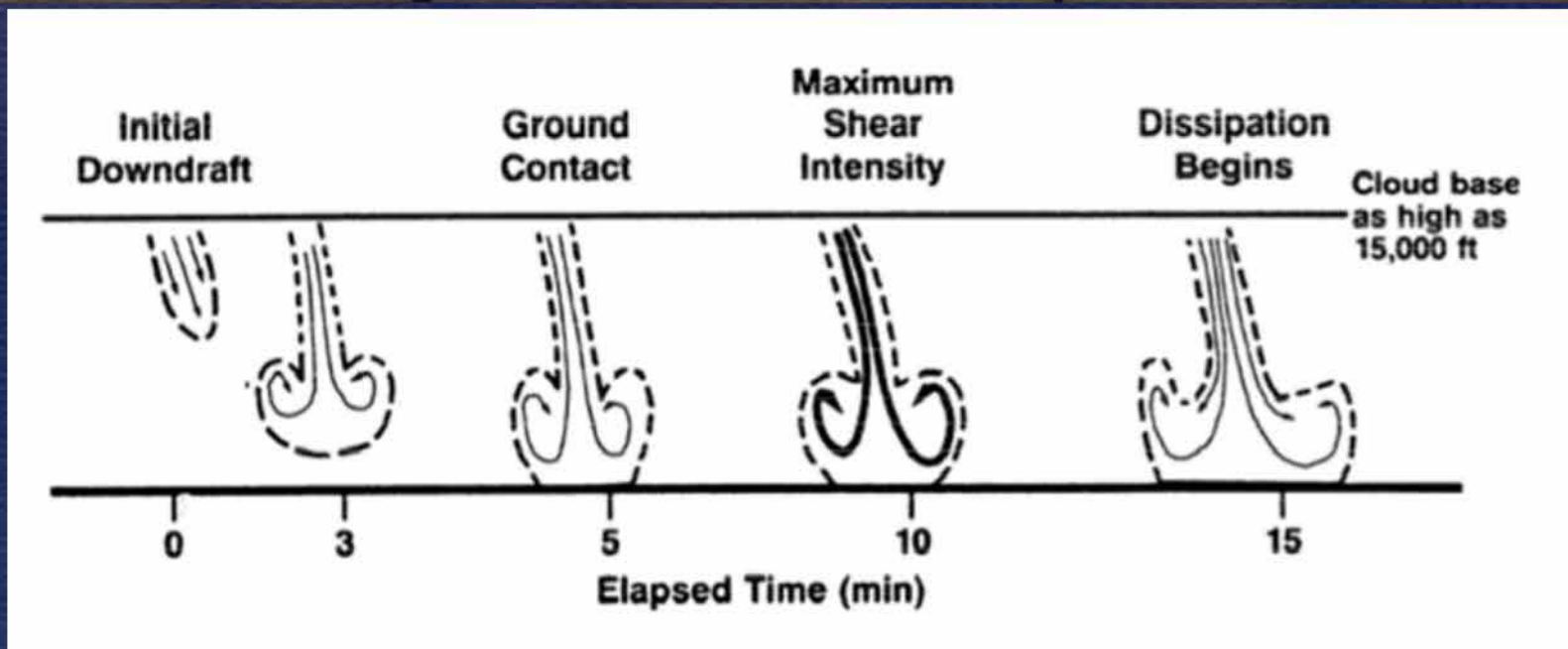
NTSB







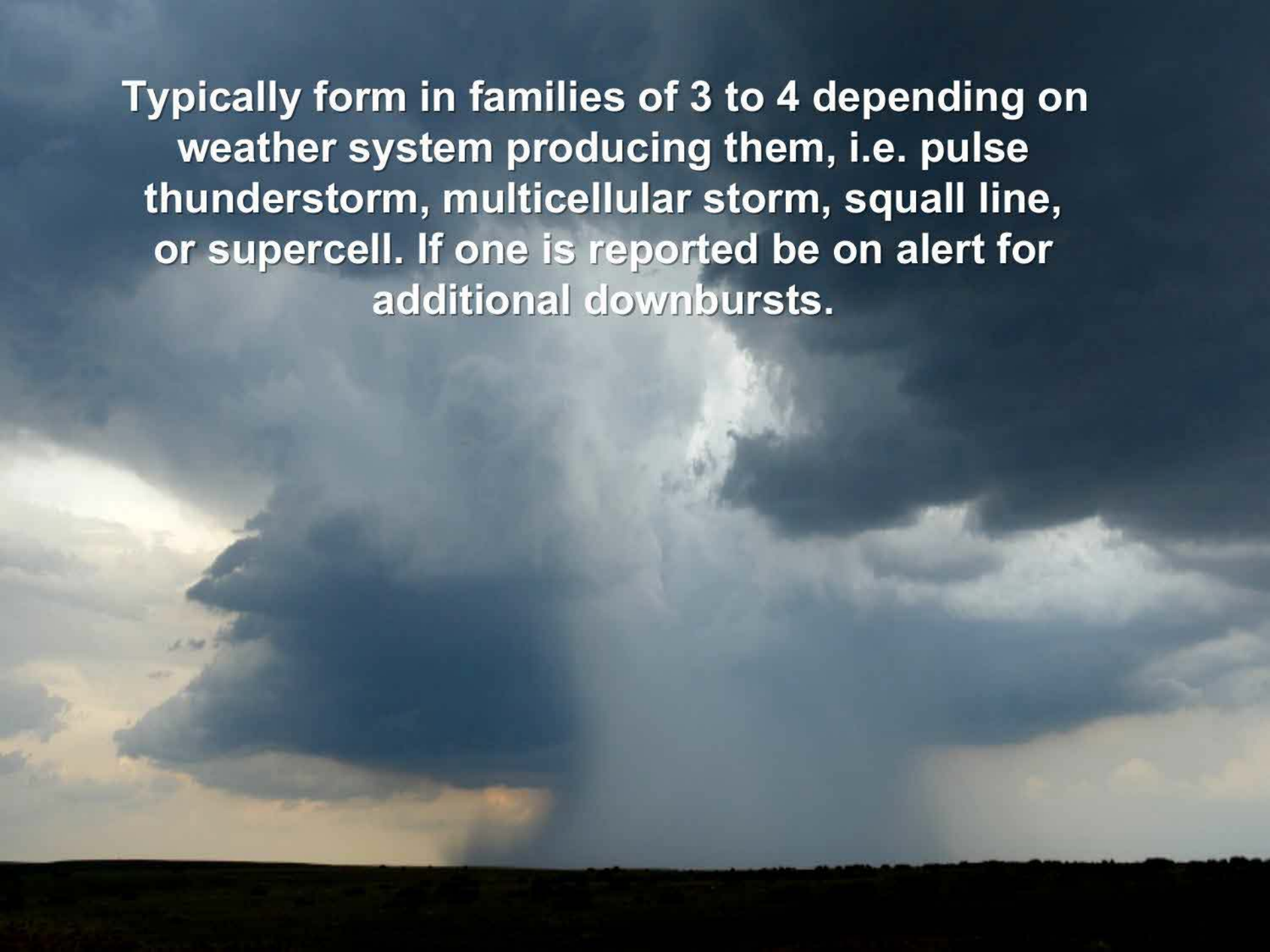




Downdrafts can exceed 6,000 FPM



**Typically form in families of 3 to 4 depending on weather system producing them, i.e. pulse thunderstorm, multicellular storm, squall line, or supercell. If one is reported be on alert for additional downbursts.**



# Arizona Microburst



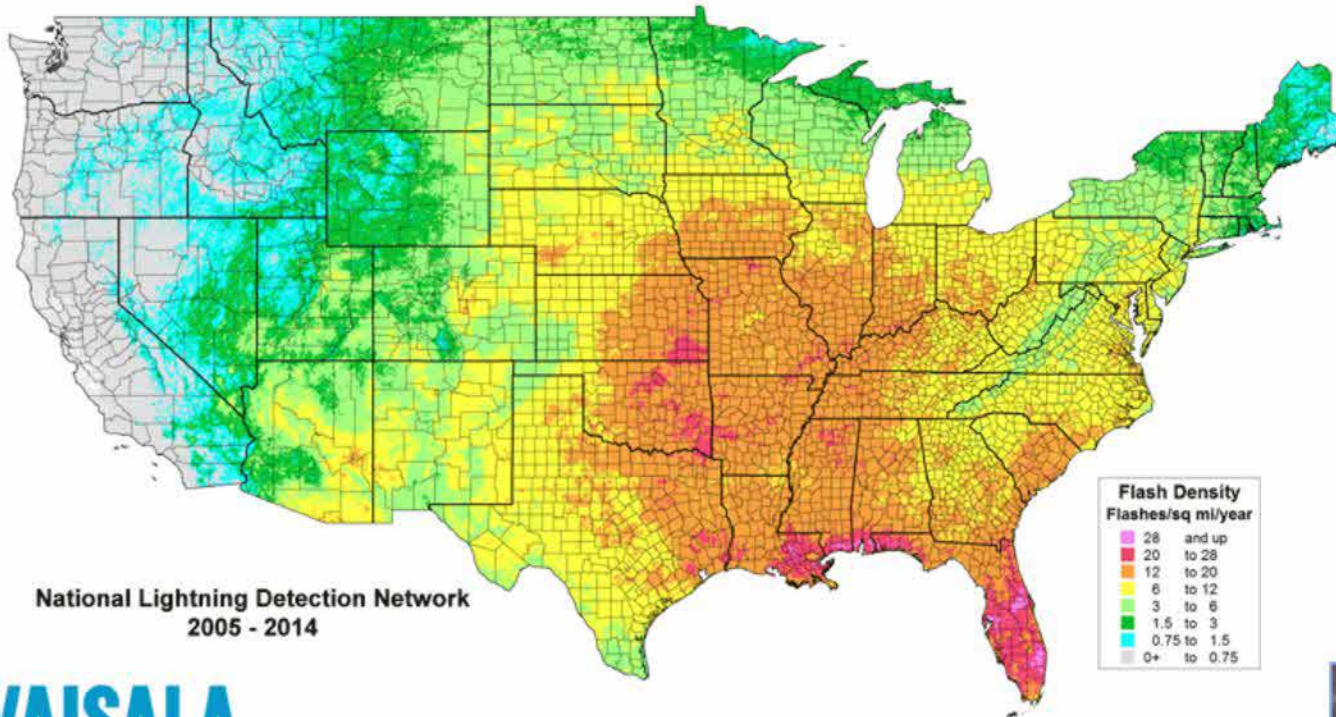


# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data
- Satellite imagery
- Radar imagery
- **Lightning data**
  - *Difference between a rain shower and a thunderstorms!*
  - *Only Cumulonimbus Clouds produce lightning*
  - *\*Exception to the rule – volcanic eruptions*



# Lightning Data



National Lightning Detection Network  
2005 - 2014

**VAISALA**

National  
Lightning  
Detection  
Network

<https://www.wvs.corelogic.com/strikenet>



**NTSB**





# Lightning Strikes



- **Frequently** - cause minor structural damage
- **Occasionally** - cause major or substantial damage
- **Rarely** - implicated as a probable cause of destruction of aircraft
  - 10 major accidents with over 370 fatalities worldwide due to lightning igniting fuel vapors



# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data – soundings/ MDCARS
- Satellite imagery
- Radar imagery
- Lightning data
- **NWS Advisories and Forecasts**
  - \* Most limited area of data retrieval



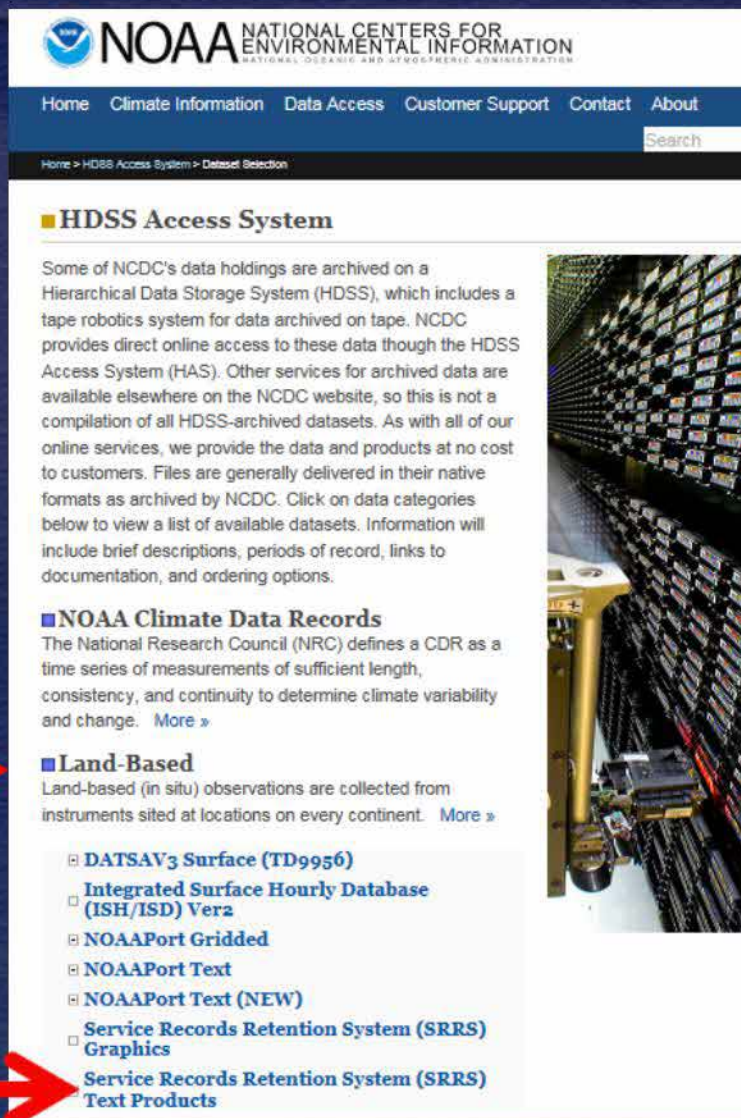
# NWS Text Products

- Area Forecasts (FA)
- Winds & Temperature Aloft (FD)
- In-Flight Weather Advisories
  - Convective SIGMETs (WST)
  - Weather Watches (AWW)
  - SIGMETs (WS)
  - AIRMETs (WA)
  - Center Weather Advisories (CWA)
- Pilot Reports (UA/UUA)
- Terminal Forecasts (TAF)
- Weather advisories/warnings (WW/AWW)
- Convective Outlook (AC)





# Accessing NWS Text Products



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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Search

Home > HDSS Access System > Dataset Selection

## ■ HDSS Access System

Some of NCDC's data holdings are archived on a Hierarchical Data Storage System (HDSS), which includes a tape robotics system for data archived on tape. NCDC provides direct online access to these data through the HDSS Access System (HAS). Other services for archived data are available elsewhere on the NCDC website, so this is not a compilation of all HDSS-archived datasets. As with all of our online services, we provide the data and products at no cost to customers. Files are generally delivered in their native formats as archived by NCDC. Click on data categories below to view a list of available datasets. Information will include brief descriptions, periods of record, links to documentation, and ordering options.

### ■ NOAA Climate Data Records

The National Research Council (NRC) defines a CDR as a time series of measurements of sufficient length, consistency, and continuity to determine climate variability and change. [More »](#)

### ■ Land-Based

Land-based (in situ) observations are collected from instruments sited at locations on every continent. [More »](#)

- DATSAV3 Surface (TD9956)
- Integrated Surface Hourly Database (ISH/ISD) Ver2
- NOAAPort Gridded
- NOAAPort Text
- NOAAPort Text (NEW)
- Service Records Retention System (SRRS) Graphics
- Service Records Retention System (SRRS) Text Products

## National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI)

### Hierarchical Data Storage System

- Access Service Record Retention System (SRRS) –
  - Provides access to text data


**Only source for full archive  
NWS text data**

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/has/has.dsselect>

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NATIONAL OCEANOIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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Search

Home > HDS Access System > Order Data Check Order Status

■ Service Records Retention System (SRRS) Text Products

Select Station(s) sort by - Station(s) / State

ALL (04/26/2001 - 09/03/2015)

ALL - All Stations, (04/26/2001 - 09/03/2015)

K01R - CLAIBORNE RNG (AFS) , LA ( - )

K01T - HIGH ISLAND , LA ( - )

- Or -

Specify Station ID (overrides Station ids selected below):

(eg. KABR)

Select Bulletin Id(s) (sort by - Bulletin Id(s) / Description)

ACUA8 - UNNUMBERED DEPRESSION + SUSPICIOUS AIR

ACUS0 - Convective Outlook

ACUS1 - SPC Mesoscale Discussion

ACUS4 - TROPICAL WEATHER DISCUSSION

- Or -

Specify Bulletin ID(s) (overrides bulletin ids selected above):

eg. saus, aeus7, wsus (enter 4 or 5 character bulletin ids, comma delimited)

Note: The bulletins in this system are in a variety of formats. We suggest that you not select a bulletin unless you are familiar with its format and usage.

**Important Note:** A maximum of 14 days can be ordered, and dates selected must be within the same month (eg. January).

Specify Date Range (YYYYMMDDHH)

- To -

- Or -

Select Start Date (YYYY/MM/DD HH)

2015 / 09 / 03 00

Select End Date: (YYYY/MM/DD HH)

2015 / 09 / 03 00

Delivery Destination: FTP

Submit Batch (skip file selection)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Email Address

**Important Notes:**

-- If your data request will contain more than 2,000 files, you must select "Yes" for the Submit Batch option above.

-- There is a data volume limit of 250 Gigabytes per request.

## Stations

- KKCI - FA,WA,WS, WST
- KWNO - FD
- KWBC - UA,UB
- KWNS - AC, WW
- KNHC – WT
- \*Need to know who issues advisory or forecast

## Bulletin Type

- FAUS2 – Center (CWSU) Weather Advisory
- UBUS – State Pilot Report

## Date/Time

## Email

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/has/HAS.FileAppRouter?datasetname=9957ANX&subqueryby=STATION&applname=&outdest=FILE>

# Weather Reports & Forecasts

- Pilot Reports (UA/UUA)

*AMA UA /OV AMA090010 /TM 2217 /FL060 /TP E145 /TB MOD=*

*AMA UUA /OV AMA180018 /TM 2237 /FL055 /TP C402 /TB LGT-MOD OCNL SEV=*

*PVW UUA /OV LBB360020 /TM 2304 /FL055 /TP C402 /TB SEV /RM REPORTED HEAVY  
TURBULENCE PER ATC=*



# NWS Weather Forecasts & Advisories

- Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF)

KAMA 261137Z 2612/2712 VRB04KT P6SM SCT150

FM261400 10013KT P6SM BKN200

FM262100 14015G25KT P6SM VCTS SCT050CB BKN150

FM270500 27011KT P6SM FEW010 SCT100=

## Preflight/Departure

TAF KAMA 261722Z 2618/2718 15013KT P6SM BKN150

FM262100 14017G27KT P6SM SCT050

FM270600 27015KT P6SM FEW100

FM271400 28022G32KT P6SM SKC=

TAF AMD 1 KAMA 262000Z 2620/2718 13011KT P6SM BKN150

FM262200 14015KT P6SM SCT050

FM270600 27015KT P6SM FEW100

FM271400 28022G32KT P6SM SKC=

TAF AMD 2 KAMA 262105Z 2621/2718 13016KT P6SM BKN150

FM262200 14015KT P6SM SCT050

FM270600 27015KT P6SM FEW100

FM271400 28022G32KT P6SM SKC=

## Accident 2145Z

TAF AMD 3 KAMA 262158Z 2622/2718 13016G26KT P6SM BKN150

TEMPO 2622/2624 4SM -TSRA BKN050CB

FM270600 27015KT P6SM FEW100

FM271400 28022G32KT P6SM SKC=

How did the local  
NWS Forecast Office  
Perform – Accuracy?

NTSB





# NWS Weather Forecasts & Advisories

- Convective SIGMET current during the period:

MKCC WST 262055

CONVECTIVE SIGMET 19C

VALID UNTIL 2255Z

TX NM

FROM 70NE TCC-10NW AMA-20WSW LBB-40W TXO-10NE TCC-70NE TCC

**AREA TS MOV** FROM 24020KT. TOPS TO FL420.

HAIL TO 2 IN...WIND GUSTS TO 60KT POSS.

**Accident 2145Z**

MKCC WST 262155

CONVECTIVE SIGMET 22C

VALID UNTIL 2355Z

TX NM

FROM 70SSE TBE-50N AMA-30NE LBB-10WNW LBB-70SSE TBE

**AREA SEV TS** MOV FROM 24020KT. TOPS TO FL450.

HAIL TO 2 IN...WIND GUSTS TO 60KT POSS.

NTSB





# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data – soundings/ MDCARS
- Satellite imagery
- Radar imagery
- Lightning data
- NWS Advisories and Forecasts
- **Weather briefing documents**

## WEATHER BRIEFING

AN INSTRUMENT RATING  
INDICATES THE HOLDER  
HAS RECEIVED ENOUGH  
TRAINING TO KNOW WHEN  
HE SHOULD STAY ON THE  
GROUND.





# Preflight Weather Briefing

- Did the crew receive an adequate **weather briefing** and what was provided?
- **Weather documents** issued
- **Flight updates** what updates received enroute?
- Was the weather condition **properly forecast & advisories issued** by the NWS or ATC?





# Recreating Weather Briefing

- Fill out Flight Plan
- Obtains Archive weather
  - Prog charts
  - Synopsis/Area Forecast
  - Severe Weather Outlook
  - AIRMETs/SIGMETs
  - METAR/TAFs
  - Radar/satellite imagery
  - Winds Aloft Forecast

**FREE**



The logo for the Pilot Training System features a stylized blue and yellow pilot's helmet with a propeller, set against a white background with the text "PILOT TRAINING SYSTEM" in blue.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION FLIGHT PLAN						
1. TYPE <input type="radio"/> VFR <input type="radio"/> IFR	2. AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION	3. AIRCRAFT TYPE/ SPECIAL EQUIPMENT Airbus A321	4. TRUE AIRSPEED (KTS)	5. DEPARTURE POINT Airport (ICAO Identifier or Name) Select an airport to show runway info.	6. DEPARTURE TIME (Zulu) Date Time (24-Hour) +0000	7. CRUISING ALTITUDE Flight Level Road-Side
8. ROUTE OF FLIGHT						
9. DESTINATION Airport (ICAO Identifier or Name)		10. ESTIMATED TIME ENROUTE HOURS MINUTES		11. REMARKS		
12. FUEL ON BOARD HOURS MINUTES		13. ALTERNATE AIRPORT(S)		14. PILOT'S NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER & AIRCRAFT HOME BASE Donald E. [REDACTED] Annapolis, MD 21403 Homephone: 800-555-1234		15. NUMBER ABOARD
16. COLOR OF AIRCRAFT		17. DESTINATION CONTACT/TELEPHONE (OPTIONAL)				

CIVIL AIRCRAFT PILOTS: FAR 91 requires you file an IFR flight plan to operate under instrument flight rules in controlled airspace. Failure to file could result in a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation (Section 901 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended). Filing of IFR flight plan is recommended as a good operating practice. See also Part 91 for requirements concerning DUTY flight plans.

Page Name:  Get Briefing  Save  Load

<http://pilottrainingsystem.com/>

NTSB





# Weather Briefing Documentation

- Pilot obtained preflight briefing through ForeFlight
- Also utilized Aero Weather
- Used MyRadar app for local radar imagery
- Observed approaching thunderstorms & attempting to beat storms back to the field



# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data – soundings/ MDCARS
- Satellite imagery
- Radar imagery
- Lightning data
- NWS Advisories and Forecasts
- Weather briefing documents
- **Witness statements & interviews**

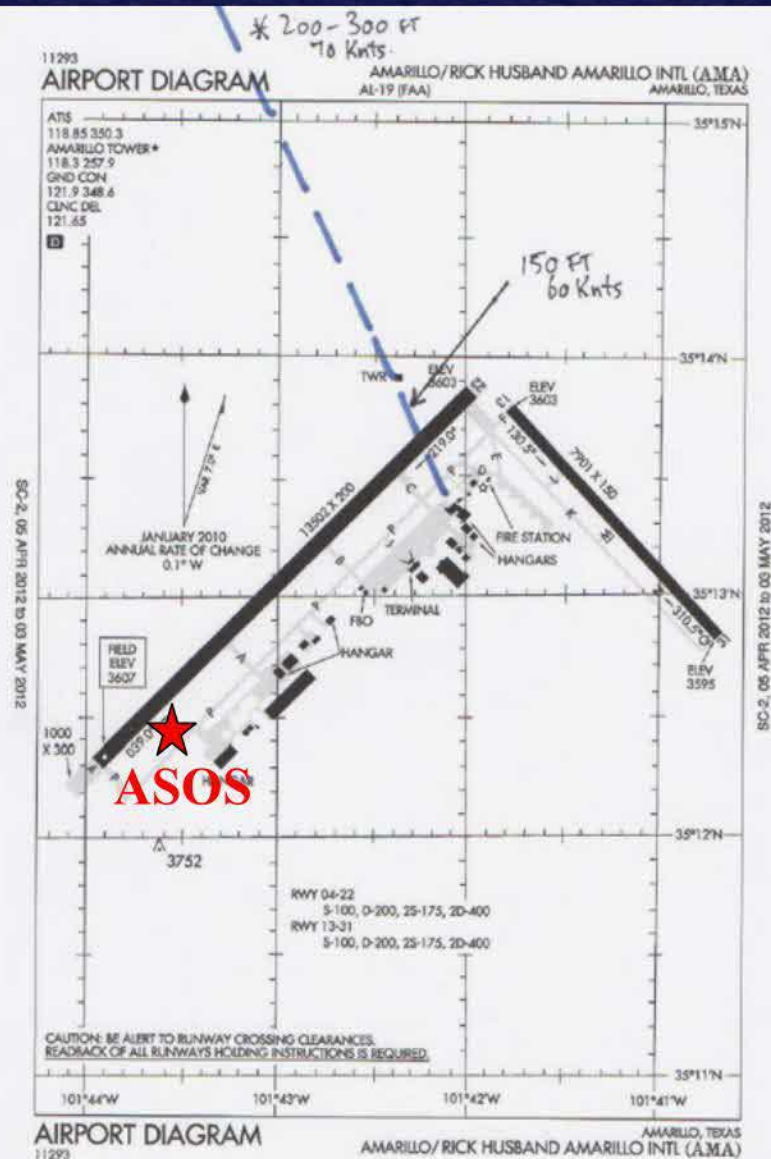


# Interviews & Statements



- **Flight Crew** written statements, follow up
- **Pilots** others operating in the area
- **Flight Dispatchers/Operations Center** (if used)
- **Witness statements** cloud features, lightning, wind conditions, there take on the incident, aware of the conditions







# Elements of a Weather Study

- Synoptic conditions
- Observations
- Upper air data – soundings/ MDCARS
- Satellite imagery
- Radar imagery
- Lightning data
- NWS Advisories and Forecasts
- Weather briefing documents
- Witness statements & interviews
- **Astronomical data**



# United States Naval Observatory Astronomical Conditions



Astronomical  
Applications  
Department

Data Services  
Information  
Center

Publications

Software

About AA

Sitemap



## COMPLETE SUN AND MOON DATA FOR ONE DAY

Use these forms to obtain rise, set, and transit times for the Sun and Moon; civil twilight beginning and end times; and, lunar phase information for any year between 1700 and 2100. First, specify the date and location in one of the two forms below. Then, click the "Get data" button at the end of the form.

Use Form A for cities or towns in the U.S. or its territories. Use Form B for all other locations. Both forms are immediately below.

**Be sure to read the Notes section located after the two forms, especially if you wish to use these data for legal purposes.**

### Form A - U.S. Cities or Towns

Year:  Month:  Day:

State or Territory:

City or Town Name:

The place name you enter above must be a city or town in the U.S. The place's location will be retrieved from a file with over 22,000 places listed. Either upper- or lower-case letters or a combination can be used. Spell out place name prefixes, as in "East Orange", "Fort Lauderdale", "Mount Vernon", etc. The only exception is "St.", which is entered as an abbreviation with a period, as in "St. Louis". You need only enter as many characters as will unambiguously identify the place. The city or town name may be left blank if the State or Territory is District of Columbia.

### Form B - Locations Worldwide

Year:  Month:  Day:

Place Name Label:

The place name you enter above is merely a label for the table header; you can enter any identifier, or none (avoid using punctuation characters). The data will be calculated for the longitude and latitude you enter below.

Note: Coordinate components should be entered as integers (no decimals).

Longitude: ☐ east ☒ west  degrees  minutes

Latitude: ☒ north ☐ south  degrees  minutes

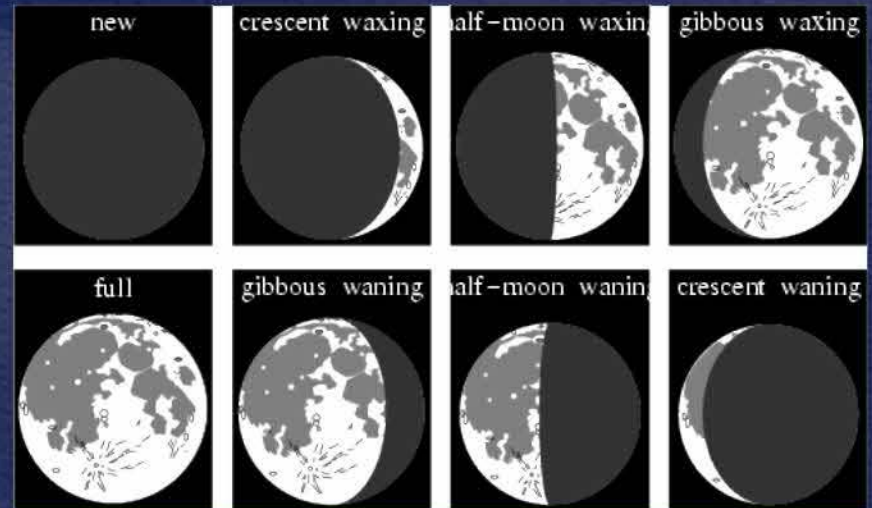
<http://www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astronomical-applications/data-services/data-services>

NTSB





# Astronomical Conditions



## Astronomical data

- Official day/night?
  - “Night” end of civil twilight to morning civil twilight
  - Sunrise, sunset, and civil twilight
- Sun glare or night illumination issues?
  - Altitude, magnetic azimuth of sun and moon
  - Phase & illumination of moon

<http://www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astronomical-applications/data-servicesp://aa.usno.navy.mil/>

# Final Report



CFR response photo immediately after the accident

**Probable Cause:** *The pilot's failure to maintain helicopter control during landing in gusty wind conditions associated with a thunderstorm, which resulted in a loss of tail rotor effectiveness.*

NTSB







# DOE Flight Department Safety Manager



- DOE King Air enroute to perform survey work encountered developing thunderstorms, which resulted in loss of control
- Minor damage & injuries
- NTSB not involved
- Several individuals on board shaken by event
- Boss wants to know what happened and now!

NTSB





# **ERA11LA344 – Gray, TN**

## **Beech King Air, N15L**

### **June 15, 2011**







- Business flight
- Airborne X-band radar
- IMC at FL200 deviating downwind of around area of thunderstorms
- Encounters MOD-SVR turbulence & icing
- Results in loss of control of aircraft - uncommanded roll & dive, recovered at 8,000 feet (-12,000ft)
- Substantial damage to aircraft
- 2 uninjured but shaken pilots





# Weather and Radar Processor (WARP)

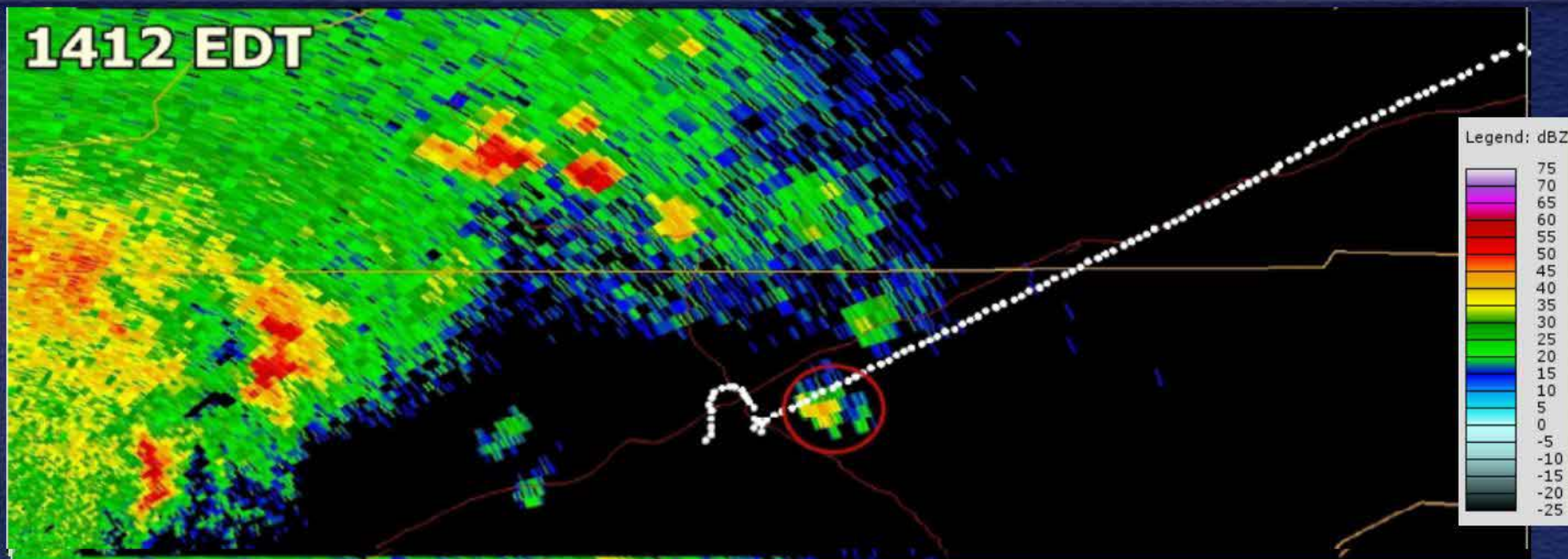


Reflectivity (dBZ) Ranges	Weather Radar Echo Intensity Terminology	
<30 dBZ		Light
30-40 dBZ		Moderate
>40-50 dBZ		Heavy
50+ dBZ		Extreme

**\* Echoes less than 30 dBZ not displayed**

NTSB





Echoes <15 dBZ not shown

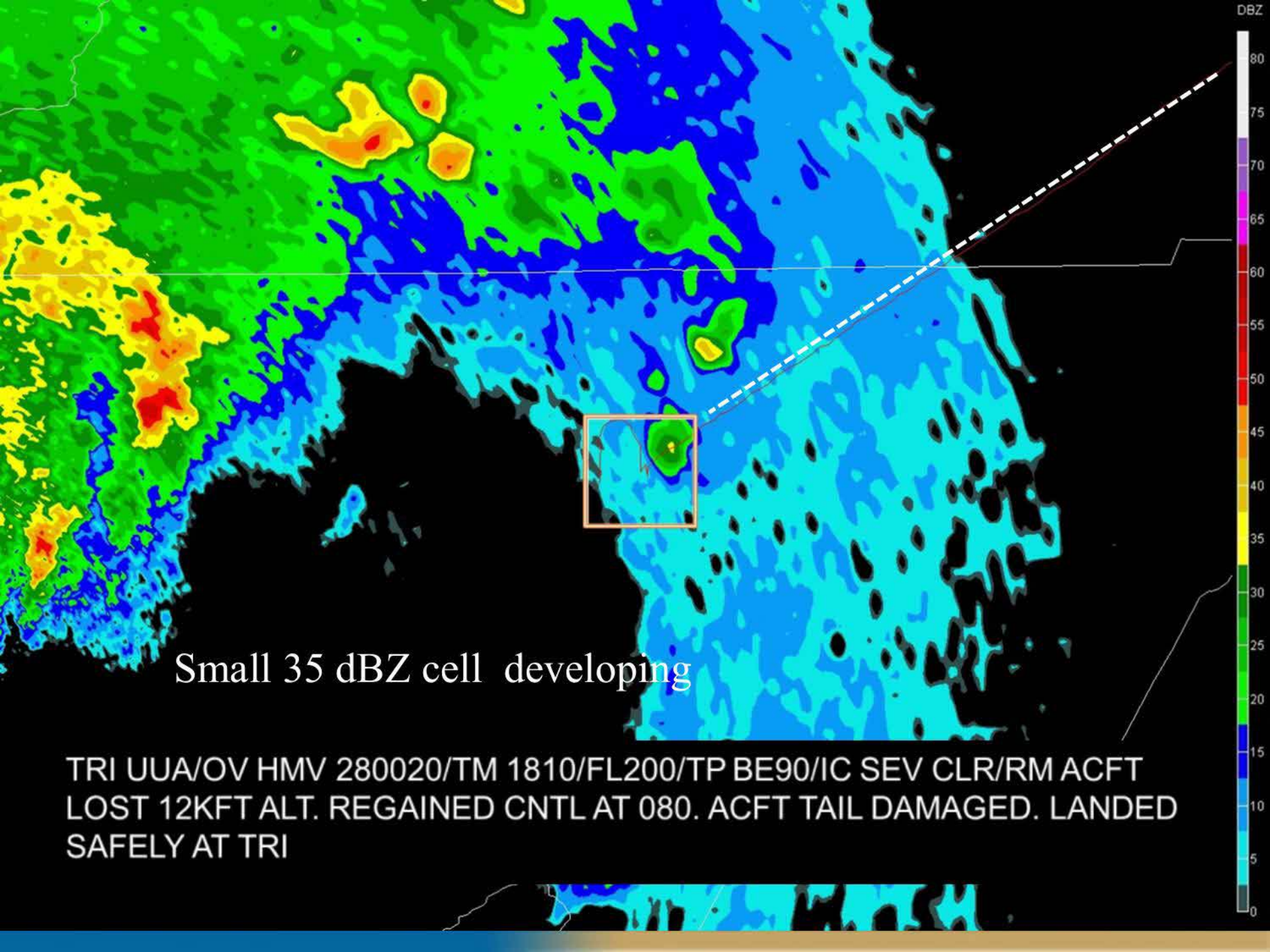
Airborne X-band radar :

Light 20-30 dBZ

Moderate 30-40 dBZ

Heavy 40-50 dBZ





Small 35 dBZ cell developing

TRI UUA/OV H MV 280020/TM 1810/FL200/TP BE90/IC SEV CLR/RM ACFT  
LOST 12KFT ALT. REGAINED CNTL AT 080. ACFT TAIL DAMAGED. LANDED  
SAFELY AT TRI



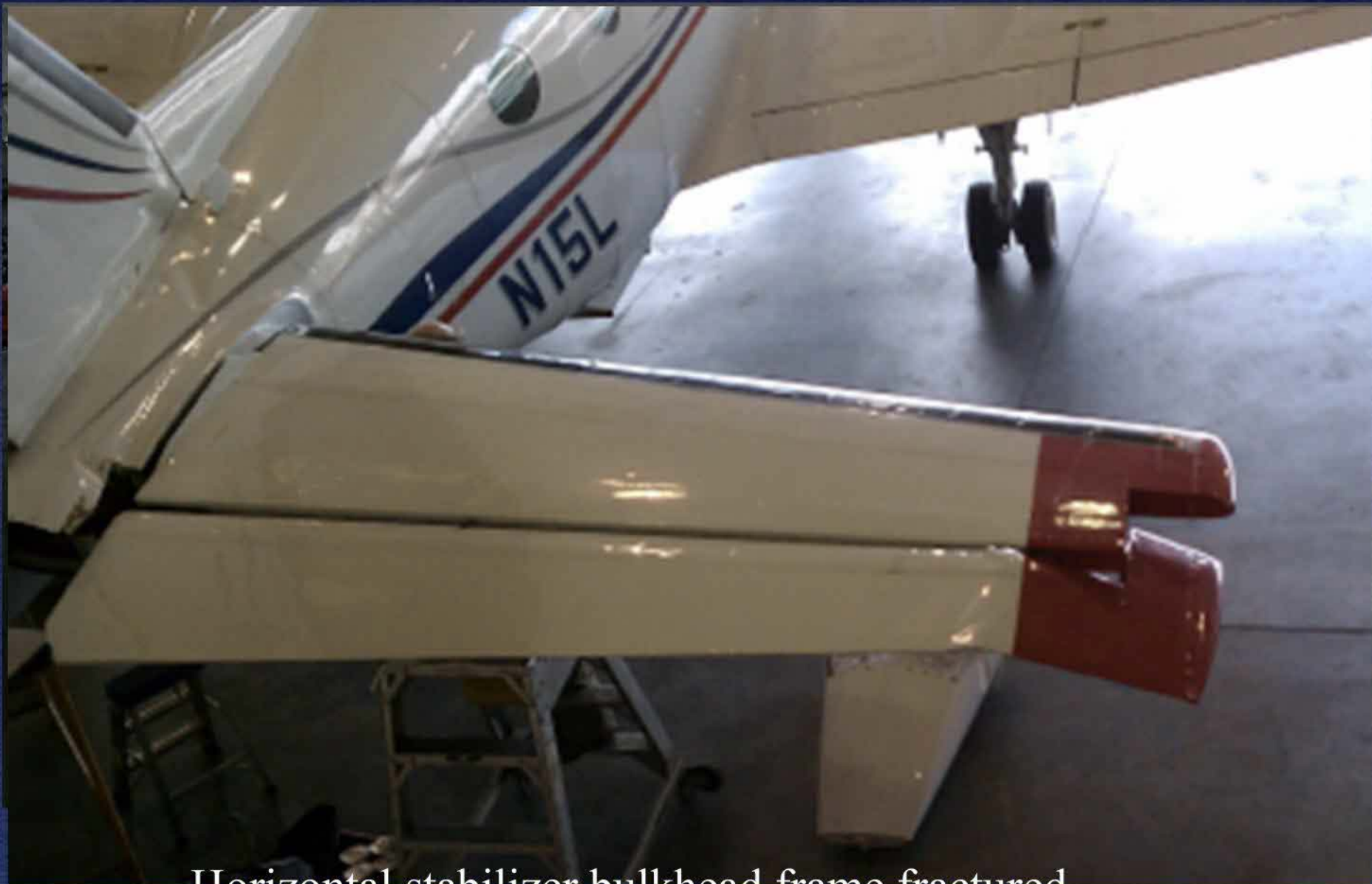
**Missing  
elevator**

**Damage**



Outboard 1/3 of left elevator separated in-flight  
Right elevator deformed downward





Horizontal stabilizer bulkhead frame fractured  
and aft airframe deformed in several areas

# **Weather Resource for Accident Investigation**

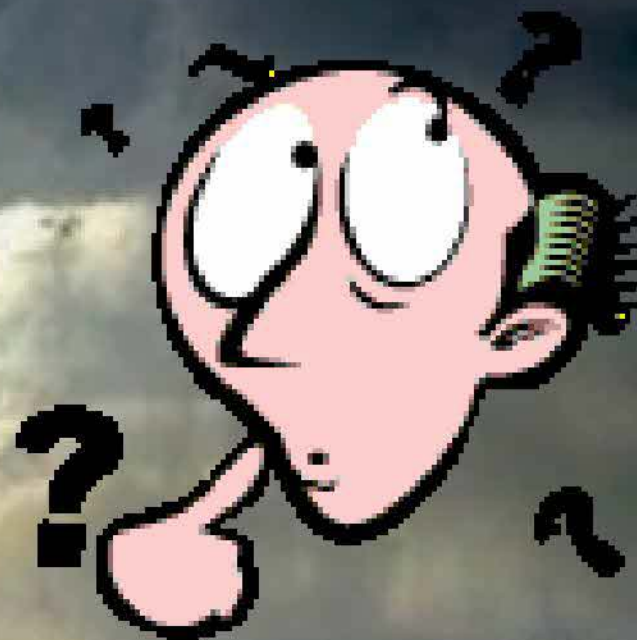
- List of Internet sites that archive weather data and charts
- Aviation safety-related Internet sites
- Reference and conversion tables



# Questions?

(b)(6)

(b)(6)





**NTSB**



# Operational Factors



**Captain David Lawrence**  
**Senior Air Safety Investigator**  
**Operational Factors Division - NTSB**



**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

## Ops investigation

- Duties

## Case Study

- Onscene Activities
- Follow-up Activities





# Primary Duties

- Go-team for major accidents
  - 2 hour callout
  - Weekly rotational duties
  - Launch capabilities worldwide









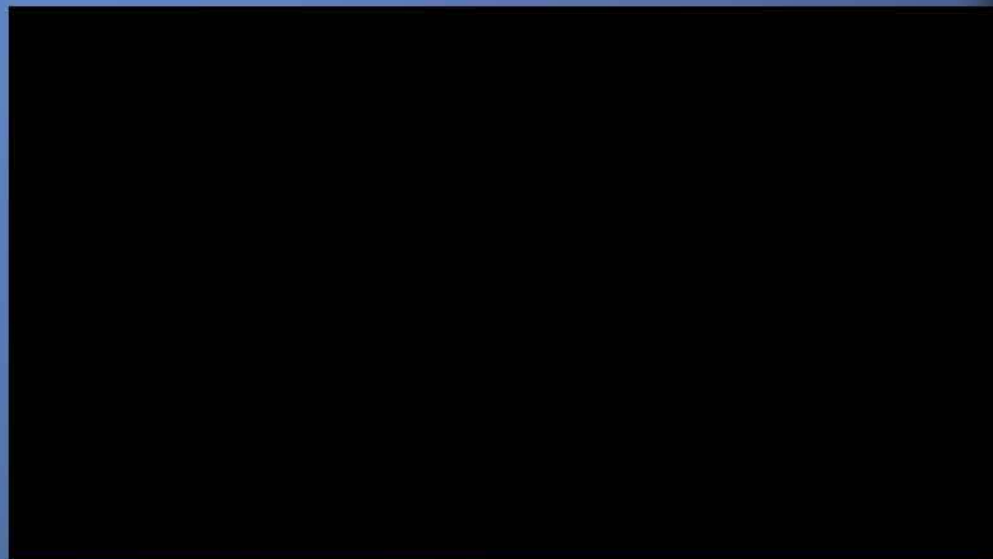
# New Duty: Commercial Space Operations





# Specific Duties

- Chairman of Ops group
  - FAA, Company, A/C manufacturer, union, or others as needed
- Investigate Part 121, 135 operations usually
- Corporate operations
- Part 91 (occasionally)
- Mostly, we handle the big ones . . .



# Case Study

## *Crash During Nighttime Nonprecision Instrument Approach*

UPS 1354, A300-600  
Birmingham, AL  
August 14, 2013





# Basic Information

- Airplane destroyed
- 2 crewmembers fatally injured
- Departed Louisville, KY
- Scheduled arrival at 0450 local
- Full go-team launch

Localizer 18



BHM Airport







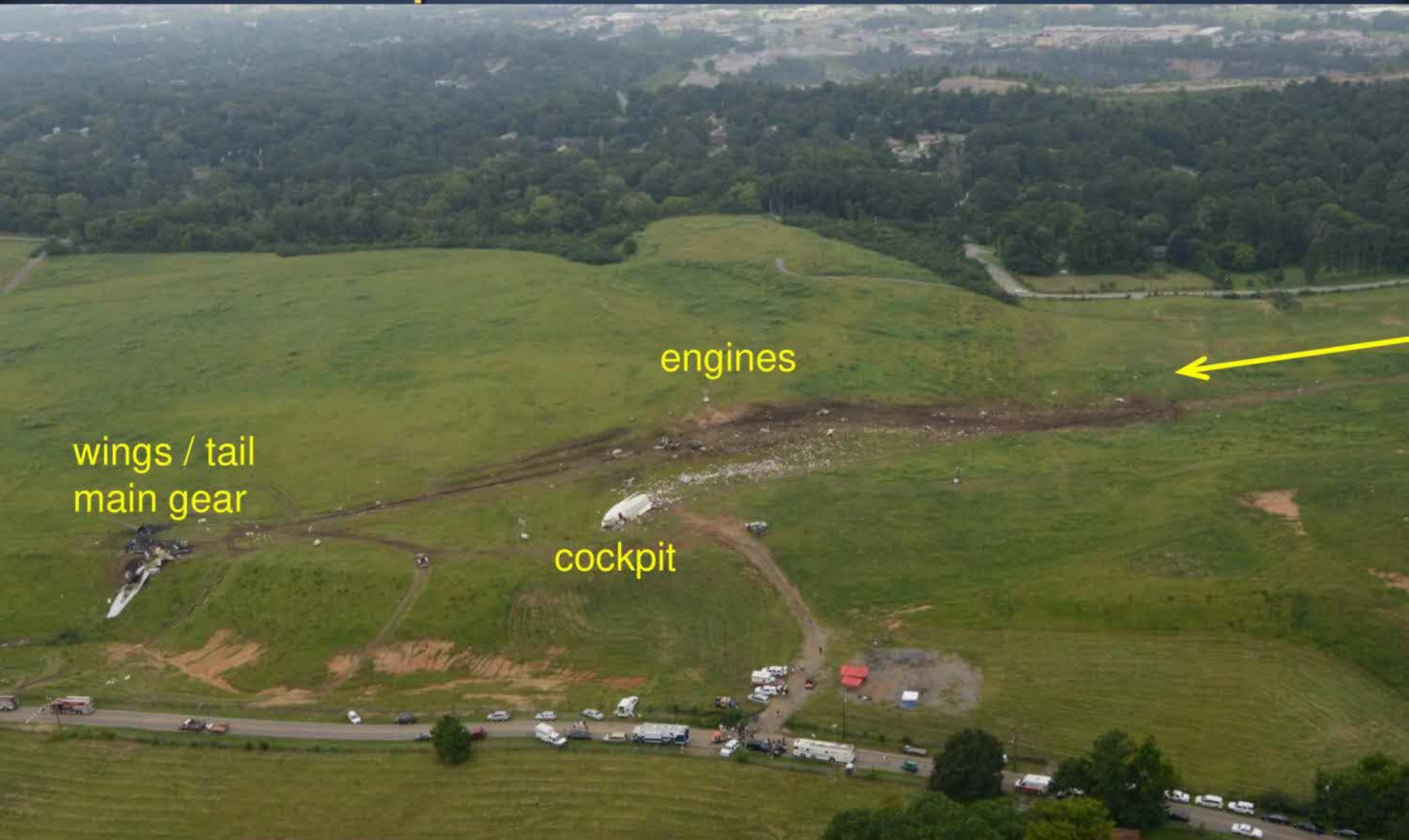
First Tree Strike



Main Wreckage



# Main Impact Area





runway 18 threshold



— aft fuselage

— engines and forward fuselage

— rising terrain

— ground contact



Tree strikes



# General review of accident site





# General review of accident site





# General review of accident site

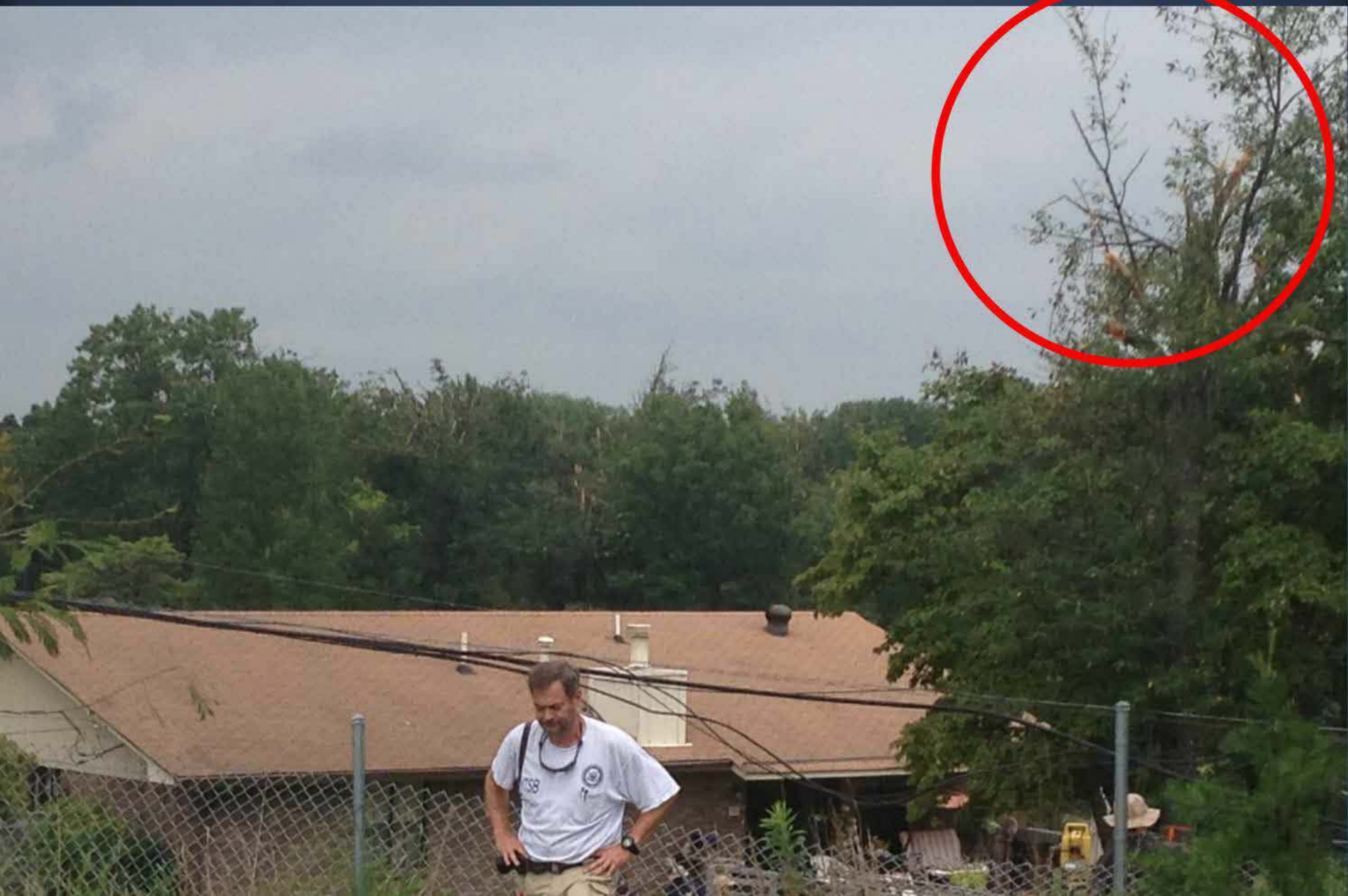




# General review of accident site



# General review of accident site









# Document the cockpit





# Document Crew's Personal Belongings



# Review electronic devices



iPhone



Kindle



iPad Mini



Flip Phone



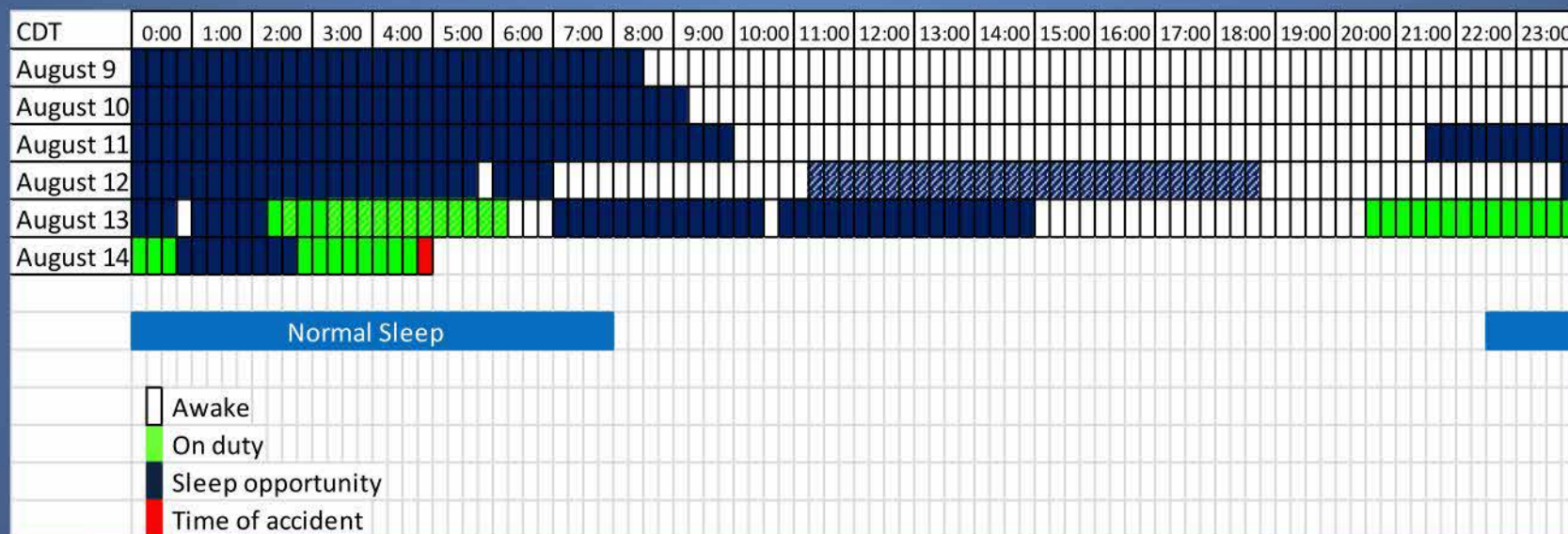
Tablet



iPhone



# Captain's Sleep/Wake History

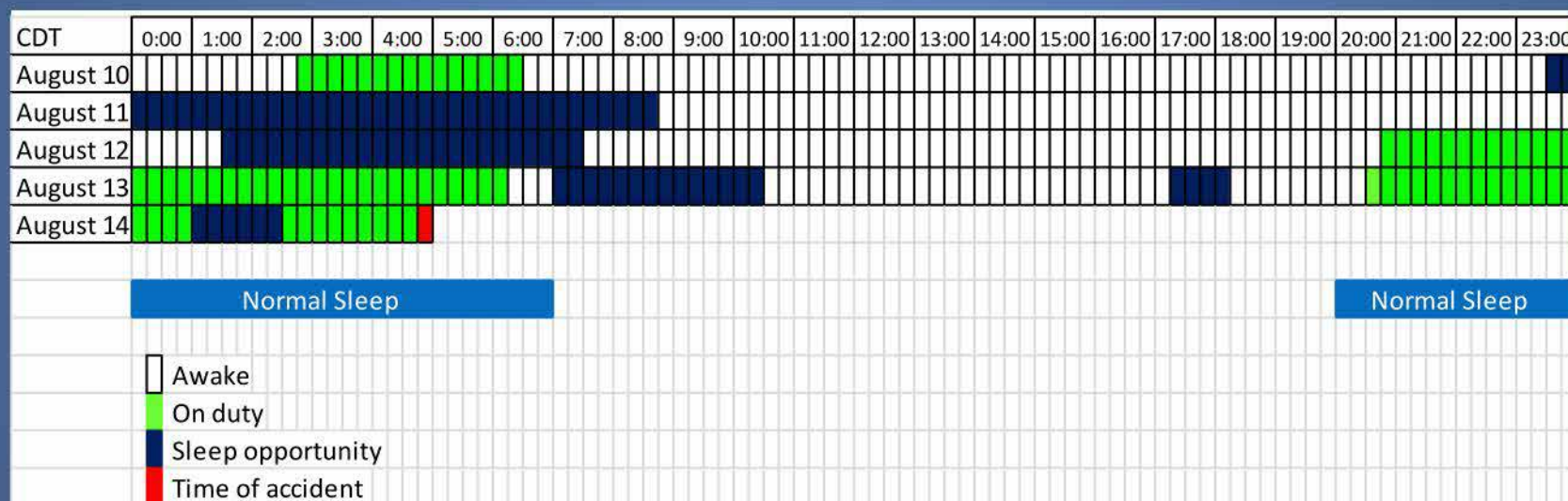


# Fatigue - Captain

- Off duty August 5-12
- Took steps to mitigate effects of fatigue
  - Aug. 12: Napped at home and acquired sleep room in Louisville
  - Aug. 13: Adequate opportunity to rest in Rockford
  - Aug. 14: Acquired sleep room in Louisville
- Accident occurred during window of circadian low



# First Officer's Sleep/Wake History




# Fatigue – First Officer

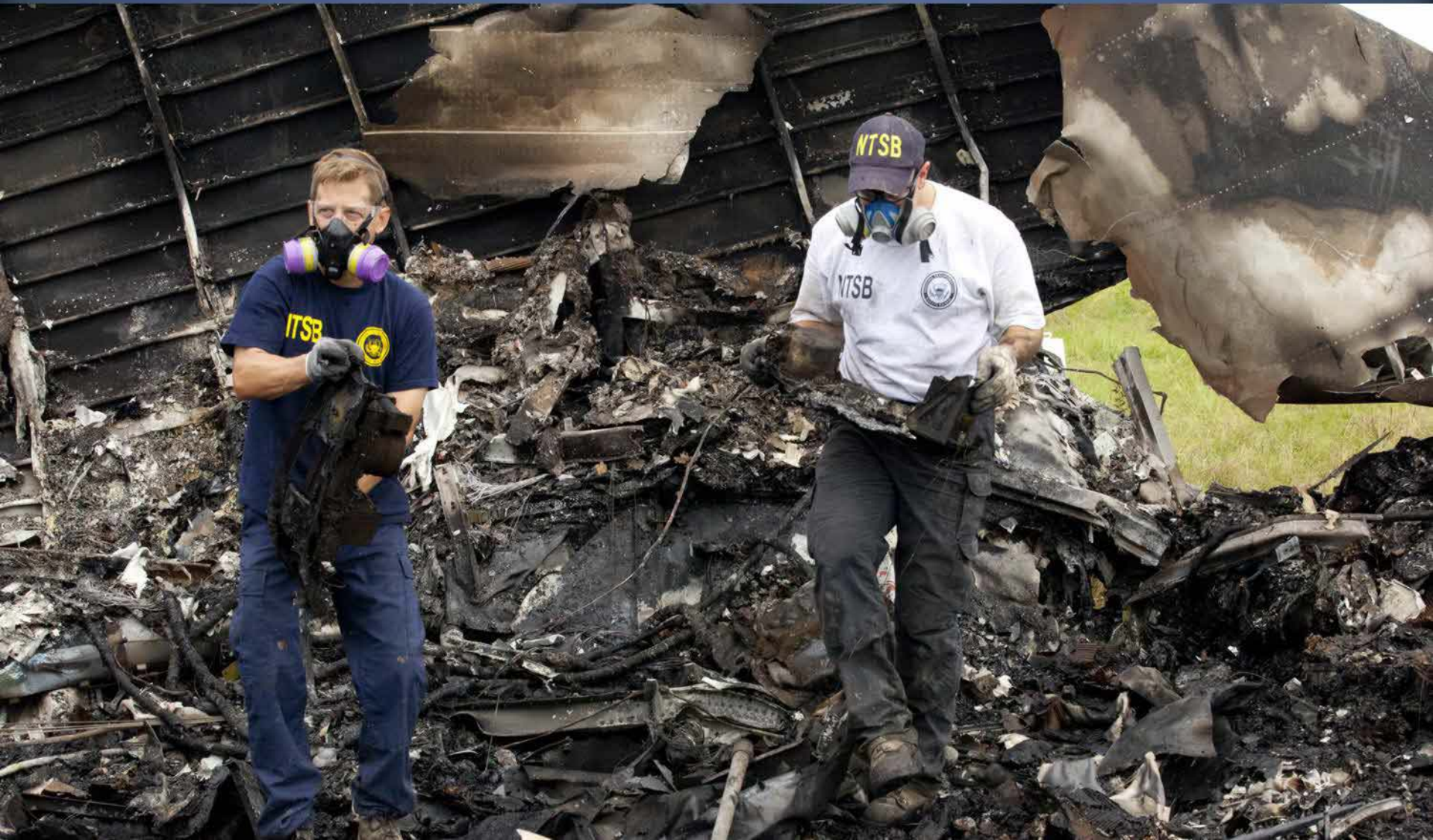
- Off duty August 10-12
- Mismanaged off duty time
  - Aug. 12: returned to duty with about a 3 hour sleep debt
  - August 13: less than 5 ½ hour sleep opportunity
  - August 14: acquired sleep room in Louisville
- Aware of fatigued state



# FO Text Messages

8/12/13 19:29:38	outgoing	Im getting sooo tired
8/12/13 19:35:30	outgoing	And its time i get ready
8/12/13 21:22:58	outgoing	 <p>Hey, bak in the ol office, and im sleepy as a # :)</p>
8/13/13 0:26:48	outgoing	Waitin on van
8/13/13 11:06:56	outgoing	Hey just dual fmc <sup>7</sup> failure last nite, thats always nice on ur ' first' nite ;)
8/13/13 11:07:09	outgoing	Just ol school navin
8/13/13 11:16:36	incoming	Oh yeah...that's great when ur tired as hell. I was snoozing by 830 but up at 5 to come to work. I'm still tired today. We are to old for that #. Lmao
8/13/13 11:18:26	outgoing	U got that rite, i fell asleep on every damn leg last nite- n rfd now, got here at 6 am n bed by 645 ish , now # <sup>8</sup> up, slept like 4 # hrs.... Van isnt till 8 tonite so hoping i will nap again this afternoon
8/13/13 11:19:29	incoming	Yeah u can get a nap in this afternoon. Grab some lunch and hit the bed again
8/13/13 11:20:31	outgoing	Thats da plan: sleep eat sleep eat sleep eat- works nice diet wise ha

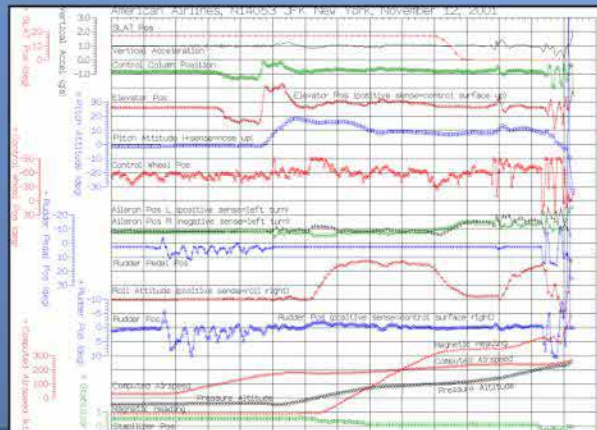
# CVR and FDR Recovery





# CVR/FDR analysis

- Detailed review with CVR and FDR team
- Compare procedures and policies learned from field investigation
- Note: access to CVR is limited



# Review dispatch paperwork

## FLIGHT RELEASE

DISPATCHER  
ACFT REG N1  
ACFT TYPE A300-600R  
ORG DST ALTN ALTN ALTN TAKEOFF FUEL  
IFR FLIGHT UPS1354/14 KSDf-KBHM .... KATL .... 026.3

RELEASE TIME 08.49  
DATE 08/14/13

FMS ROUTE KSDf SDEW01 EWO BWG BNA RQZ KBHM  
REMARKS

EXTRA FUEL FOR TANKER

FLIGHT CONTROL CONTACT  
DOM  
INTI

SIGNATURE .....

## FLIGHT RELEASE

DISPATCHER V  
ACFT REG N155UP  
ACFT TYPE A300-600R  
ORG DST ALTN ALTN ALTN TAKEOFF FUEL  
IFR FLIGHT UPS1354/14 KSDf-KBHM .... KATL .... 026.3

RELEASE TIME 08.49  
DATE 08/14/13

FMS ROUTE KSDf SDEW01 EWO BWG BNA RQZ KBHM  
REMARKS

EXTRA FUEL FOR TANKER

FLIGHT CONTROL CONTACT  
DOM  
INTI

SIGNATURE .....

## OFF 7 OPERATIONAL FLIGHT PLAN

FLIGHT NBR	DATE	SCHEDULE	PLAN
UPS1354	08/14/13		
ACFT REG N155UP		KSDf STD 08.49	ETD 08.49
ACFT TYPE A300-600R		TKO 00.12	
		ETE 00.46	ETE 00.46
SPEED CLB 320.M79	SELCAL ABHL	TKI 00.03	ETA 09.49
SCHD CRZ CI40	WIND M002	KBHM STA 09.50	PTA 09.52
DSC M80.300	ISA P11		
	ROUTE SDFBHT01		DIFF +0.02

NO TANKERING RECOMMENDED  
LOSS FOR EXTRA FUEL US\$/1000 LBS. \$7.00

TERRAIN CLEARANCE CHECK COMPLETED WITH NO LIMITATIONS

NTSB



# BHM arrival weather . . .

METAR KBHM 140853Z 00000KT 10SM  
BKN010 OVC075 23/22 A2997 RMK AO2  
CIG 006V013 SLP138 T02330217 52000=

# Dispatch paperwork

=====

DESTINATION AIRPORT

=====

KBHM/BHM

-----

Dispatch weather  
did not include  
METAR remarks

SA 140734 00000KT 10SM BKN010 BKN016 23/22 A2996

SA 140712 00000KT 9SM SCT006 BKN016 23/22 A2997

FT 140647 1407/1506 VRB03KT P6SM BKN004

FM141300 VRB04KT P6SM SCT009 BKN015

FM141500 01007KT P6SM FEW050 SCT250

FT 140533 1406/1506 VRB03KT P6SM BKN004

TEMPO 1406/1408 SCT005 BKN025

FM141300 VRB04KT P6SM SCT009 BKN015

FM141500 01007KT P6SM FEW050 SCT250



# ACARS weather received by the crew . . . .

```
†éQU QXSXMXSÚ.SDFER5X 140904/AUG13ÚWXR RESP Ú***** WEATHER
UPLINKED TO FLIGHT CREW *****ÚÚTAIL #: N155UP
AIRPORT REQUEST: SA M WEATHER REQUEST: ETAR KÚÚWEATHER SENT TO
CREW: ÚÚBHM 140853Z Ú 00000KT 10SM BKN010 Ú OVC075 23/22
A2997=ÚSPECT KBHM 140848Z Ú 33003KT 10SM OVC010 Ú 23/22
A2997=ÚMETAR KBHM 140753Z Ú 00000KT 9SM OVC008 Ú 23/22 A2996Ú
```

# ATIS received by the crew . . .

Birmingham Airport information PAPA. Zero eight five three zulu observation. Wind calm, visibility one zero. Sky condition ceiling one thousand broken seven thousand five hundred overcast. Temperature two three dew point two two altimeter two niner niner seven. Localizer runway one eight in use. Landing and departing runway one eight. Notice to Airmen runway six/two four closed. All departing aircraft contact tower one one niner point niner for clearance, taxi and takeoff. Advise controller on initial contact you have PAPA.



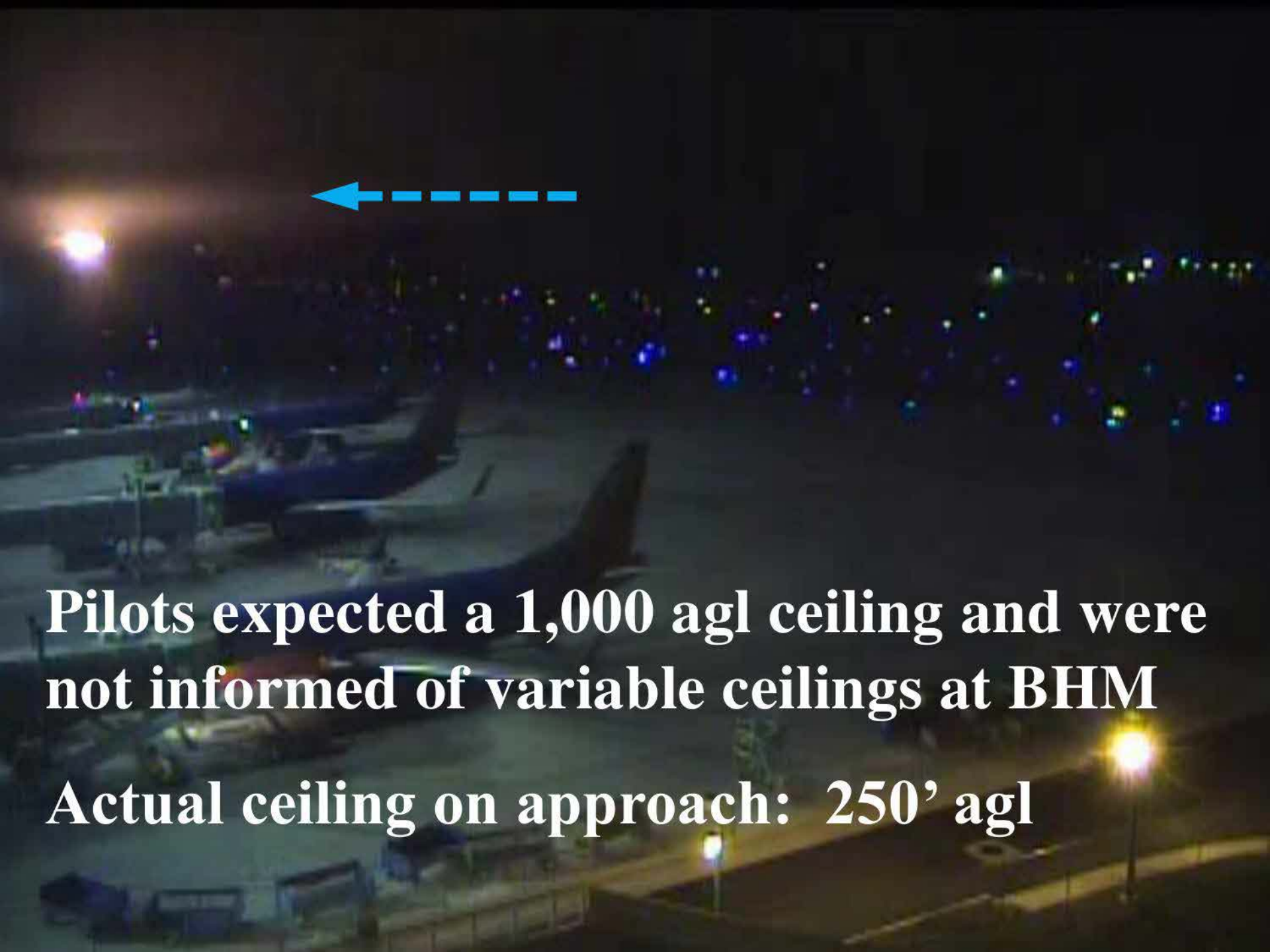
# METAR remarks for variable ceiling

- UPS Dispatch paperwork did not include METAR remarks
  - UPS removed from the Lido software system
  - Pilots were not informed
- ACARS did not include METAR remarks
  - Lido was the source
- ATC did not include remarks in ATIS









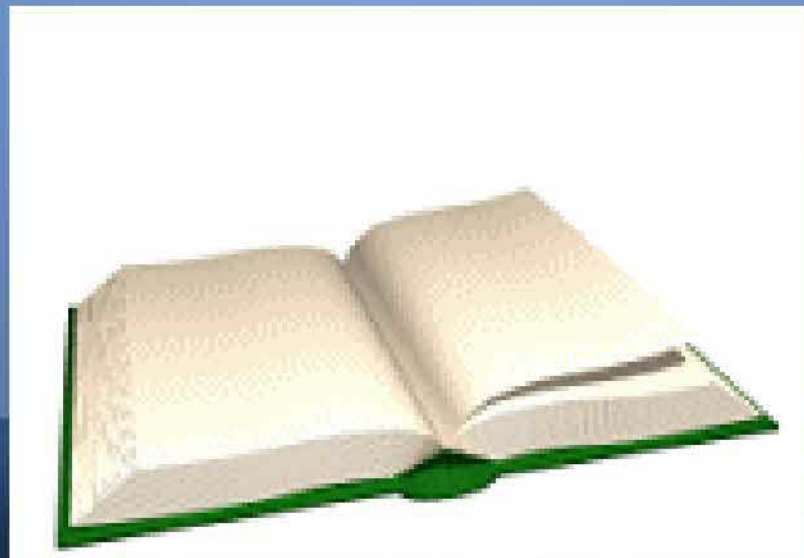
**Pilots expected a 1,000 agl ceiling and were not informed of variable ceilings at BHM**

**Actual ceiling on approach: 250' agl**



# Review of company manuals and records

- Airplane Operating Manual, QRH, Training Manual
- Safety manual, CRM manual
- Flight ops bulletins and company guidance (FOM)
- Pilot training records
- Pilot personnel records



# Review Pilot backgrounds and training

	<b>Captain</b>	<b>First Officer</b>
Total Time	6406 hours	4721 hours
A300 Time	3265 hours	403 hours (SIC)
PIC Time	1516 hours (all A300)	1764 hours



# Certificate and Medical Considerations

- Both pilots were properly certified and trained
  - Captain did have past training deficiencies
- Both pilots in good health
- Toxicology results negative
- No pre-existing illness
- No medications influencing performance

# Conduct numerous interviews

- Pilots, witnesses, company management and training personnel, FAA
- Interviews occur on site, at HQ, or at training center
- For pilot interviews, we will coordinate with the company Director of Flight Safety
- Interviews are in person (preferable) or via phone





# Review FAA information

- Copies of any special inspection
- Request copies of all PTRS (program tracking and reporting system) or ATOS (air transportation oversight) inspections
  - Effectiveness of oversight
- Blue Ribbon packages
  - Pilot Certification records
  - Pilot Medical information



# Review Pilot Procedures

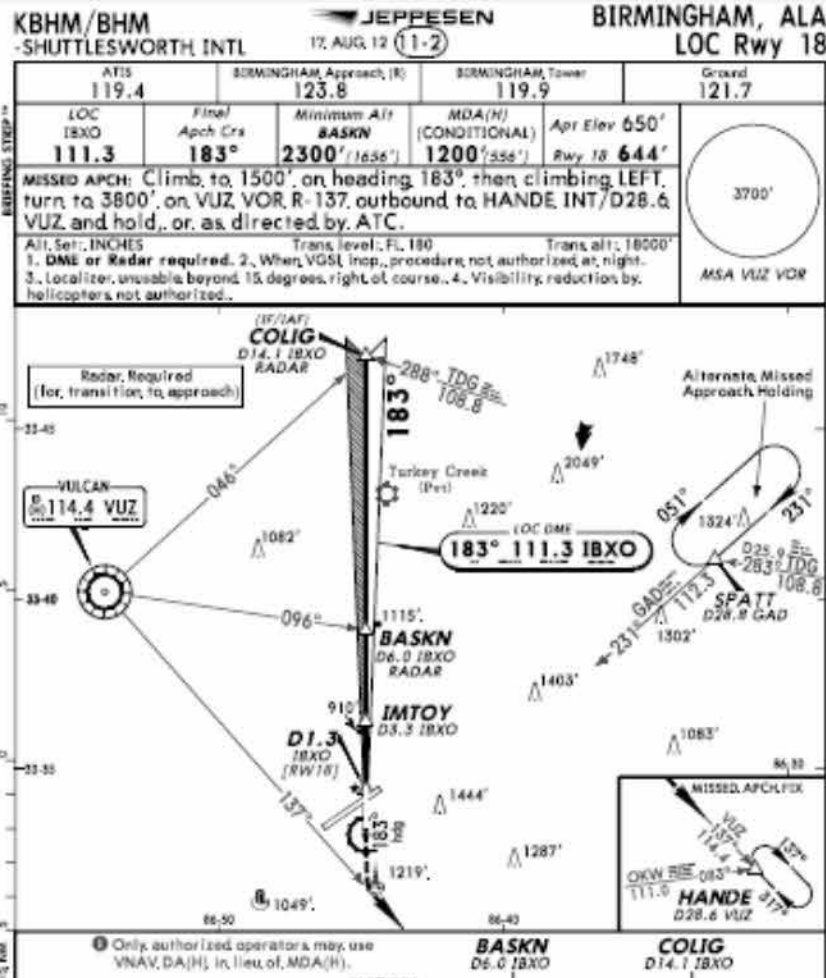
- Localizer runway 18 approach to BHM is **nonprecision approach**:
  - Lateral guidance from airport (localizer)
  - Vertical guidance provided by flight management computer on airplane





# Review Pilot Procedures

- Longer runway 6 NOTAM closed to 0500L
- Weather forecasted a 400-foot ceiling at arrival (ATL filed alternate)
- Runway 18 served by 2 non-precision approaches (LOC18 and RNAV18)
  - Both approach MDAs were 1200' (556' agl)
- Review of the localizer 18 chart used by the pilots



TERPS, AMEND 2A, 8 MAR 2012

# TERPS

## STRAIGHT-IN LANDING, Rwy 18

DAY

MDA(H) **1200' (556')**  
 WITH IMTOY

MDA(H) **1380' (736')**  
 WITHOUT IMTOY

A  
B  
C  
D

1

1

1 1/2

2

NIGHT

NA



# Review Dispatcher Procedures

- Dispatcher and pilot did not communicate:
  - Limited approach options to BHM (LOC18 NA at night, only 1 approach to the shorter runway)
  - Option of delaying the flight for the ILS
  - Lack of METAR remarks indicating a variable ceiling at BHM
    - UPS believed ATIS would include remarks
  - Forecasted ceiling below RNAV MDA (only approach to the only runway)

# Review Pilot Procedures

- Captain: pilot flying
- First officer: pilot monitoring
- Runway 6/24 closed for repairs between 0400 and 0500 local time
- Flight dispatched with planned approach to runway 18
- Captain briefed localizer approach to runway 18



# Conduct Simulator Testing



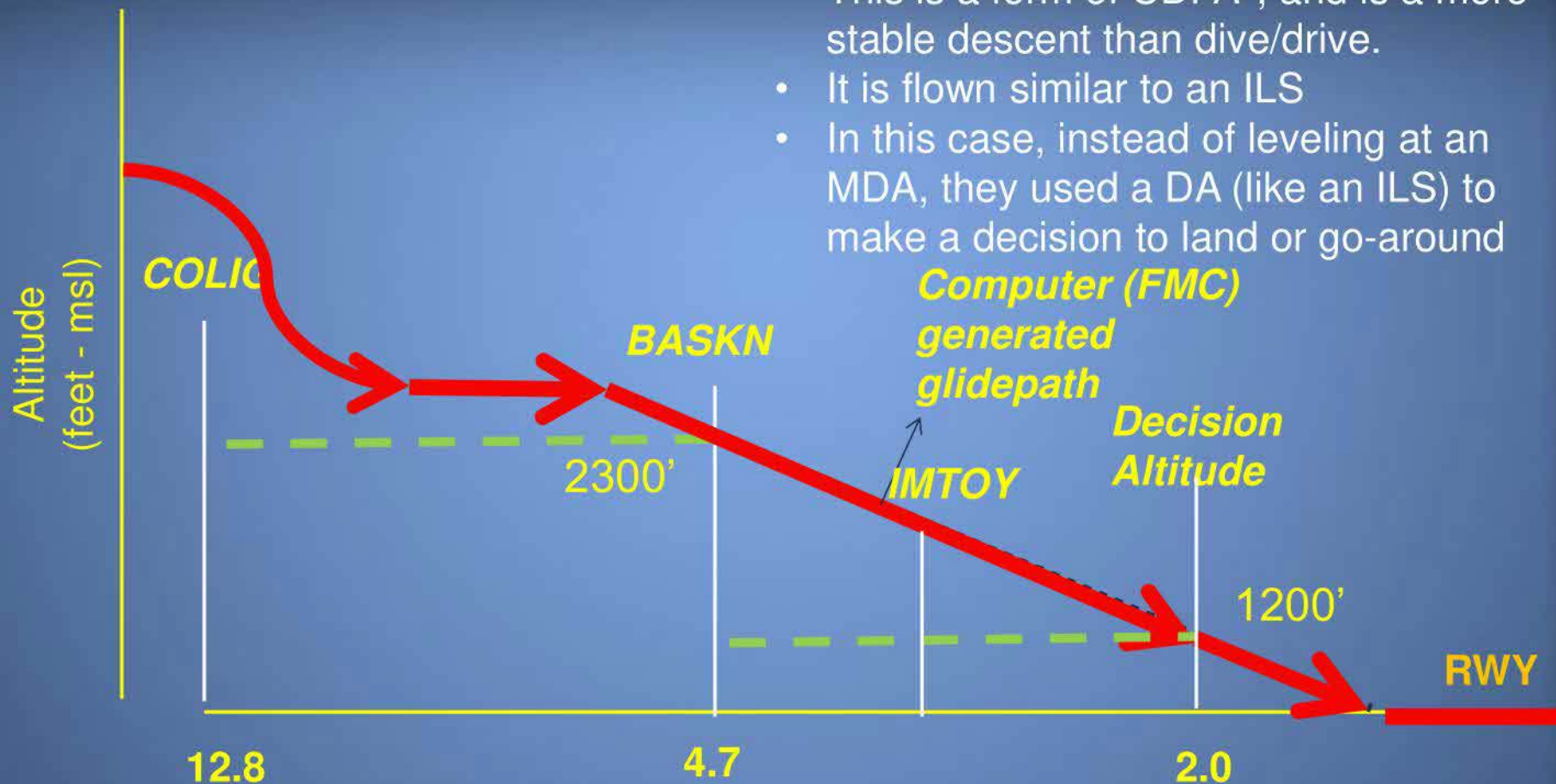
- From simulator testing, CVR and FDR review, and electronic data recovered at the scene, we determined the accident sequence . . . .





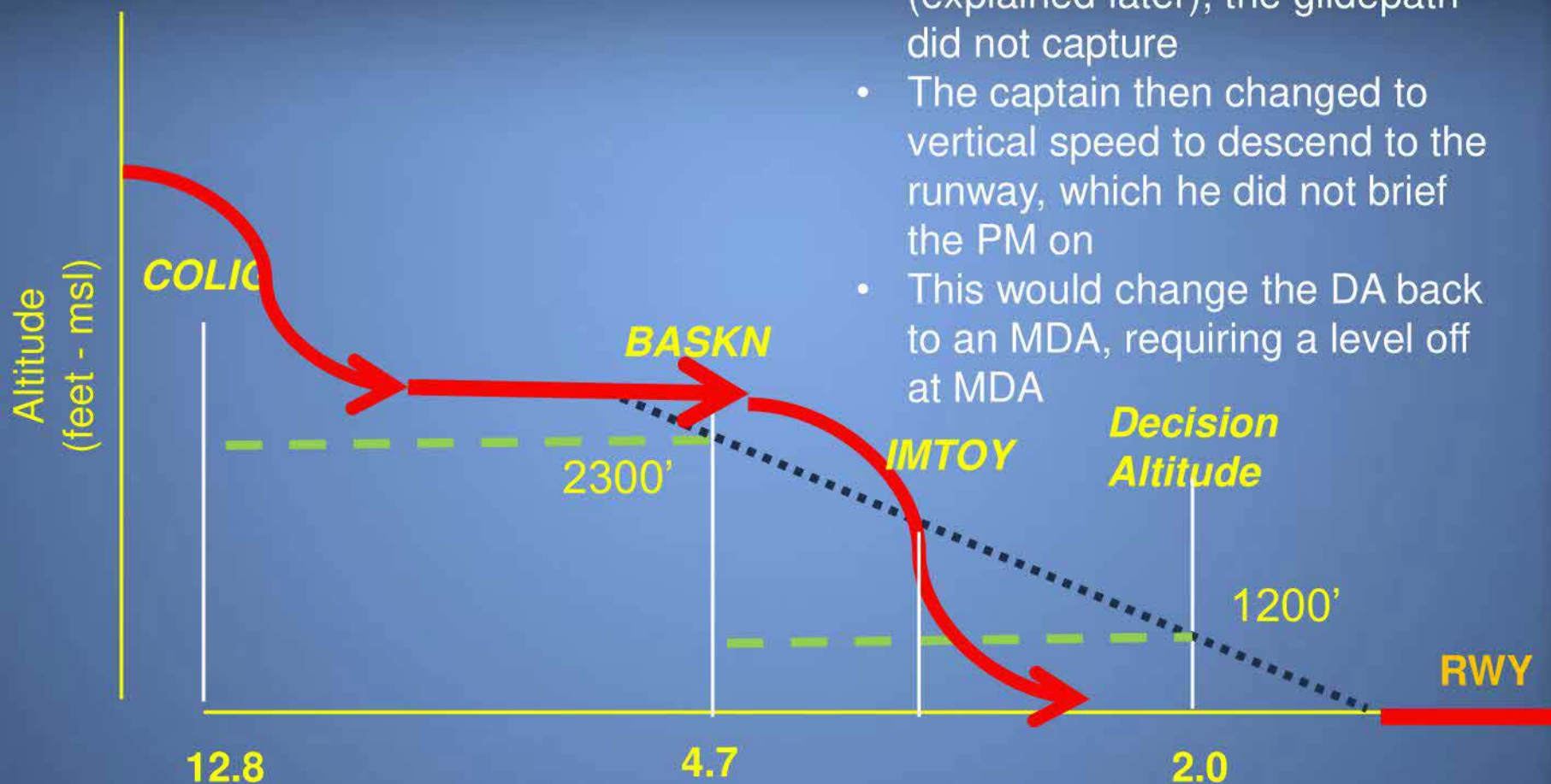
# What the crew planned and briefed to do: Profile Approach

- The crew planned to descend via an FMC generated glidepath (profile approach)
- This is a form of CDFA\*, and is a more stable descent than dive/drive.
- It is flown similar to an ILS
- In this case, instead of leveling at an MDA, they used a DA (like an ILS) to make a decision to land or go-around



# What the crew actually did: Profile Approach reverting to a “dive and drive”

- Because of errors in programming the approach (explained later), the glidepath did not capture
- The captain then changed to vertical speed to descend to the runway, which he did not brief the PM on
- This would change the DA back to an MDA, requiring a level off at MDA





# So what was the programming error?

- The flight departed KSDF and was cleared to fly direct to KBHM
- Prior to the top of descent, the Crew entered the LOC18 approach into the flight plan in the FMC
- The crew then briefed a Profile approach for the LOC18 at KBHM

*Localizer 18  
Approach*

*Navigating direct to  
KBHM*

**KBHM**





# CDU

# PFD ND



This is what the screens looked like for the accident flight with the LOC 18 approach in the flight plan. This was a normal way to setup the flight plan in the CDU

# What's a flight plan discontinuity?



- The flight plan discontinuity is a break in the flight plan that the pilot must remove prior to executing the approach. This is called “sequencing the approach”



- As the crew approached KBHM, ATC gave them a heading to join the localizer.
- This took them off the direct routing to KBHM . . .

**KBHM**

**Localizer 18  
Approach**

**Navigating direct to  
KBHM**

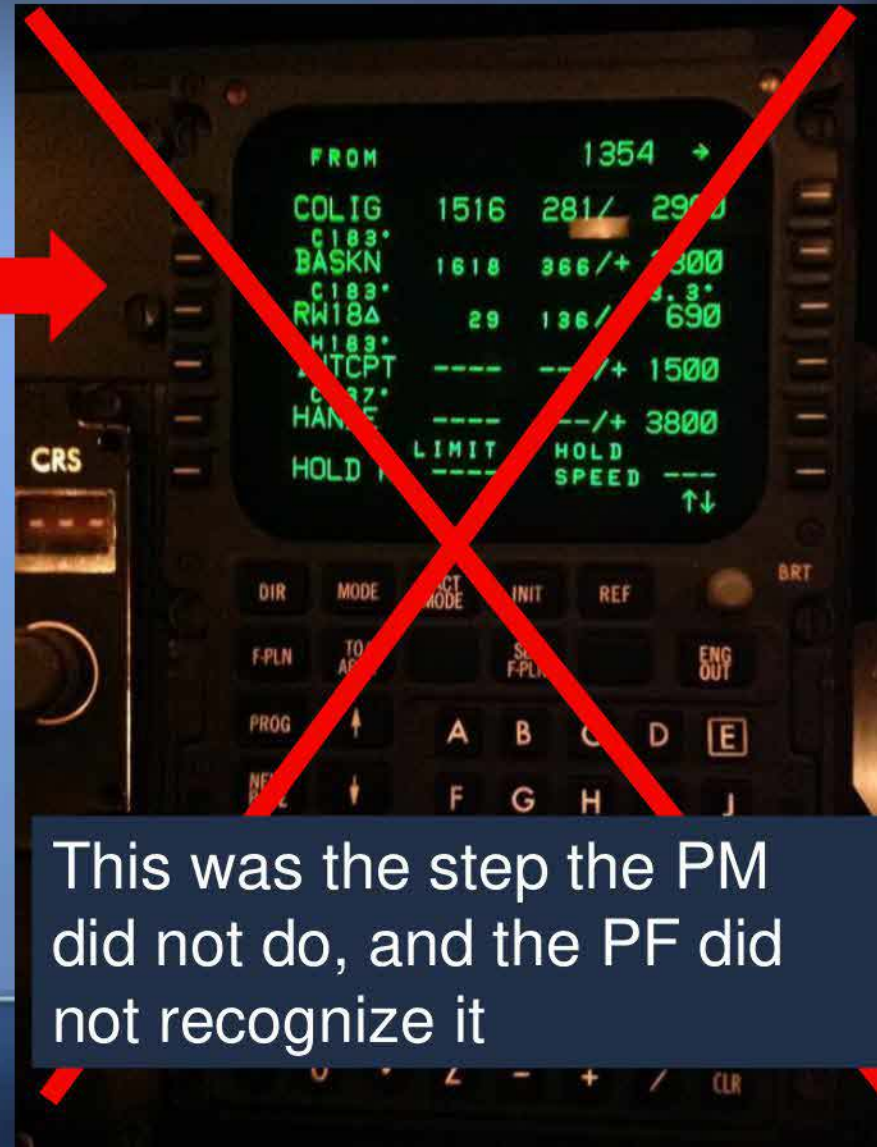




# Before sequencing



## After sequencing

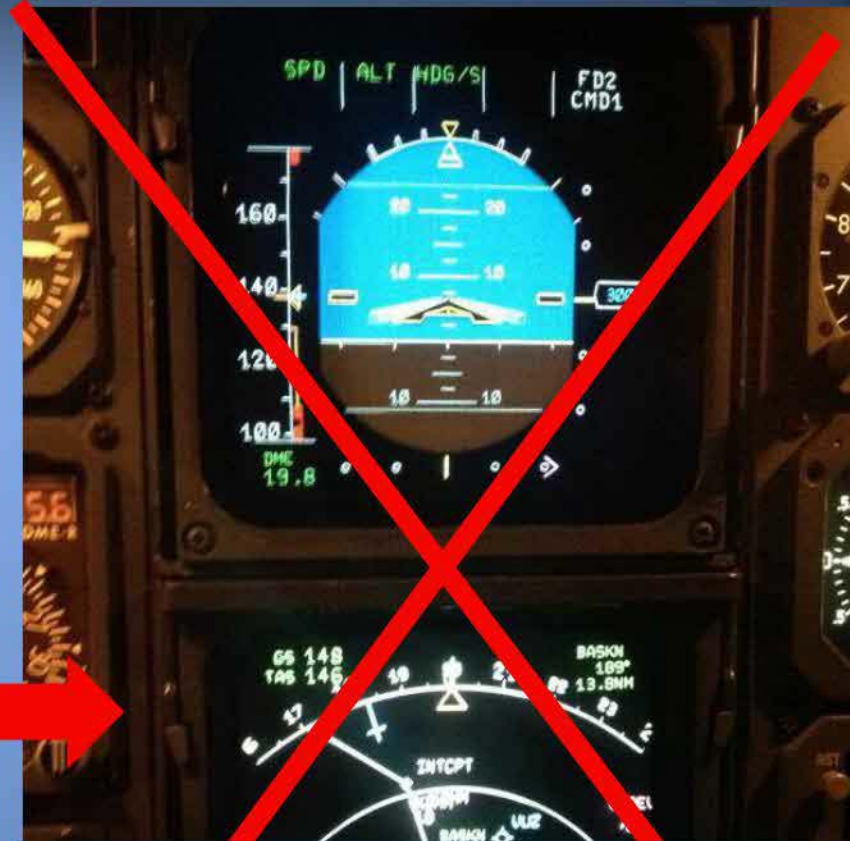


This was the step the PM did not do, and the PF did not recognize it

## Before sequencing



## After sequencing



Again, this was the step the PM did not do, and the PF did not recognize it



To capture the profile path, the pilot would push the “PROFILE” button on the Mode Control Panel (MCP\*)

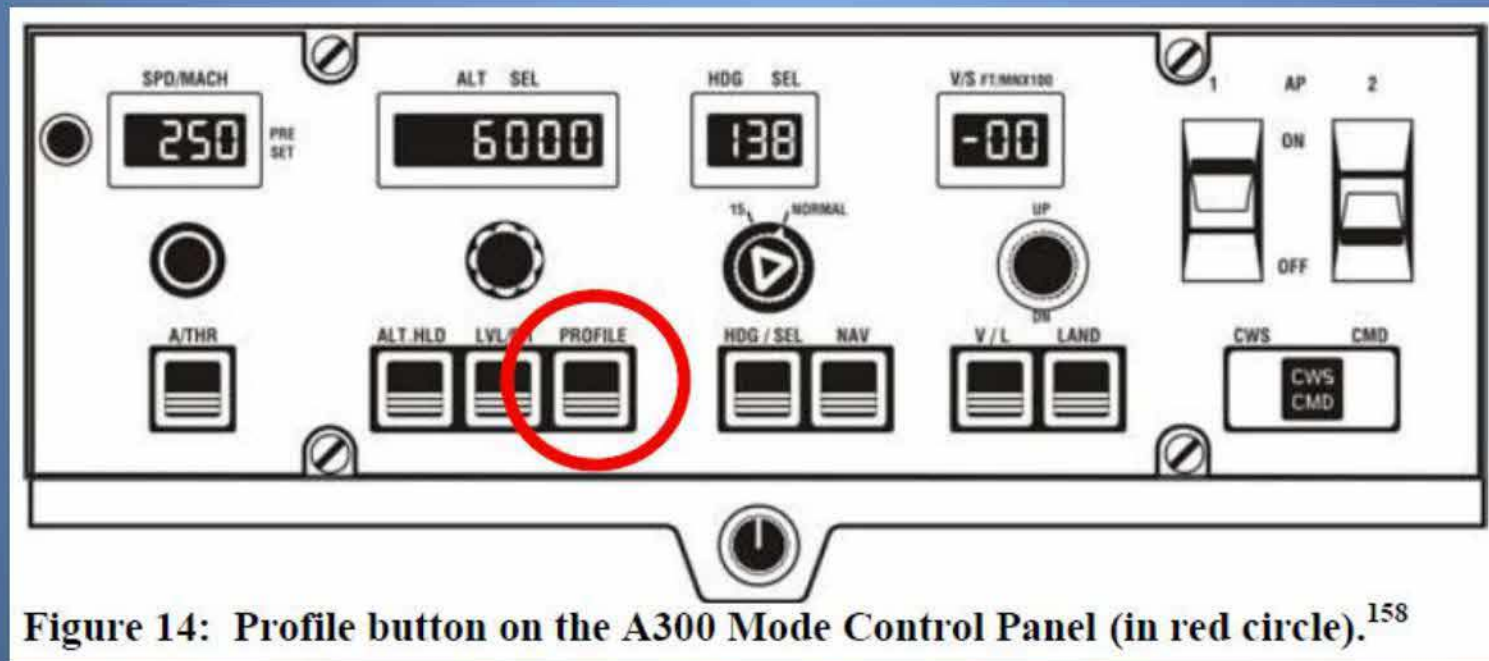
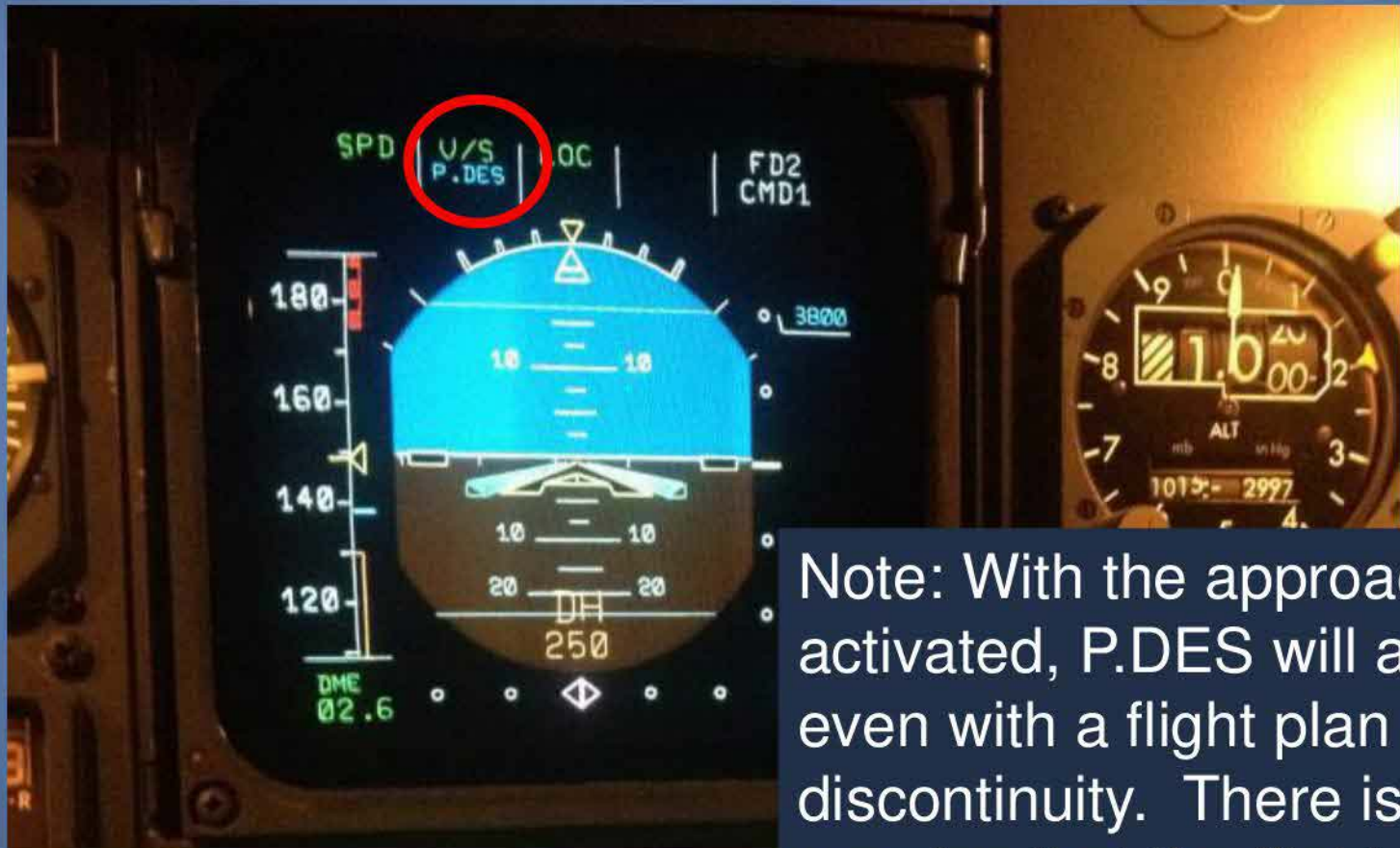


Figure 14: Profile button on the A300 Mode Control Panel (in red circle).<sup>158</sup>

The FMA would then show “P.DES” in blue, indicating the glidepath was armed



Note: With the approach activated, P.DES will arm even with a flight plan discontinuity. There is no warning that the flight plan is not sequenced.



- With the flight plan not sequenced (discontinuity still in the flight plan) the autopilot could not capture the FMC generated glidepath
- The captain flew to the Final Approach Fix (FAF) 200' higher than recommended, and past the FMC generated glidepath, which did not capture

- After passing through the FMC generated glidepath, the PF selected vertical speed (1500 fpm) and descended through 1000 ft. agl and through the MDA.

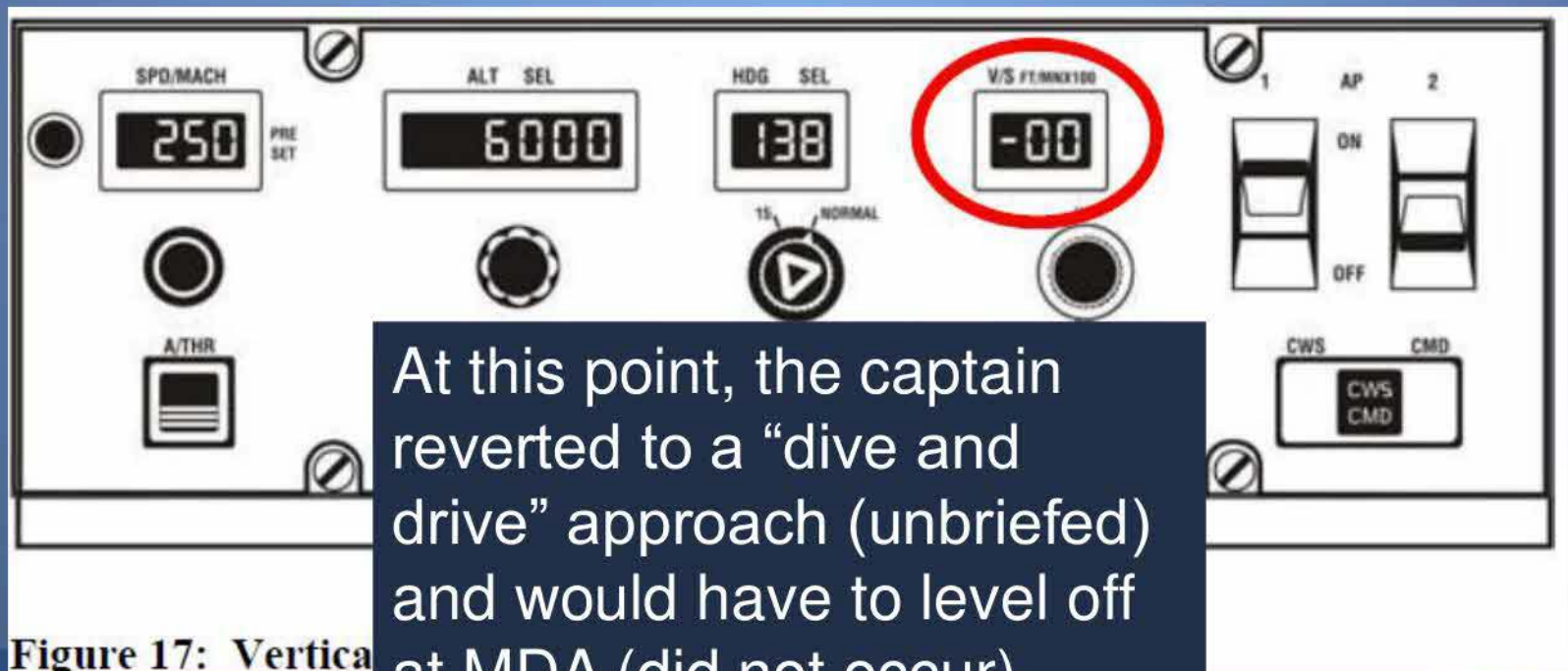


Figure 17: Vertical



# Flight Crew Performance

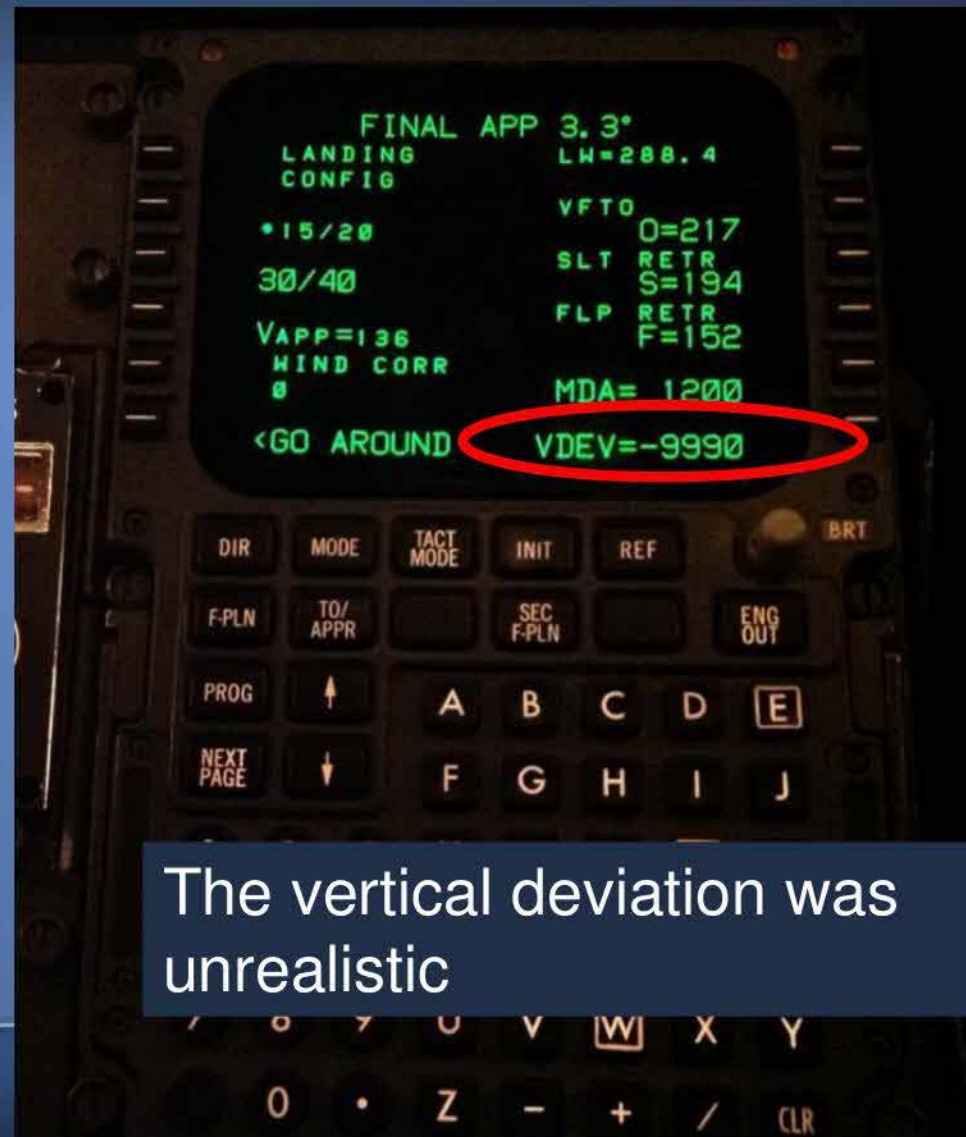
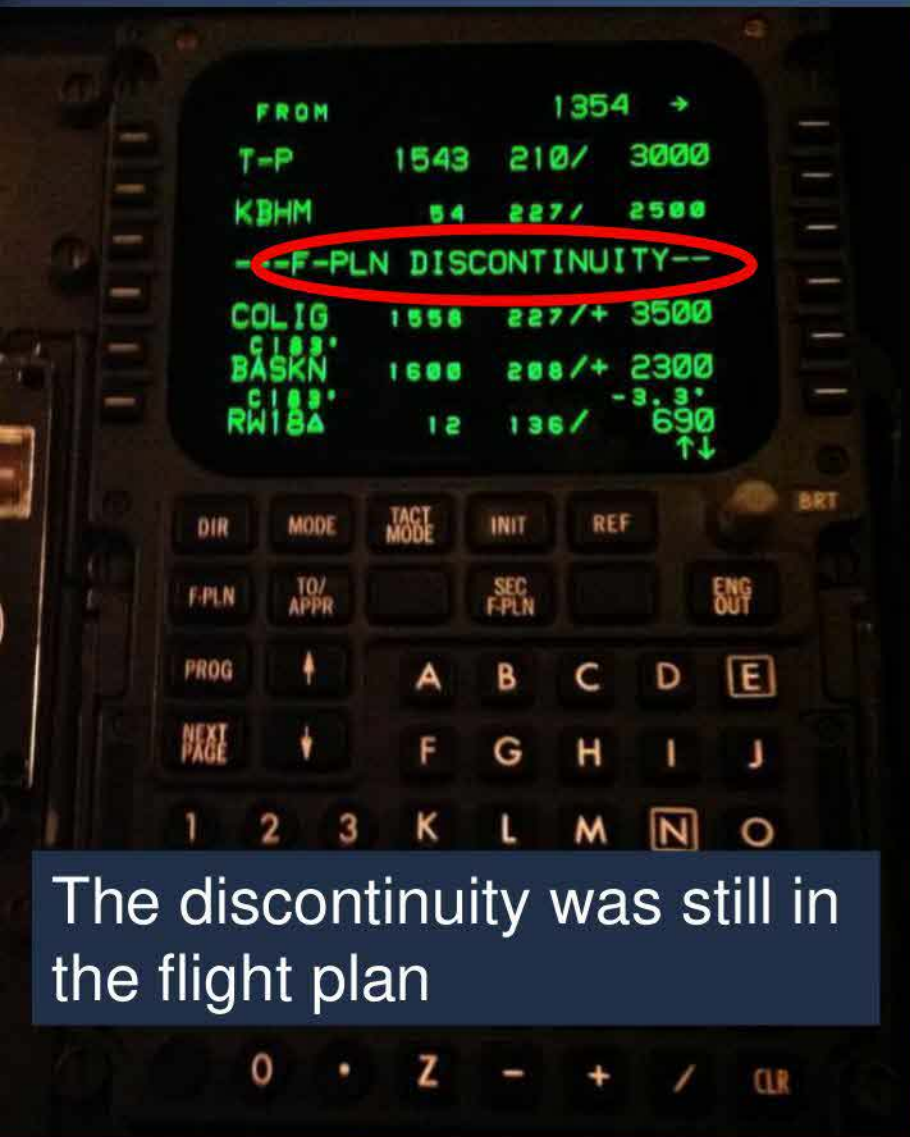
- Captain did not call for and first officer did not verify the approach
  - Vertical guidance provided was meaningless
- Captain did not descend to the FAF minimum crossing altitude
- Captain changed to vertical speed without communicating his intentions to first officer

# Flight Crew Performance (cont.)

- Crew did not monitor flight path
  - Did not recognize cues that approach not set up properly
  - At least 6 cues that should have alerted the crew that something was wrong



# Visual Cues - CDU pages

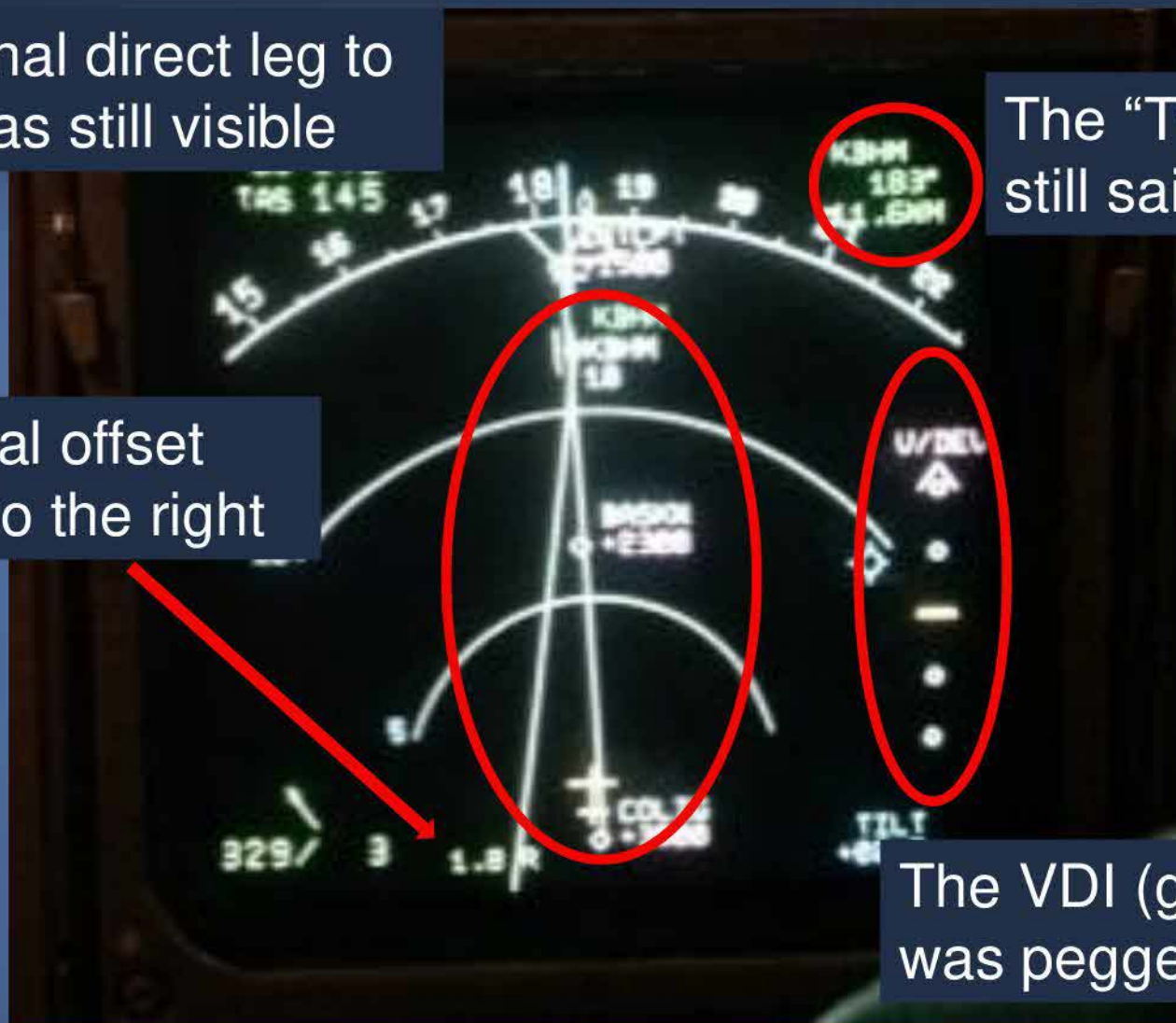


# Visual Cues - Navigation Display

The original direct leg to KBHM was still visible

The "TO" distance still said KBHM

The lateral offset showed to the right



The VDI (glidepath) was pegged full up



# Flight Crew Performance (cont.)

- Crew did not follow SOPs
  - Continued unstable approach
  - Did not recognize at minimum altitude
- First officer did not make required minimum altitude callouts
- Captain descended below minimums

# NTSB Hearings





# Probable Cause

- The National Transportation Safety Board determines that the probable cause of this accident was the flight crew's **continuation of an unstabilized approach** and their **failure to monitor the aircraft's altitude** during the approach, which led to an inadvertent descent below the minimum approach altitude and subsequently into terrain. **Contributing** to the accident were (1) **the flight crew's failure to properly configure and verify** the flight management computer for the profile approach; (2) **the captain's failure to communicate** his intentions to the first officer once it became apparent the vertical profile was not captured; (3) **the flight crew's expectation** that they would break out of the clouds at 1,000 feet above ground level due to incomplete weather information; (4) **the first officer's failure to make the required minimums callouts**; (5) **the captain's performance deficiencies** likely due to factors including, but not limited to, fatigue, distraction, or confusion, consistent with performance deficiencies exhibited during training; and (6) **the first officer's fatigue** due to acute sleep loss resulting from her ineffective off-duty time management and circadian factors.

# Recommendations

- Fifteen to FAA
- Two to UPS
- Two to IPA
- One to Airbus



# Thank you



## National Transportation Safety Board

**Captain David Lawrence**

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

# Systems Investigation Basics

## AS105 for DOE

Robert Swaim Aerospace Systems  
Engineering Investigator National  
Resource Specialist



# Why investigate aircraft systems?

Did a system component fail and lead to accident?

Example: Chafed wiring in fuel tanks creates spark energy. Determine whether systems were system in use?

What effects if so? TWA800 air conditioning heated fuel vapors. Determine whether systems were mis-used An Airbus Captain turned off all power on initial climb. To know pilot actions leading to accidents AAL 767 near Cali, Columbia: Autopilot recorded keystrokes Determine whether systems were available to the crew Numerous fuel exhaustion accidents in aircraft with fuel.FDR issues. Frequently no FDR or a faulty/incomplete data source



NTSB

# Types of DOE aircraft to plan for

Fixed Wing (8):5 B200  
and B350 King Air2  
Boeing 737-3001 Douglas  
DC9-33F

Rotary Wing (11):Bell  
407Bell 4122 BK 117Bell  
206L-4





# Technology is great and has a place, BUT

Systems investigations are based in Talking to people  
Learning how each system functions Inconvenient travel to  
examine and do tests NOT Surfing the internet to  
“research” Playing “64 Questions” by email Being an office  
hermit A magic library Delegating to “Outside  
Experts” Sending parts to labs and waiting for magic  
results



# Who examines systems at NTSB

SCOPE	Regional and straightforward about which system(s) involved	Aspects beyond capability or time of regional person	Unknown which system, major accident, interaction of systems, etc. (Or an ENG case with no Regional involvement)
PERSON(s)	Regional Investigator	Regional coordination with AS-40	AS-40 Systems Engineer

AS-40 Systems Engineering staff: Carolyn DeForge, Division Chief and prior Systems Investigator   Scott Warren, Lead (workload coordination) and CT resource   Bob Swaim, NRS, A&P, airline background, numerous lab contacts   Tom Jacky, lots of investigations and recorder experience   Steve Magladry, EE, ex-Boeing, Lots of investigations   Adam Huray, numerous investigations and prior military work   Mike Bauer, extensive recorder and flight test experience



**NTSB**



# This was a 737 - Was a system involved?

Thoughts from the person tasked with systems investigation:

I got a cool  
helicopter ride

Everybody  
expects me to  
do systems

Wait - There's  
not enough  
there to be a  
whole 737.

Oh wow.[sinking  
feeling]



Kenya Airways flight 507, B737-8AL, 5Y-KYA, May 5, 2007, 114 fatal near Douala, Cameroon



NTSB



# On the ground how will you document this?

This is AFTER when you should know.



There's an airplane here? I just see mud.

I'd sweat to death in a bio suit

Poison snakes? Yes

Water borne parasitic

Mud keeps sucking



NTSB

It can be overwhelming, so . . .



Have a method **before** arriving on scene

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark upFind fo



NTSB

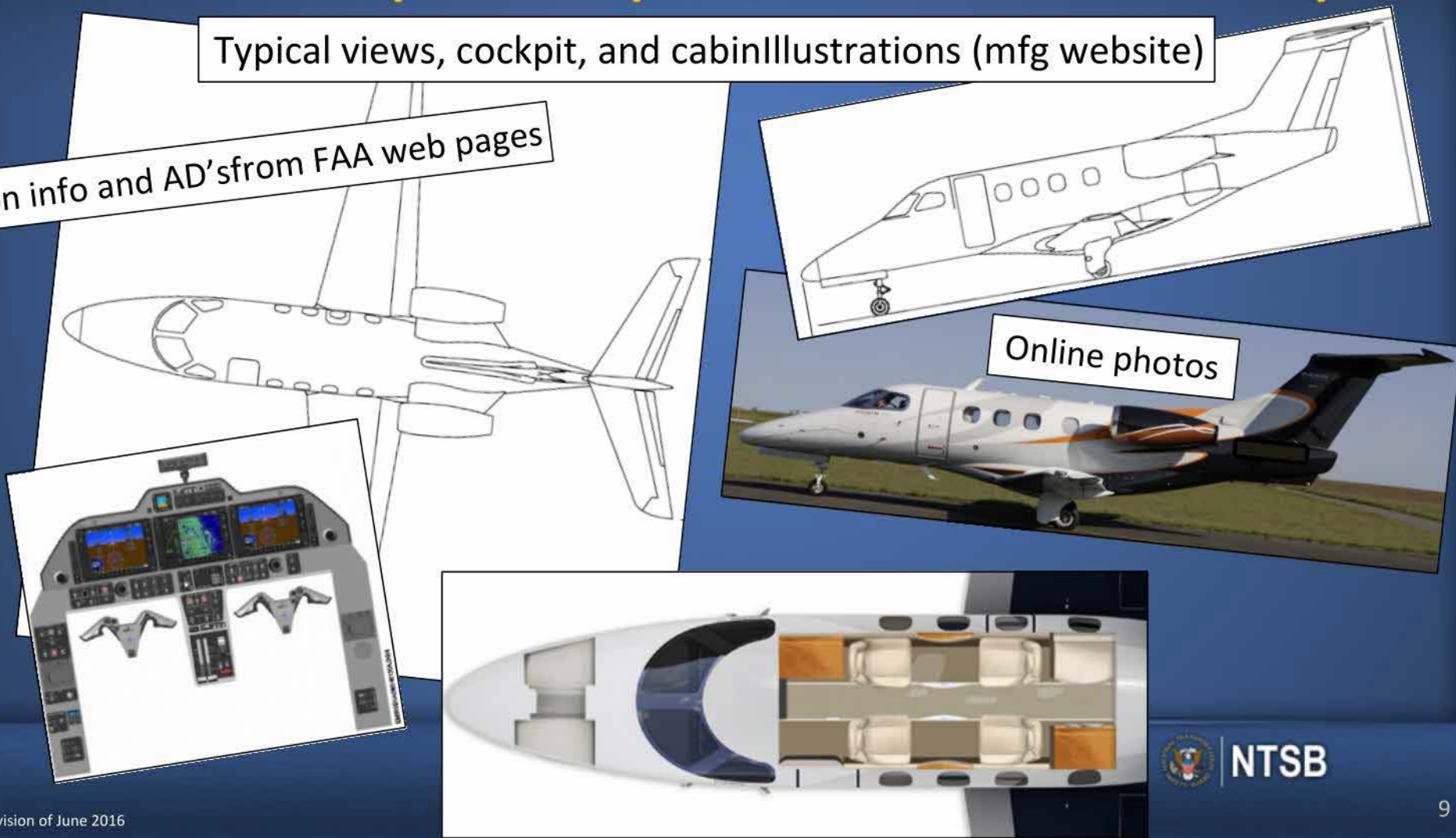
# Have a method

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

**Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark up**

Typical views, cockpit, and cabin illustrations (mfg website)

tion info and AD's from FAA web pages



Online photos



NTSB



# Have a method

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark upFind fo



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# Two on-scene methods

pit, or public has access (typ foreign), small debris and time is available



Start here before disturbed

Then work from point of first contact

Four corners are obvious



Start at first ground contact and work forward to find four corners (Tail to nose then tips)

If enough investigators are available, one systems group can work the site generally while another



NTSB



# Attitude, Speed, and Four Corners

- First things to look for in ANY accident! First clue as to which systems may have been involved.

Low forward speed



High angle

High forward speed



Low angle



NTSB



# Attitude, Speed, and Four Corners

- First things to look for in ANY accident! First clue as to which systems may have been involved.

Low forward speed



High angle

High forward speed



Note that speed is relative to aircraft size and type

Low angle



NTSB



# Attitude, Speed, and Four Corners

- First things to look for in ANY accident! First clue as to which systems may have been involved.

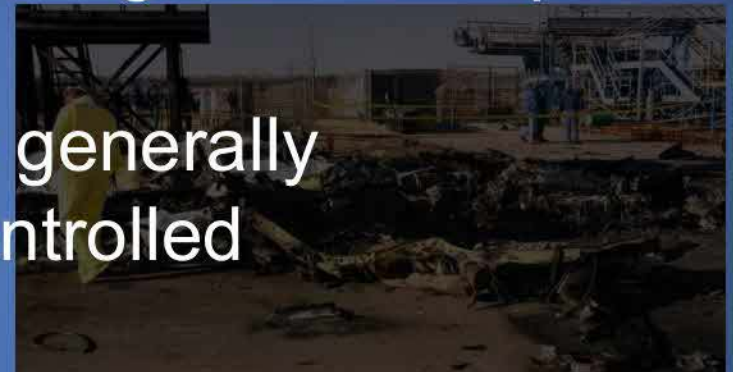
Low forward speed

High forward speed

High angle



Airplane generally not controlled



Low angle



Airplane generally flyable



NTSB

# Attitude, Speed, and Four Corners

## There are exceptions

Example: Columbia, SC Learjet Model 60 accident. Tire failure and system design led to departing the runway

High forward speed

Pilot did not have control

Low angle



NTSB



# Case #1: Four corners, impact attitude, and speed

What clues do you see already?



Workers onground give scale

Kenya Airways flight 507, B737-8AL, 5Y-KYA, May 5, 2007, 114 fatal near Douala, Cameroon



# Case Study #1: High angle, fast impact

Start to prioritize systems to search for Time on site m

Smaller fragments imply higher speed



irection of impact

enterline can imply wing level (or inverted) attitude

Steep angle implied by crater

Initial width can imply wings level (or inverted)

Steep angle between trees and ground contact

Angle between impact direction and breadth of initial contact implies amount of roll





# Case Study #1: High angle, fast impact

Initial clues prioritize anything related to pitch and control, and reduce the priority of power, fuel, the toilets, etc

Smaller fragments imply higher speed



Steep angle implied by crater

Direction of impact

Angle of centerline can imply wing level attitude

Initial width can imply wings level

Steep angle between trees and ground

Angle between impact direction and breadth of initial contact implies amount of roll





# High angle fast impact implies control loss

Most of a 737 and remnants of 114 people are in this photo

It can be overwhelming, so . . .

The FDR hasn't  
been found in all  
this water and mud

Now  
what do I  
do?



NTSB



# Have a method

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark upFind fo



NTSB

# Look at the individual parts and orient yourself

The APU was not essential to flight But it was near one of the four corners

Don't be overwhelmed by the scene



Hydraulic valve For flight controls? Flaps? Brakes?



No signs of fire in the cabin debris



NTSB



# Have an organization for your documentation. By system works.

Time on site is limited. This person is being pro



This person is not. He could be put to use by asking him to search for something specific and report back.



NTSB

Lots of systems are in a large aircraft!  
How do you organize notes about them?



If only one is in question, that is all you need to document.



# If multiple, ATA Code 100 categorizes aircraft systems



NTSB





# Have a method

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

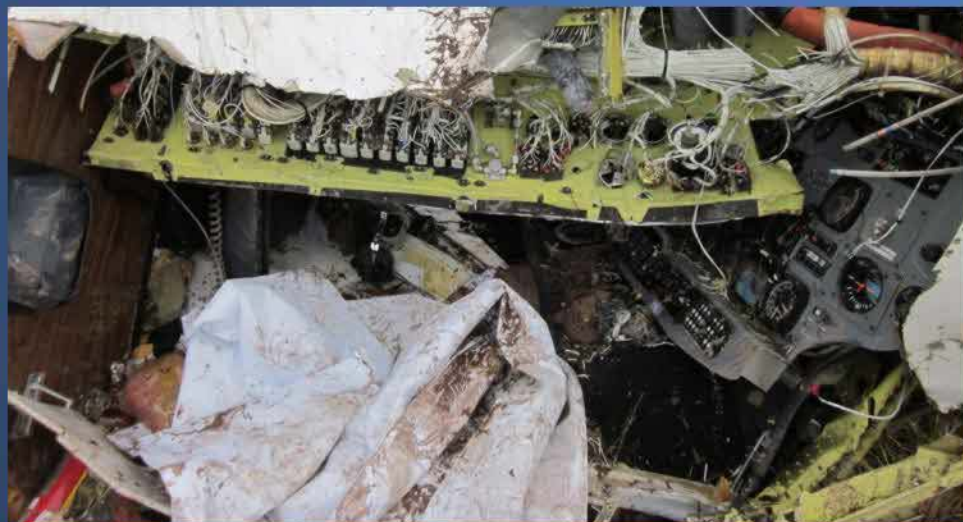
Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark upFind fo



NTSB

# Documenting a destroyed cockpit

Mark up instrument panel diagrams or write down each indication and switch position. One ordering technique is to write descriptions in the order of scanning panels while flying. It is easier to have one person in the wet mess photographing, while dictating instrument and control positions, as a second person writes notes. You can stick a camera in tight spots and take notes from photos.



But how do you organize notes about this?

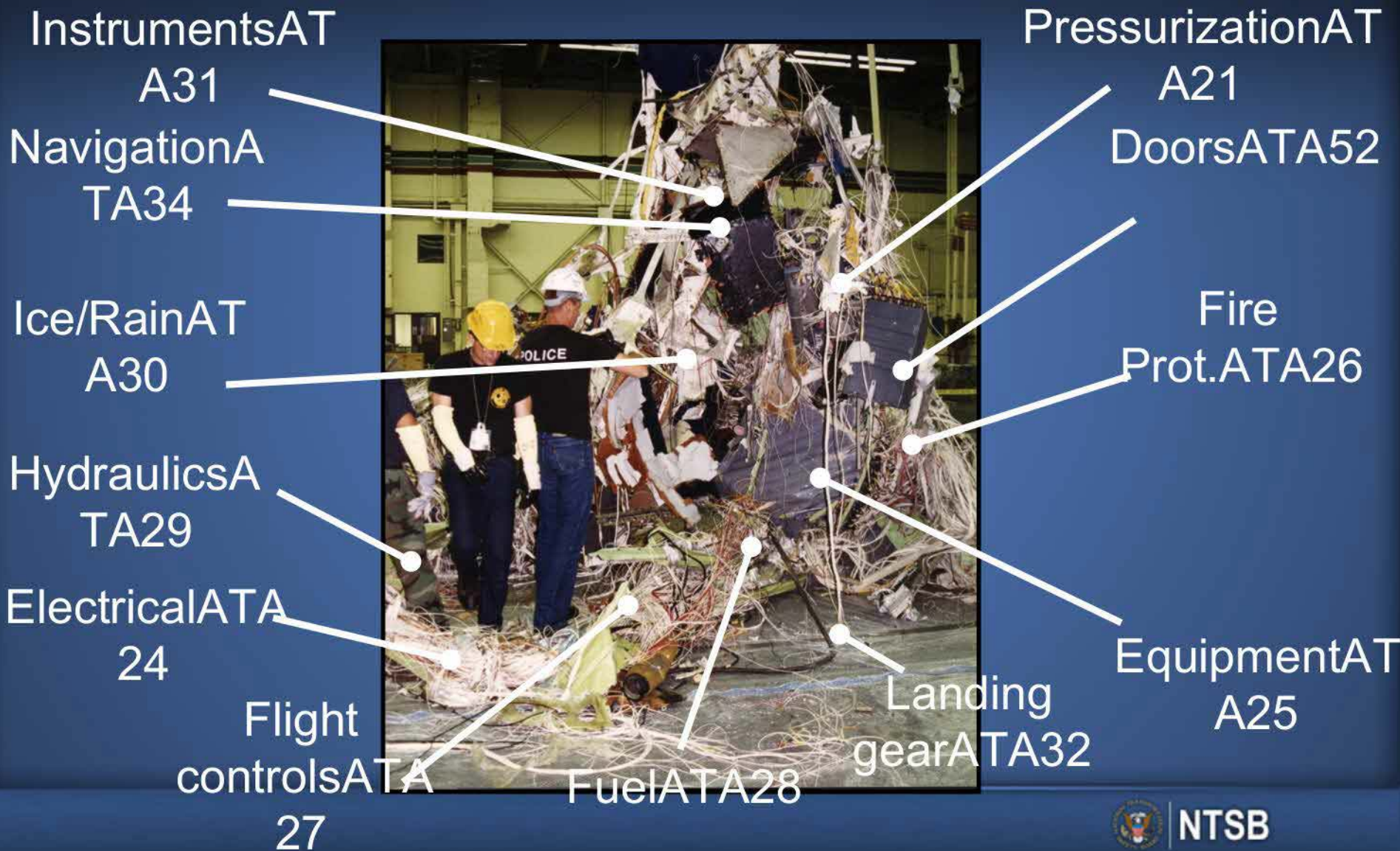


NTSB



# ATA Code 100 provides another cockpit organizer

TWA800 747 cockpit upon arrival



NTSB



# Case study #2: What Angle? Speed of impact?

Scene: Wreckage in small area  
High fragmentation & post-impact fire  
Witnesses saw extreme pitch up on takeoff



Sister ship

Complete airplane



Flight data recorder



3, 2003, 21 fatal in Beechcraft 1900 accident at Charlotte, NC



NTSB



# Case study #2: High angle, high speed impact

ATA 21 A/C & PRESSURIZATIONATA 22 AUTO  
FLIGHTATA 23 COMMUNICATIONSATA 24  
ELECTRICAL POWERATA 26 fireWitnesses saw extreme pitch up on  
PROTECTIONATA 27 FLIGHT CONTROLSATA 28  
FUELATA 29 HYDRAULIC POWERATA  
30 ICE AND RAINATA 31  
INDICATING/RECORDATA 32  
LANDING GEARATA 34 NAVIGATIONATA  
35 OXYGENATA 36 PNEUMATICATA 37  
VACUUM



January 3, 2003, 21 fatal in Beechcraft1900 accident at Charlotte, NC



# Have a method

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark up  
Find four corners for impact attitude and speed  
Walk the debris path to see if the airplane is all there  
Shoot photos continuously while scene is un-trampled  
Watch for the recorders, but do not lose time to them  
Document the cockpit before people change things  
Document each system and indicator from both ends  
Consider what should be removed for later exam





# Each system has at least two ends

## Each must be checked against the other

Find and document (in writing and photos) any witness marks for each and see if they are at about the same position.

1. Cockpit control yoke position

2. Elevator position



NTSB



NTSB

# There can be a lot to document in some systems

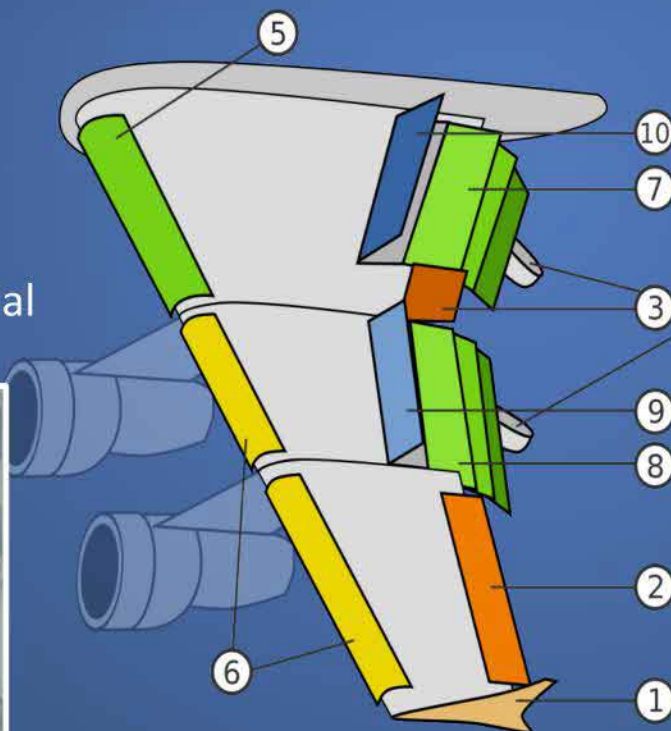
Every cockpit control does something somewhere. Every indicator or recorded data has a source. Capture each end with photos and in writing.



Marks on face and internal



Count jackscrew threads. Measure piston shaft extensions. Look for



Repeat for each track and actuator



NTSB



# Case Study #2: Tail and pitch turnbuckles

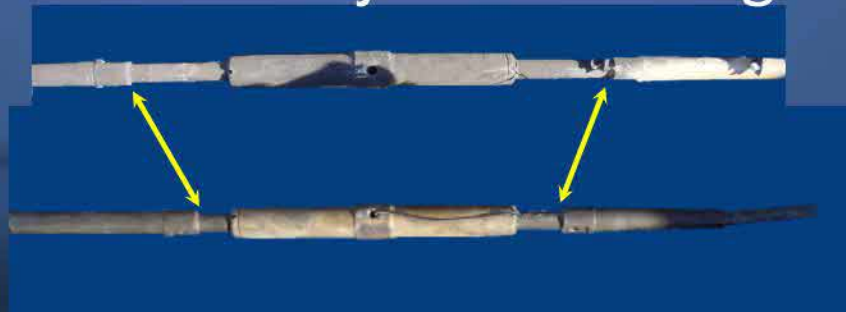
Front and rear of the system was confusing in not matching the published limits



Different adjustment lengths

Down turnbuckle

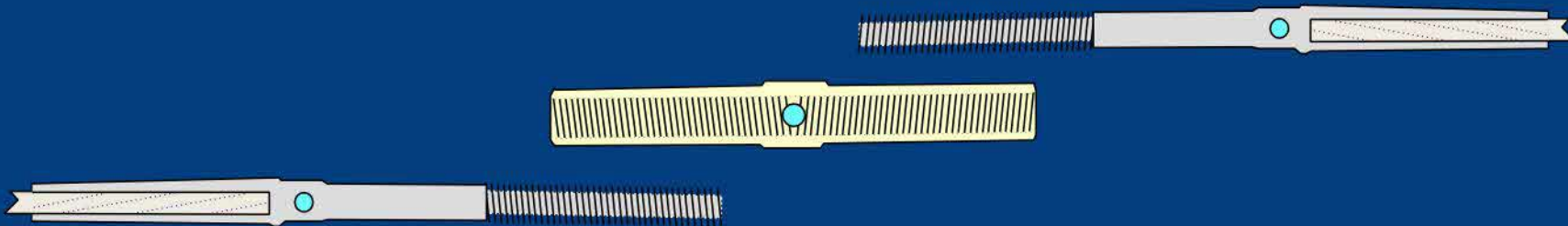
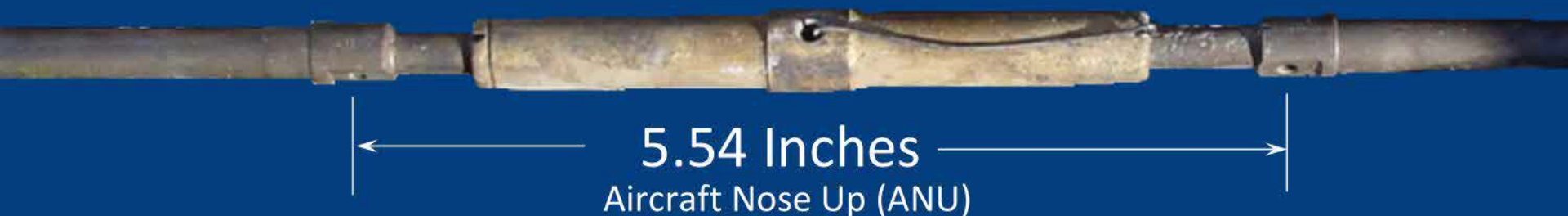
Up turnbuckle



NTSB

# Case Study #2: Pitch control turnbuckles as found were at opposing limits of adjustment

Look for things which are odd or don't match



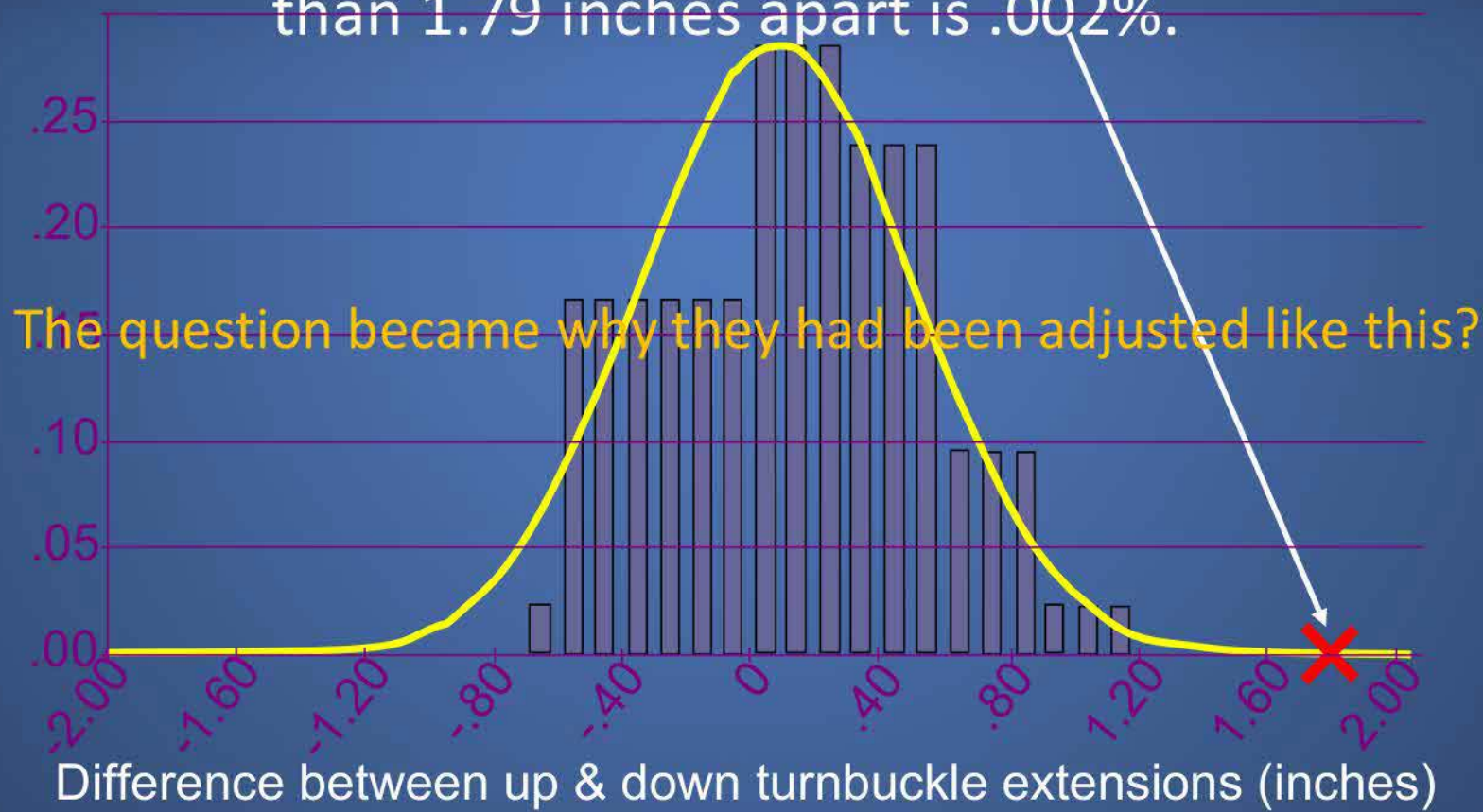
NTSB



# Using Statistics – Another clue

## Comparison of turnbuckle extensions in 42 airplanes

The probability of an aircraft's turnbuckles to be greater than 1.79 inches apart is .002%.



## Case Study #2: Do testing

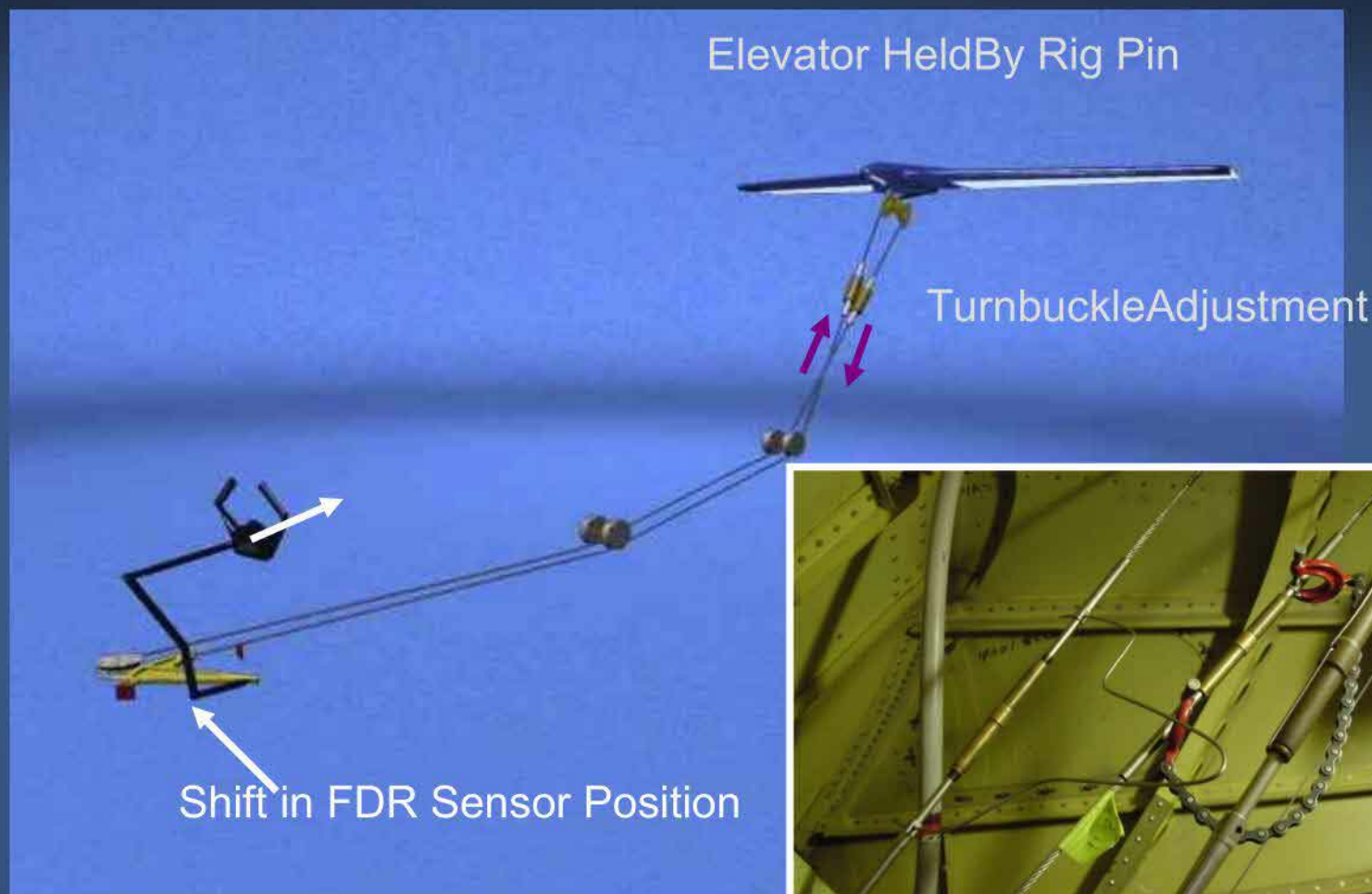
Rigging of pitch controls shown (aft rig pinning shown)



NTSB



# Case Study #2: Found that cable mis-rig altered the relation between FDR sensor and elevator



NTSB

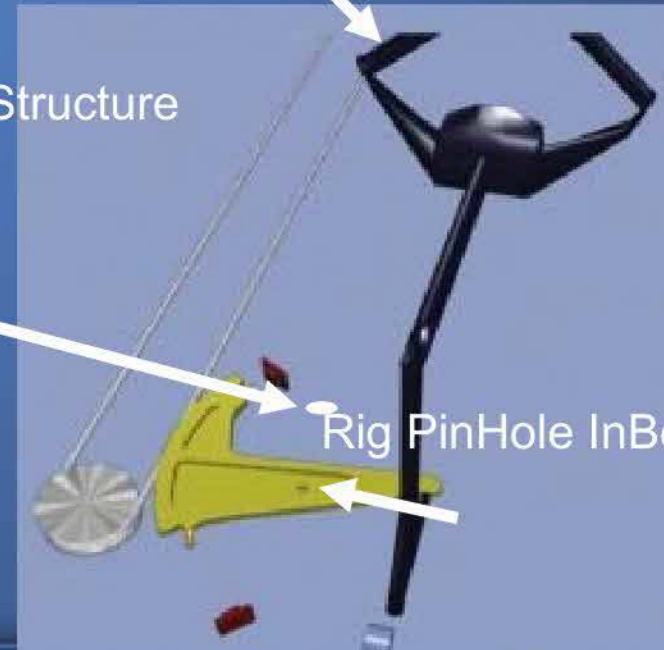
# Case Study #2: The reason was that the design of the forward rig pin could miss hole in bellcrank



(View from aft)

Control Yoke

Rig Pin Hole In Floor Structure



(View from forward)

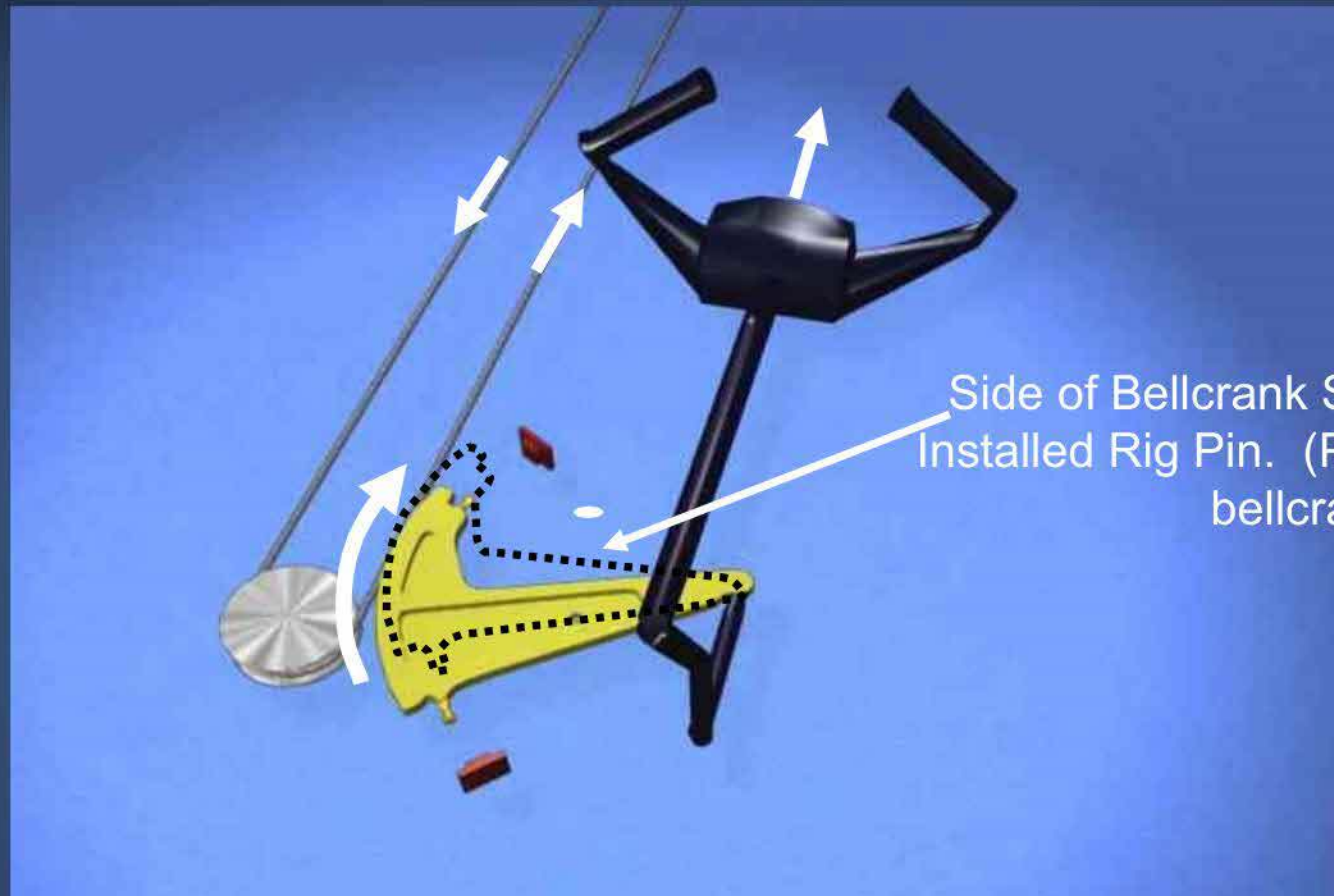
Rig Pin Hole In Bellcrank



NTSB



## Case Study #2: Tightening elevator-down cable moved forward bellcrank aft to match FDR



Side of Bellcrank Stopped At Improperly Installed Rig Pin. (Pin should be inserted in bellcrank hole.)

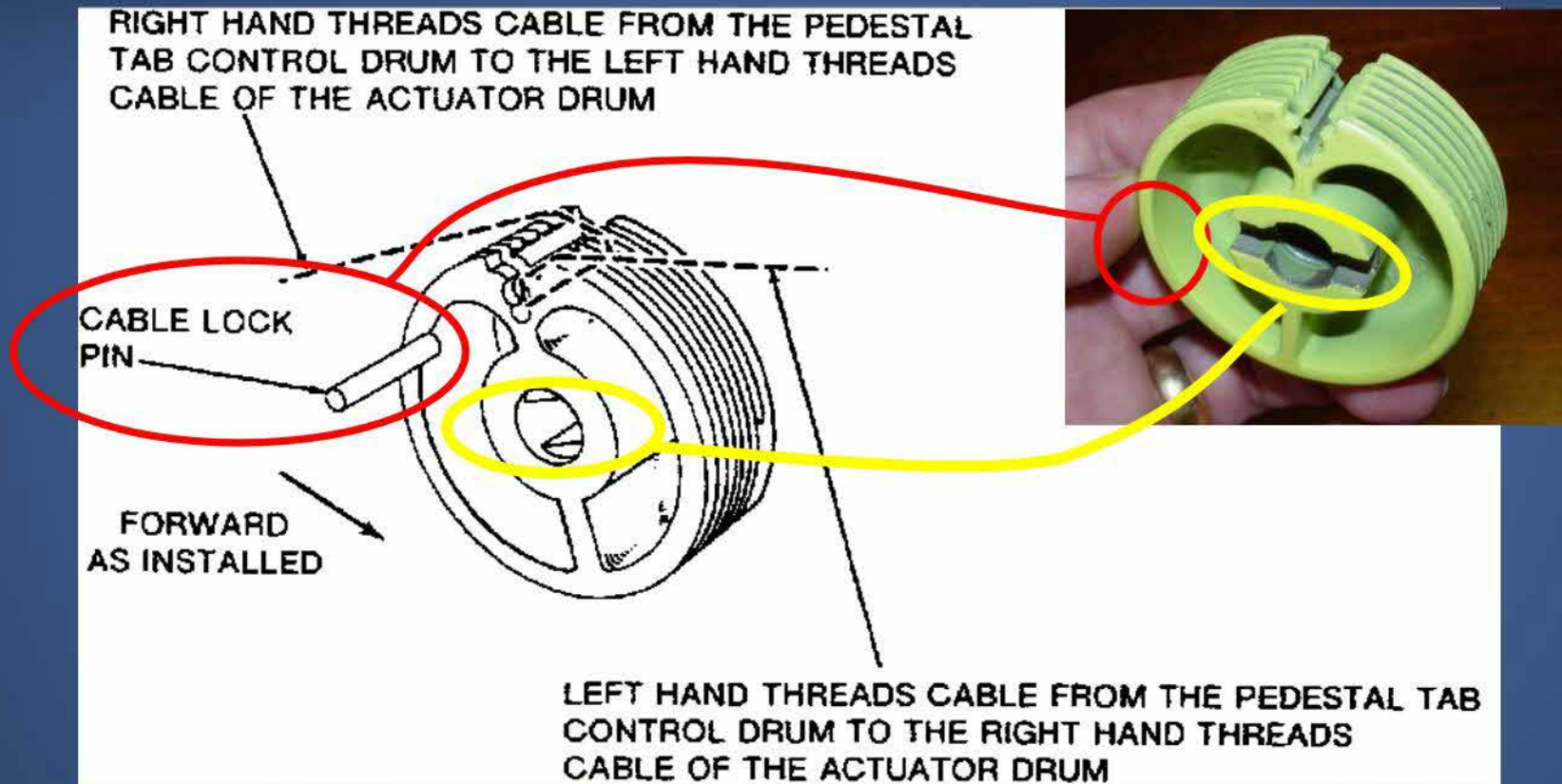


NTSB

Different airplane:

A similar pitch trim event occurred on takeoff.

The Beech 1900 work instructions were backward



From Colgan Air Flight 9446, Yarmouth, Mass, August 6, 2003



NTSB



# Case Study #3: High angle, high speed -Implied loss of control

Scene: Found beneath final approach  
path Wreckage in small area High  
fragmentation & post-impact fire



March 22, 2009, 14 fatal in Pilatus PC-12 accident at Butte, Montana



# Case Study #3:

## High angle, high speed -Implied loss of control

First priority systems to

consider:ATA 21 A/C &

PRESSURIZATIONATA 22 AUTO

FLIGHTATA 23

COMMUNICATIONSATA 24

ELECTRICAL POWERATA 26

FIRE PROTECTIONATA 27

FLIGHT CONTROLSATA 28

FUELATA 29 HYDRAULIC

POWERATA 30ICE AND RAINATA

32 LANDING GEARATA 34

NAVIGATIONATA 35

OXYGENATA 36

PNEUMATICATA 37

VACUUMATA 61

PROPELLERSATA 71

POWER PLANT

March 22, 2009, 14 fatal in PilatusPC-12 accident at Butte, Montana



NTSB



# Case Study #3: High angle, high speed -Implied loss of control

March 23, 2009, 14 fatal in PilatusPC-12 accident at Butte, Montana

**Implication was wrong!!! ALWAYS  
be willing to reconsider what you  
THINK you know!!!**

ATA 21  
ATA 26  
FIRE PROTECTIONATA 27  
FLIGHT CONTROLSATA 28  
FUELATA 29 HYDRAULIC  
POWERATA 30 AND RAINATA 32  
LANDING  
NAVIGATIONAL  
OXYGENATA 36  
PNEUMATICATA 37  
VACUUM



The cause of the accident was icing in the fuel system which resulted in a left-wing-heavy fuel imbalance. The pilot lost control while maneuvering the left-wing-heavy airplane near the approach end of the runway.



**NTSB**

# Case Study #4: Low angle at relatively low speed

Low forward speed



High forward speed



High angle

Low angle



Feb 25, 2009, 9 fatal, B-737-800, Amsterdam, NL



NTSB



# Case study #4 – Impact angle? Speed?

Scene: Wreckage under final approach. Tail struck first, nose high. Relatively short debris path. Big pieces, not little fragments. No post-impact fire.



Feb 25, 2009, 9 fatal, B-737-800, Amsterdam, NL



NTSB

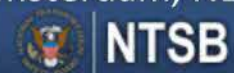
# Case study #4: Low angle, relatively low speed

Which systems to prioritize? **ATA 21 A/C & PRESSURIZATION** **ATA 22 AUTO** **ATA 23 COMMUNICATIONS** **ATA 24 HIGH** **ATA 25 FIRE** **ATA 26 ELECTRICAL POWER** **ATA 27 FLIGHT PROTECTION** **ATA 28 FUEL** **ATA 29 HYDRAULIC POWER** **ATA 30 AND RAIN** **ATA 32 LAND** **ATA 34 NAVIGATION** **ATA 35** **ATA 36 PNEUMATIC** **ATA 37**

Scene: Wreckage under final approach. Tail struck first, nose high. Relatively short debris path. Big pieces, not little fragments. No post-impact fire.



Feb 25, 2009, 9 fatal, B-737-800, Amsterdam, NL

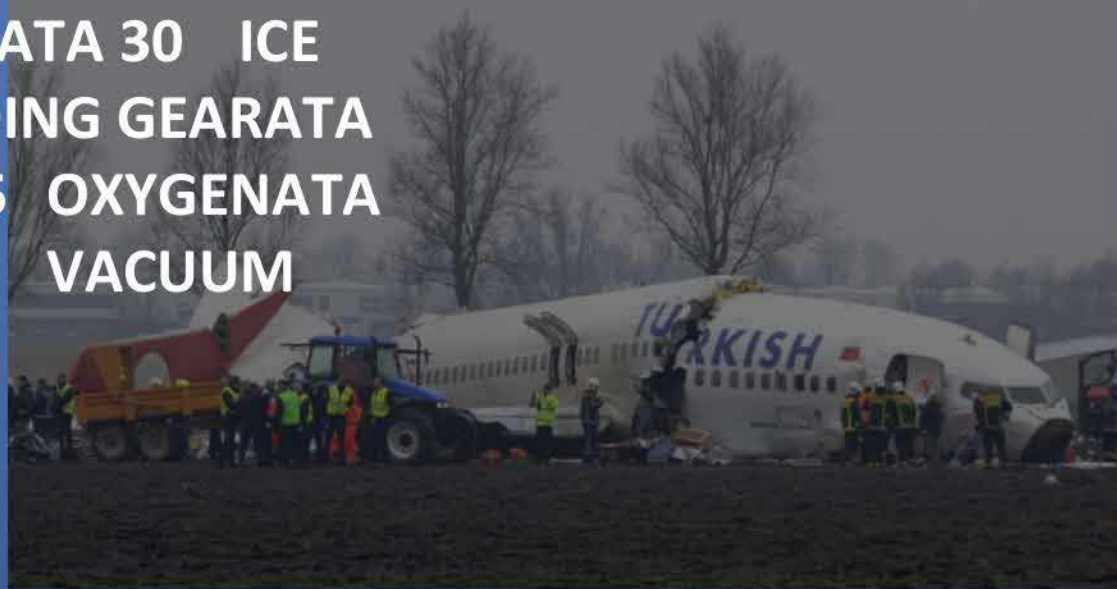




# Case study #4: Low angle, relatively low speed

Which systems to prioritize? **Scene: Wreckage under final approach. Tail struck first, nose high. Relatively short debris path. Big pieces, not little fragments. No post-impact fire.**

ATA 21 A/C & PRESSURIZATION	ATA 22 AUTO	ATA 23 COMMUNICATIONS	ATA 24 HIGH RATE	ATA 25 FIRE
ATA 26 ELECTRICAL POWER	ATA 27 FLIGHT PROTECTION	ATA 28 FLIGHT CONTROLS	ATA 29 FUEL	ATA 30 ICE AND RAIN
ATA 32 LANDING GEAR	ATA 34 NAVIGATION	ATA 35 OXYGEN	ATA 36 PNEUMATIC	ATA 37 VACUUM



Feb 25, 2009, 9 fatal, B-737-800, Amsterdam, NL



NTSB

# Have a method

Think in terms of which systems need highest priority

Arrive with copies of airplane illustrations to mark upFind fo



NTSB



# Case study #4: Low angle, relatively low speed

Which systems to prioritize? Recovered: Airspeed indication parts Autopilot boxes AOA & stick shaker parts Radio altimeters

ATA 21	A/C
ATA 22	AUTO
ATA 23	COMMUNICATIONS
ATA 24	FLIGHT
ATA 26	FIRE
ATA 27	FLIGHT
ATA 28	FUEL
ATA 29	HYDRAULIC POWER
ATA 30	ICE
ATA 32	LANDING GEAR
ATA 34	NAVIGATION
ATA 35	OXYGEN
ATA 36	PNEUMATIC
ATA 37	VACUUM



Feb 25, 2009, 9 fatal, B-737-800, Amsterdam, NL



# Case study #4: Low angle, relatively low speed

**Probable Cause: Faulty radio**

**altimeter Autothrottle went to**

**idle. Stick shaker at 490 ft**

**AGL. Crew noticed low airspeed too late.**

ATA 21 A/C & PRESSURIZATIONATA 22 AUTO  
FLIGHTATA 23 COMMUNICATIONSATA 24  
ELECTRICAL POWERATA 26  
PROTECTIONATA 27 FLIGHT CONTROLSATA 28  
FUELATA 29 HYDRAULIC POWERATA  
30 ICE AND RAINATA 31  
INDICATING/RECORDATA  
LANDING GEARATA 34  
35 OXYGENATA 36 PNEUM  
VACUUM



Feb 25, 2009, 9 fatal, B-737-800, Amsterdam, NL



**NTSB**



# Typical removable components

Electric or delicate: Avionics (Autopilot Mode Control in Case Study #4)  
Nav and Comm Wires  
Instruments  
valves, pumps, filters  
Brake actuator  
components  
Hydraulic actuators  
valves  
Other: Tires



NTSB

# Avionics and electronics

Protect from water from beginning of investigation. Don't know what may be needed later. Examine aircraft logs for write-ups. Test locally on another airplane? Or on bench? Do tests and exams at manufacturers when possible.

Functional test procedure typically inadequate. Functional tests, environmental, tear-down exams. Review component records for repetitive squawks. Normal for manufacturers to say "can't happen."





# Avionics Issues

(1 of 3)

- #1 Cause of problems is in pilot mis-use or lack of knowledge#1 Write-up is intermittent failures or indicationsNo Fault Found (NFF) is most common mx response#1 Technical problem is in wiring. 29% Conductors14% Connectors8% “Electric Panel”7% Avionics (Fault confirmed)First check power sources and ground pathManufacturer wire numbers are coded for system and circuit



NTSB

# Avionics Issues

(2 of 3)

- Have a plan for what to do with avionics before removing, And a specific procedure before test of each piece removing boxes, try not to disturb electrical connectors Include enough wire to read wire numbers Most avionics facilities will FIRST reset or wipe memory Watch VERY closely for dried water stains and corrosion (green or black) Capture the memory (NVM) cards or at least pertinent revision levels Navigation, engine monitors, fault monitors, etc It is possible to recover memory from IC components (chips) exposed to fire. (very expensive!)



NTSB



# Software Issues

- Loading of incorrect software/firmware is #1 software issue  
Example #1: Obsolete and invalid data for mapping/nav  
Example #2: Sudden crashes and resets may be conflicting software when multiple display controls or power control units are installed  
New high speed avionic units don't always play well with slow legacy digital busses  
B-757/767 busses designed when the IBM PC-AT was new



Misleading data

Falsified data

Malicious software (Cyber)

Examples: Spoofed GPS signals  
Nav data intentionally mis-directs displays  
Operational problems caused by intentional software alterations

These are a crime  
Stop work and protect evidence for  
DHS (FBI) investigation  
NTSB Investigators must notify  
established NTSB/DHS interface team  
NTSB Contacts  
are Dennis Jones, Bob Swaim, & Erik Grosof



NTSB



# Case Study #5: Low angle, high speed



N501N



Accident Scene

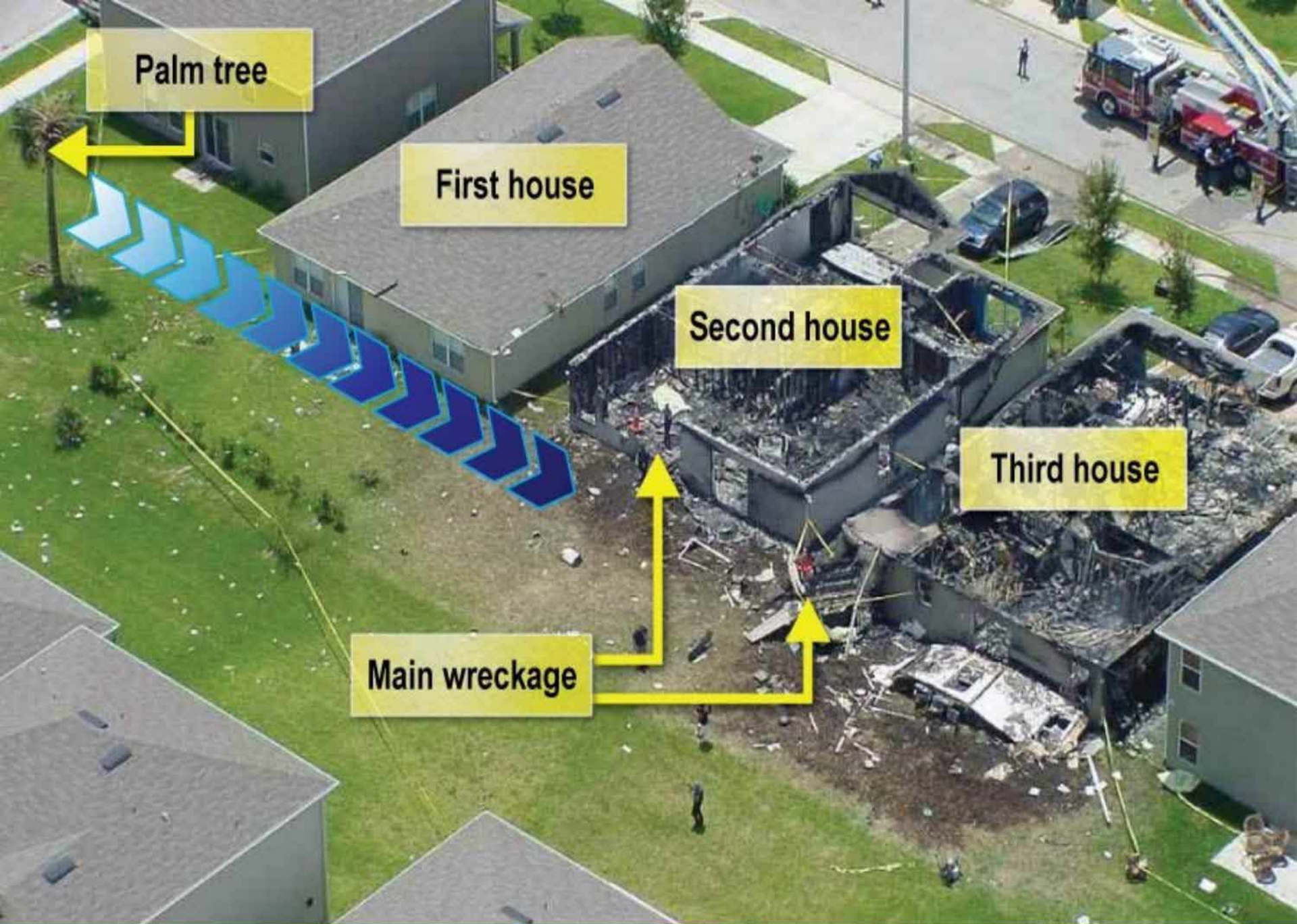
July 10, 2007, Sanford ,Florida, Cessna 310R

# Case Study #5: History of flight

- Commercial pilot and ATP on personal flight  
Relatively short flight in good weather  
Pilots declared an emergency “smoke in the cockpit”  
Diverted to Sanford  
Last radio contact  
Less than 1 minute later  
Terminated midsentence “shut off all radios, elec[trical]”







**Palm tree**

**First house**

**Second house**

**Third house**

**Main wreckage**



# Case Study #5: Maintenance discrepancy page

AIRCRAFT: N561N		DATE: 07-09-07	-ACTT	
			-ACTL	
MAINTENANCE WRITE-UP			MAINTENANCE CLEARING ACTION	
Entered By: ACT	Location: DAB		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repaired	<input type="checkbox"/> Replaced
			<input type="checkbox"/> Released- Could Not Duplicate	<input type="checkbox"/> Loaner Installed
RADAR WENT DUMB DURING CRUISE FLIGHT. RECYCLED NO RESPONSE... SMELL OF ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS BURNING TURNED OFF UNIT - PULL P RADAR CAB - SMELL WENT AWAY. - RADAR INOP			Corrective Action:	

**“SMELL OF ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS BURNING”**

B



# Case Study #5: Events - accident day

- Maintenance technician did not examine binder or airplane ATP dismissed radar issue as unimportant Pilots accepted airplane “as is” Weather radar circuit breaker likely reset for the flight. Habit and checklist.



# Case Study #5: Findings

- Potential evidence of arcing, but not of wire source or timing Most electrical system components missing or severely damaged A few small wire fragments exhibited copper globules consistent with electrical arcing Not possible to positively identify which systems were involved from wire remains





# Wiring routed beneath fire damage

Heat damage  
(behind)

Circuit breaker panel

Radar display



The dashed line shows the wiring path behind the instrument panel of a similar airplane



NTSB

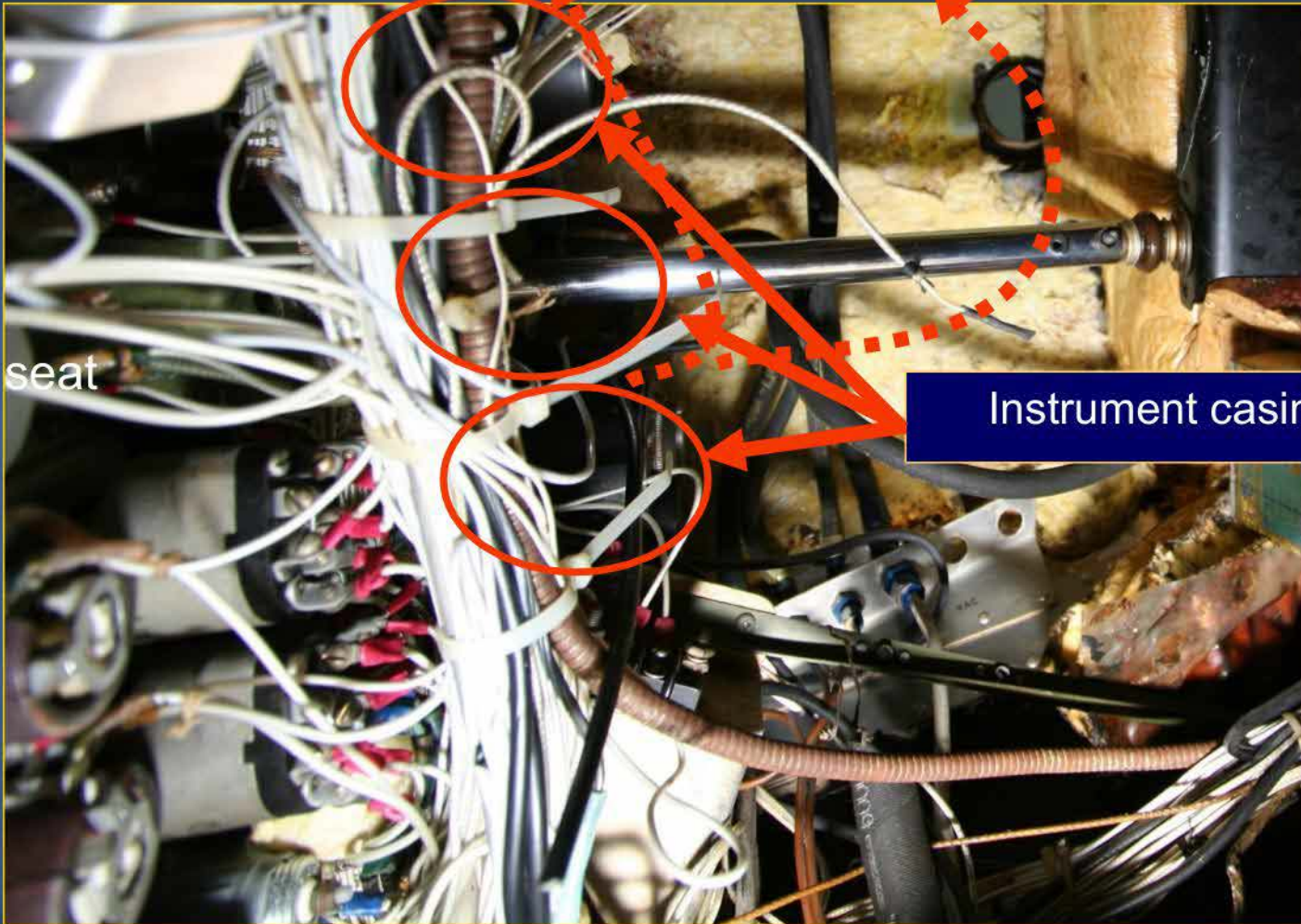


# Wiring behind instrument panel

To radar display

Soot flow paths

toward pilot seat



Instrument casings

Forward,  
toward nose

To circuit breaker panel

(Exemplar airplane)

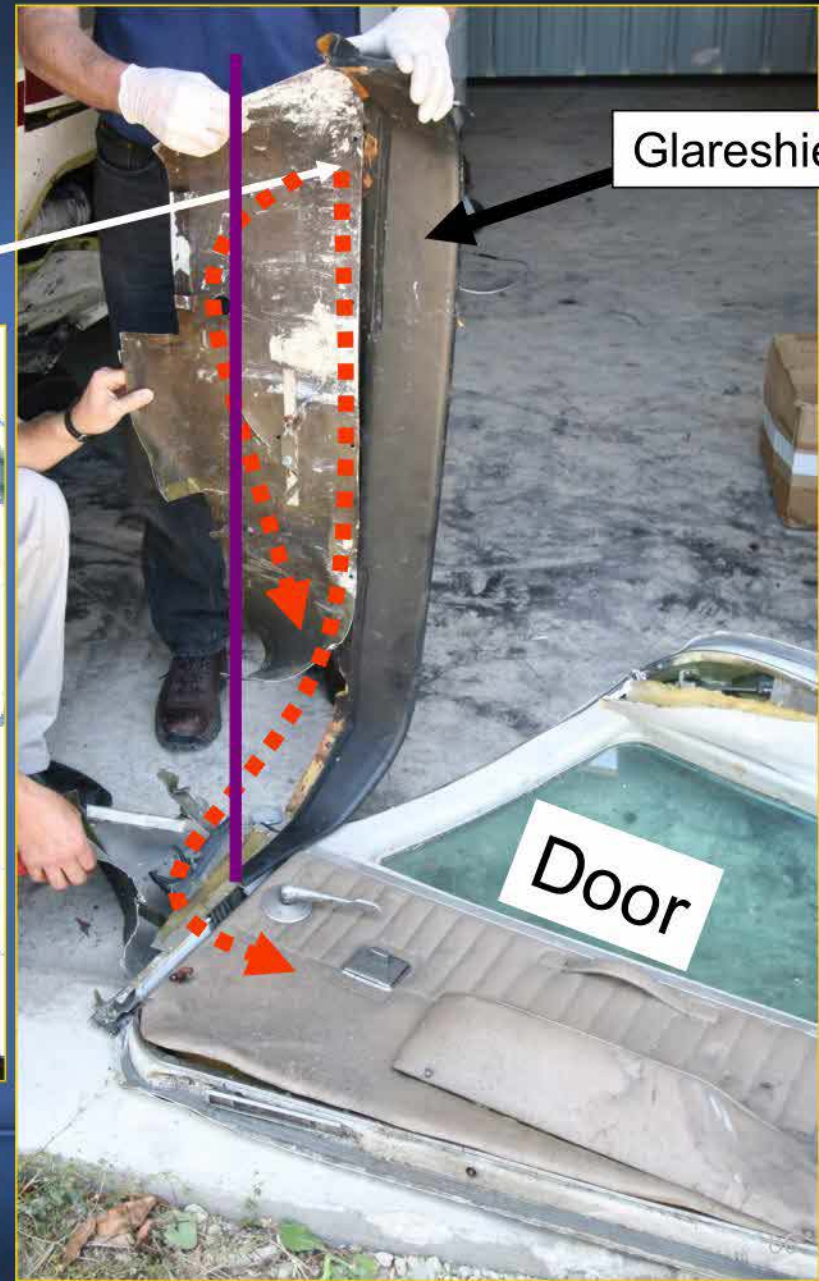


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# Case Study #5: Soot flow

Heat damage on  
bottom surface



# Case Study #5: PVC wire insulation

- PVC wire insulation found in wing remnant  
PVC-insulated wiring may or may not have been involved with initial failure  
Irritant of throat, eyes, and skin  
Full-airplane rewiring impractical



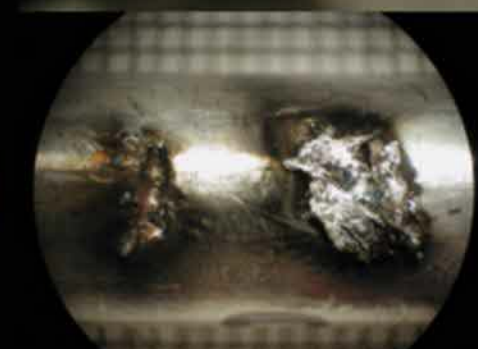
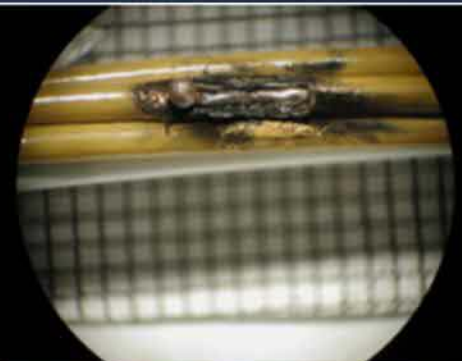
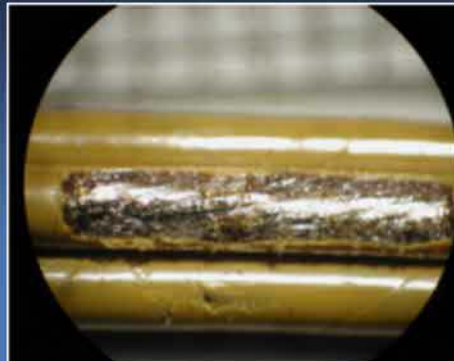
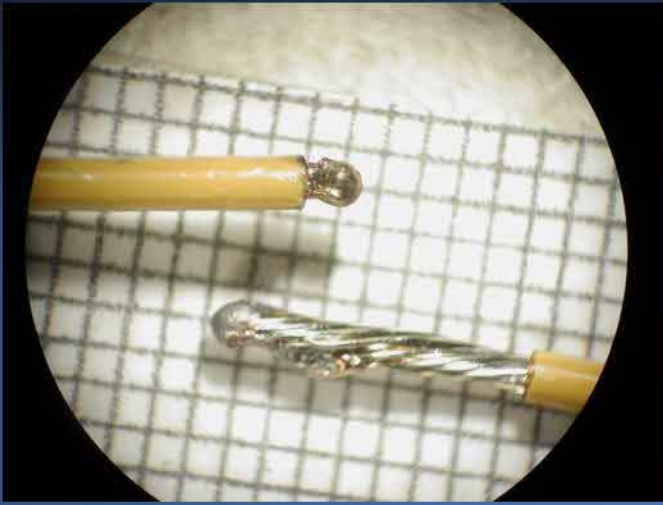


# Case Study #5: Wire damage

- Pilot of previous day only stopped the symptoms by pulling circuit breaker  
Maintenance action was needed  
MAJOR WIRE LESSONS FOR INVESTIGATORS:  
The wiring system (EWIS) in complex aircraft leads to more maintenance action than any other system  
Insulation damage is cumulative  
Once damaged, insulation not same as when approved for use



# Additional wire notes



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# Case #6: Vertical impact, low speed after hydraulic swashplate actuator jam

Copterline S-76 impacted North Sea from cruise flight



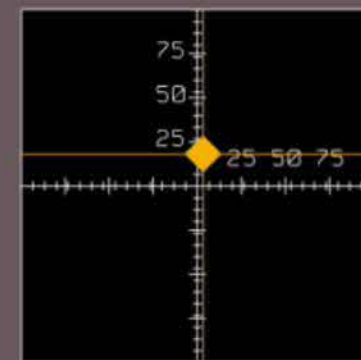
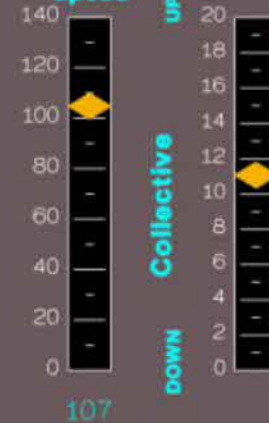
dy have a solid idea about what happenedTHIS is the time to ca

160.0

# Copterline S-76 loss of control



Main Rotor Speed



Left Pedal Right Pedal  
Tail Rotor Pedal Position



# Systems Components

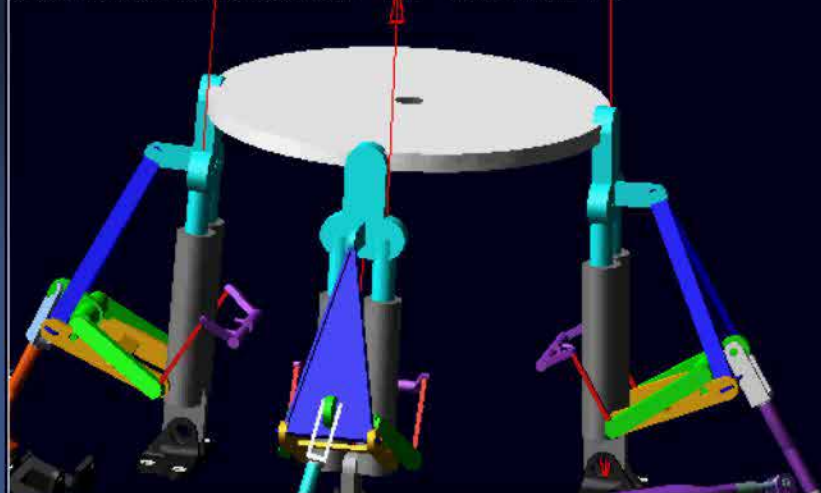
Like avionics, hydraulics typically require special testing and exam. CALL FOR ASSISTANCE You lose control of your part and knowledge when it is sent to a lab or manufacturer. Being at the manufacturer or lab reveals details otherwise unobtainable. Examples: Technician observations Context about observations Discussion about previous observations and issues



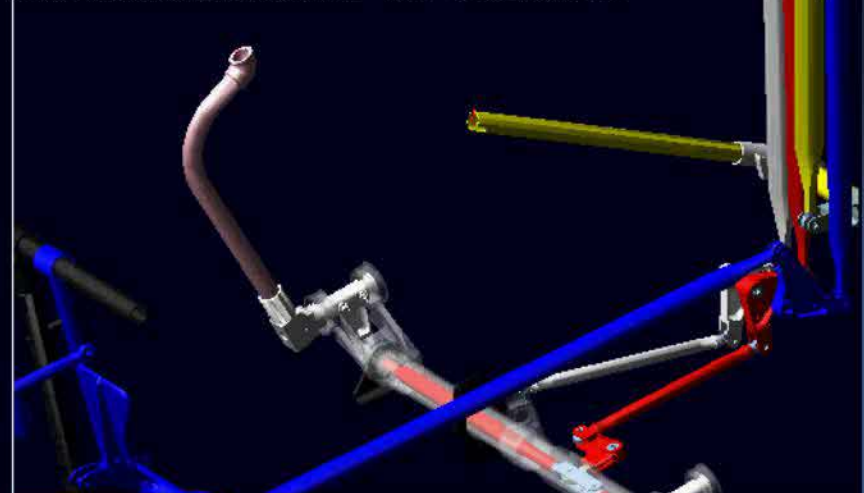
# 3D Modeling

(AS-40 for Systems, RE for Aero)

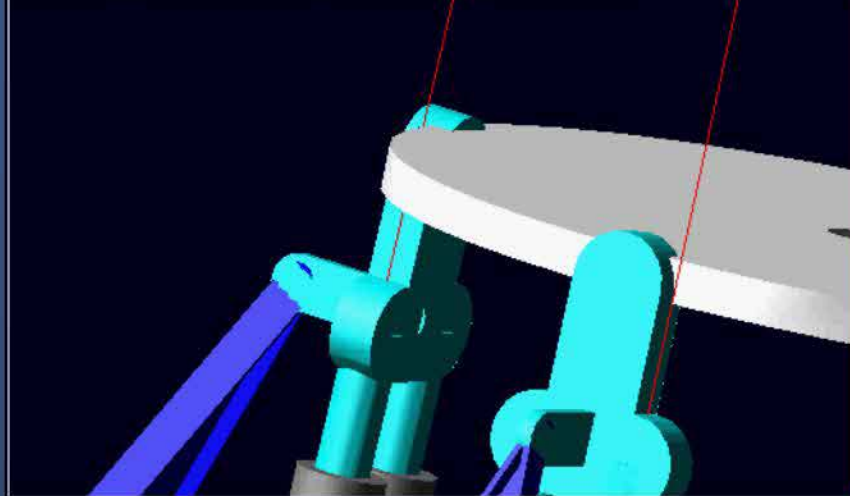
htsb\_s76\_flight\_controls\_all\_actuators Time= 1.0000 Frame=100



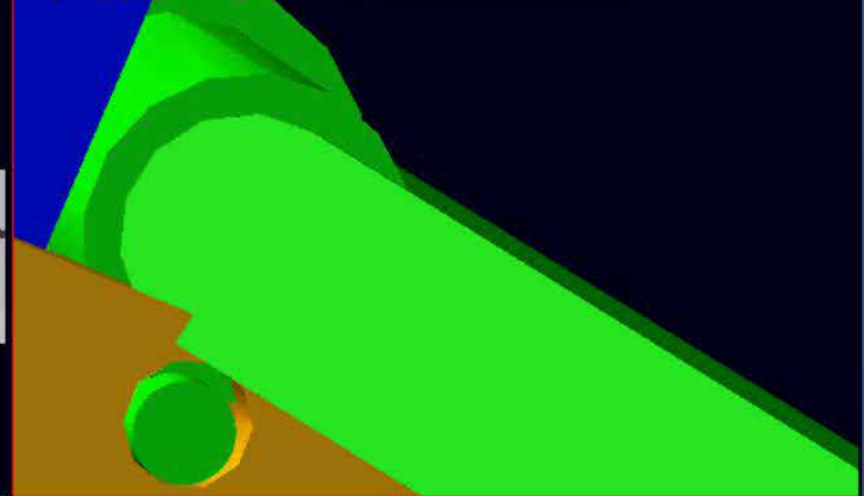
htsb\_s76\_flight\_controls\_all\_actuators Time= 1.0000 Frame=100



htsb\_s76\_flight\_controls\_all\_actuators Time= 1.0000 Frame=100



htsb\_s76\_flight\_controls\_all\_actuators Time= 1.0000 Frame=100



NTSB



# Systems Component Techniques



# Shipping submerged parts



Typically ship parts in water. The lids are sealed on with RTV.



The outside of this part was sprayed with ACF-50. Note internal corrosion.



# Tires and Brakes (Each tire is a proportion of braking)



Tires shown flipped to align with ground



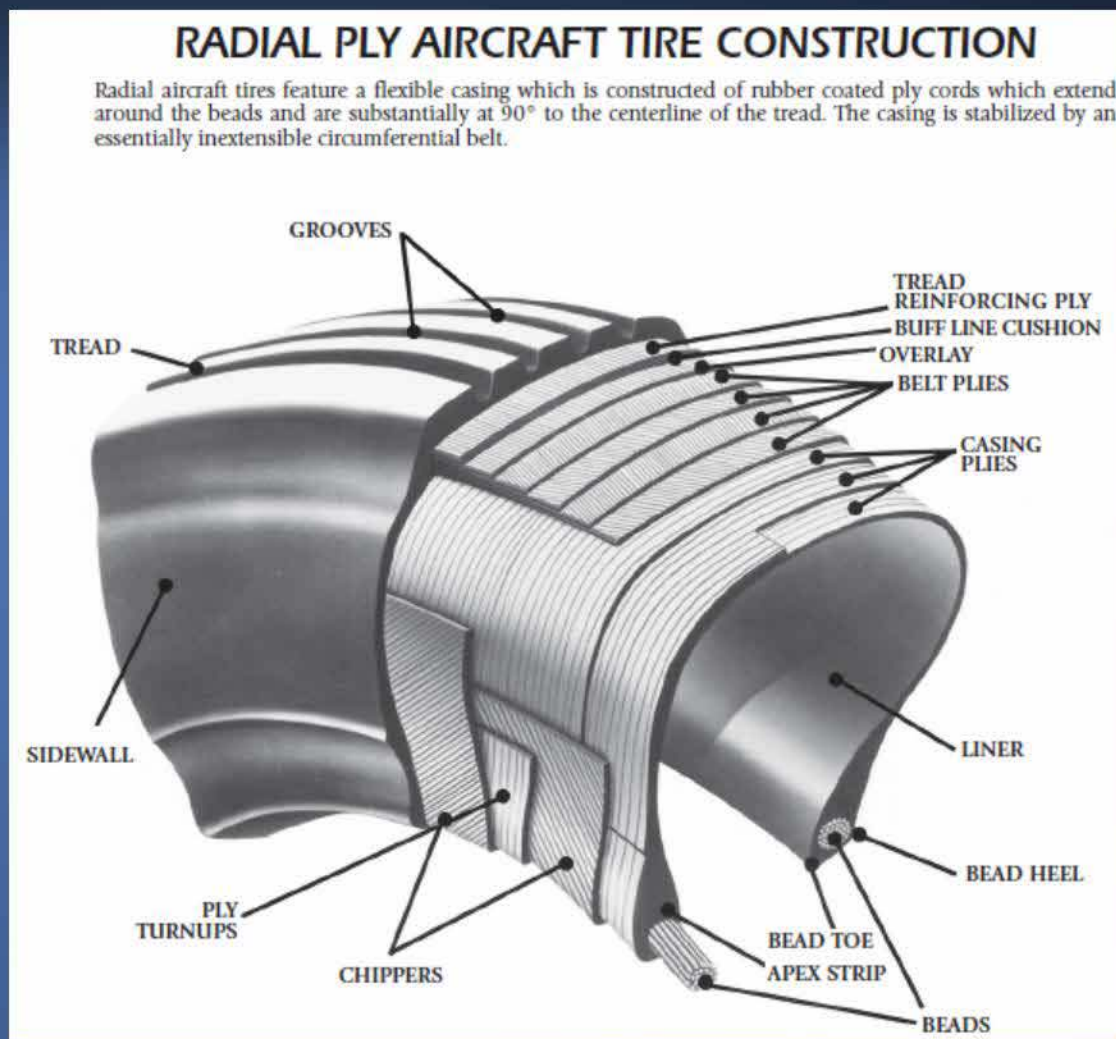
edFirst rwy mark8000 ft earlier

Tire/Wheel marks at runway endafter Columbia SC Lear 60 accident

# Three most important things about tires:

1. Inflation
2. Inflation
3. Inflation

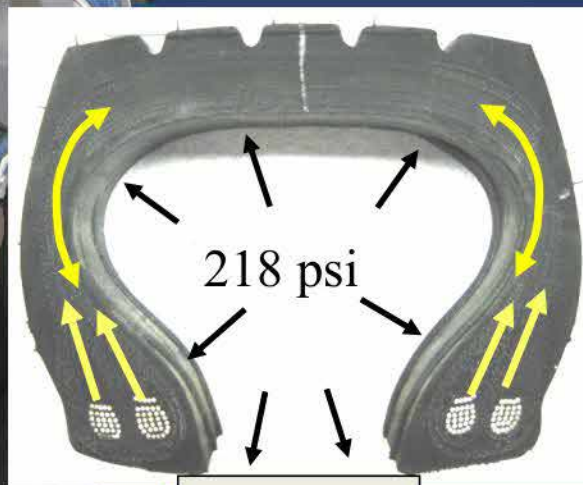
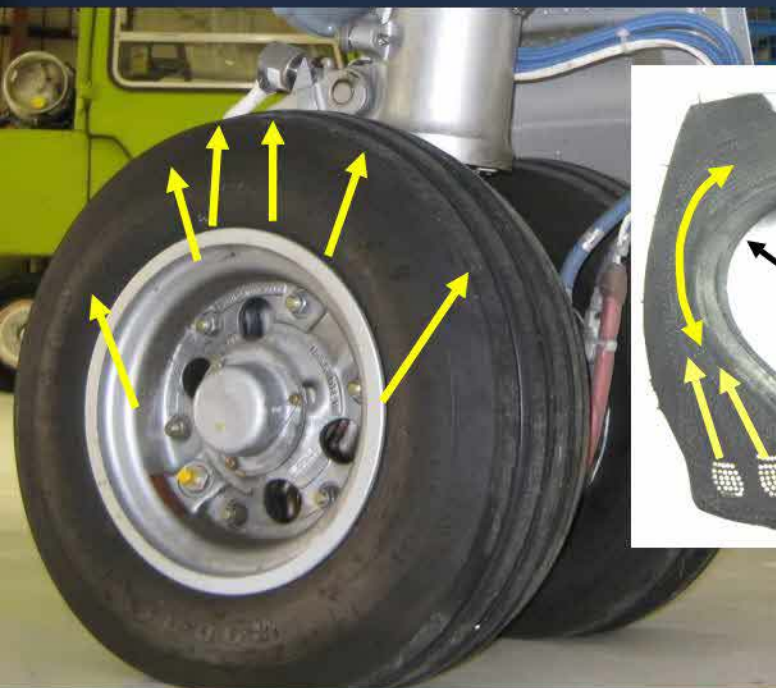
Why?



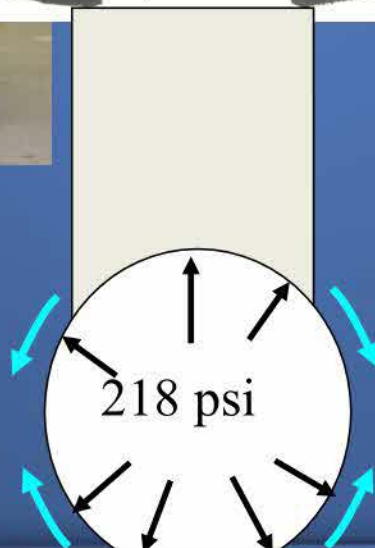
NTSB



# Threads in tension lift the wheel by the beads.



Threads in Tension



Runway surface



NTSB

# Pressure controls the load on ply threads

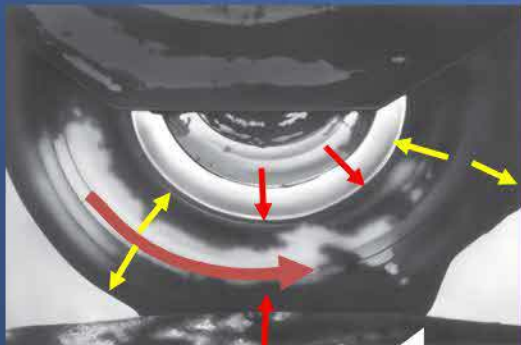
Fatigue life and sidewall deflection (flattening)

Impact of inflation pressure:

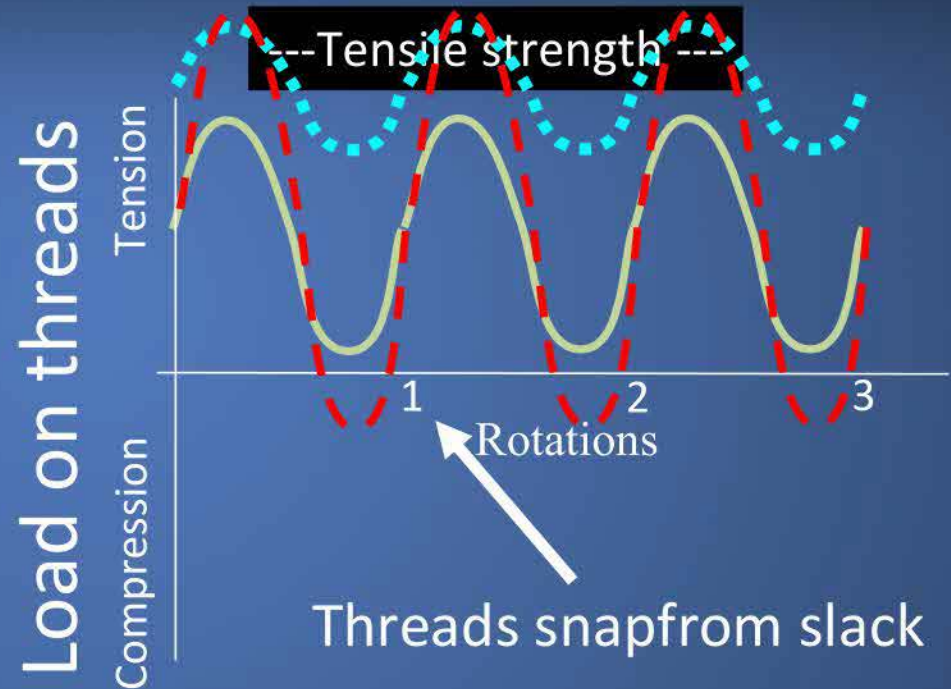
Over-Inflated

Properly-Inflated

Under-Inflated



Traction wave(rotating)

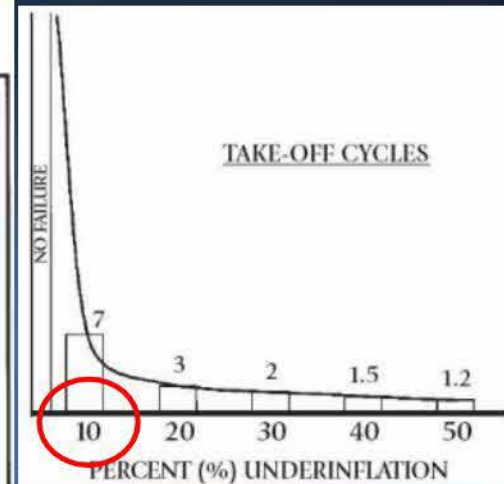
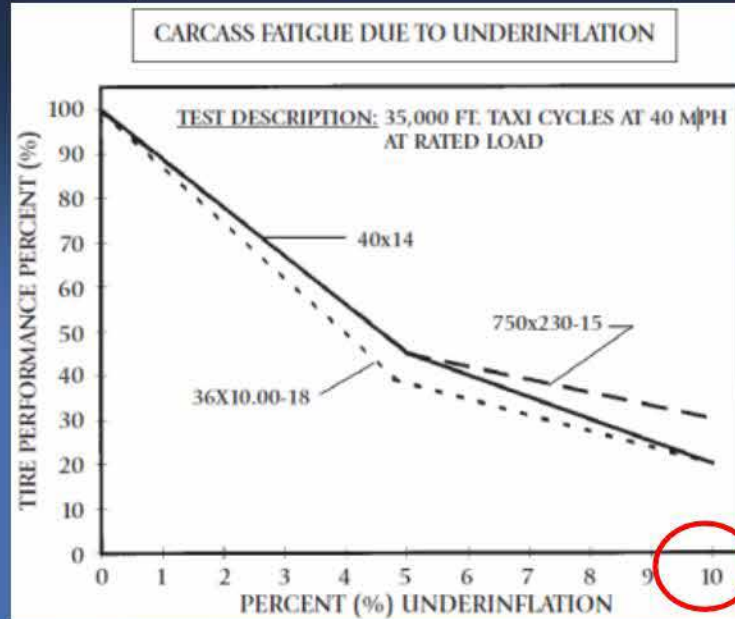


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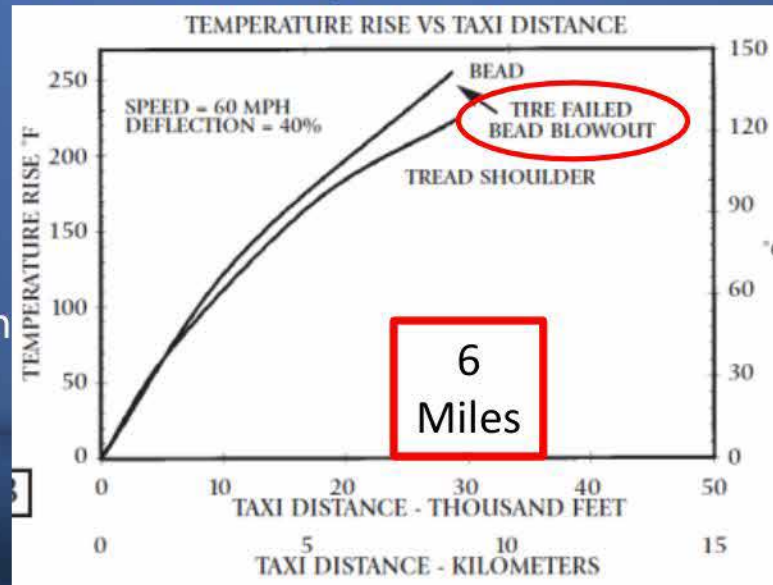
# Tire Design Underpressurized tires heat and lose fatigue life

ick aircraft tiresidewalls retain



should little heat so do nothave distan

Aircraft tire operation is limited



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# Tires – Deflated Indications

Photos from different events



Hop showstire



Thin rubber streak

Wheel flange cut in runway.  
Deflated here

No chine/groove  
marks show  
tread has worn  
through

Hollow center of skid shows lack of tread and sidewalls missing

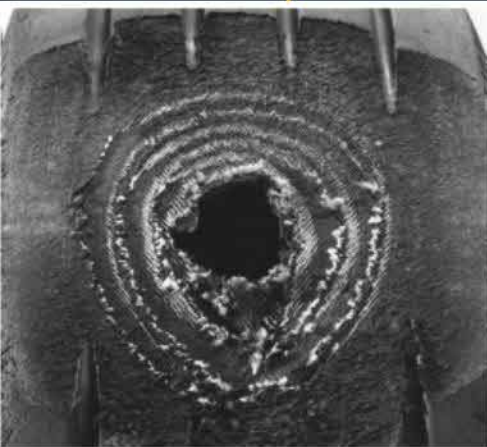


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# Tire damage tells a story

## Five examples



**Skid**  
An oval-shaped flat spot or skid burn in the tread rubber. May extend to or into fabric plies. Remove if balance is affected, fabric is exposed, or tire is ruptured.



**Tread Rubber Reversion**  
An oval-shaped area in the tread similar to a skid, but where rubber shows burning due to hydroplaning during landing usually caused by wet or ice-covered runways. Remove if balance is affected.



**Open Tread Splice**  
A crack in the tread rubber where the joint (splice) separates in a radial (sideways) direction. Tires with this defect should be removed from service.



**Chevron Cutting**  
Tread damage caused by running and/or braking on cross-grooved runways. Remove if chunking to fabric occurs or tread cut removal criteria are exceeded.

Sidewall fragment with  
arrowspointing to visible blue  
tintfrom heat damage



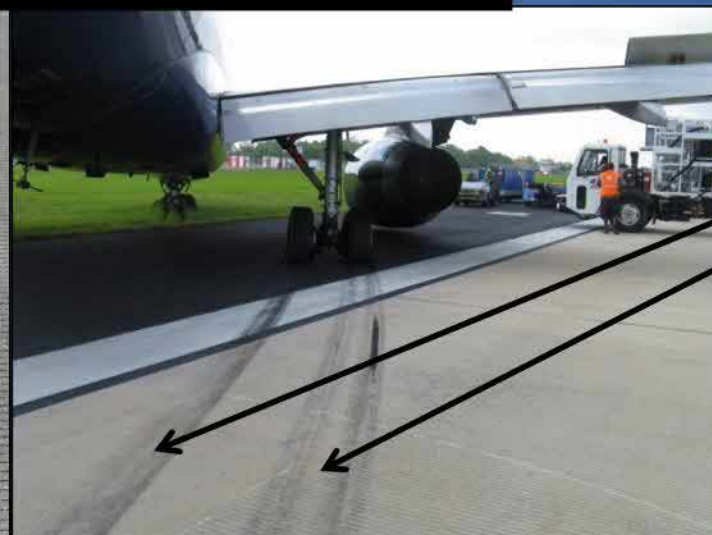
NTSB

# Antiskid Brakes

Antiskid did not function due lack of electric powerN



#3 fuse plug opened after stop



#3 Pressurized#4 D



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# Tire Brake To-Do

**DANGER - Avoid if still hot or damaged until depress**



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# Components – The eternal question:

Functional test first?

or

Disassemble first?





# Instruments

Hard impact.



Mechanical altimeter - easy



Trying to clean, the facial features can be wiped off after fire



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# Instruments

What was the vertical speed at impact?



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# Instruments

The as-found needle is loose

What here can relate IMPACT position?



Indications can change after initial impact. Don't trust



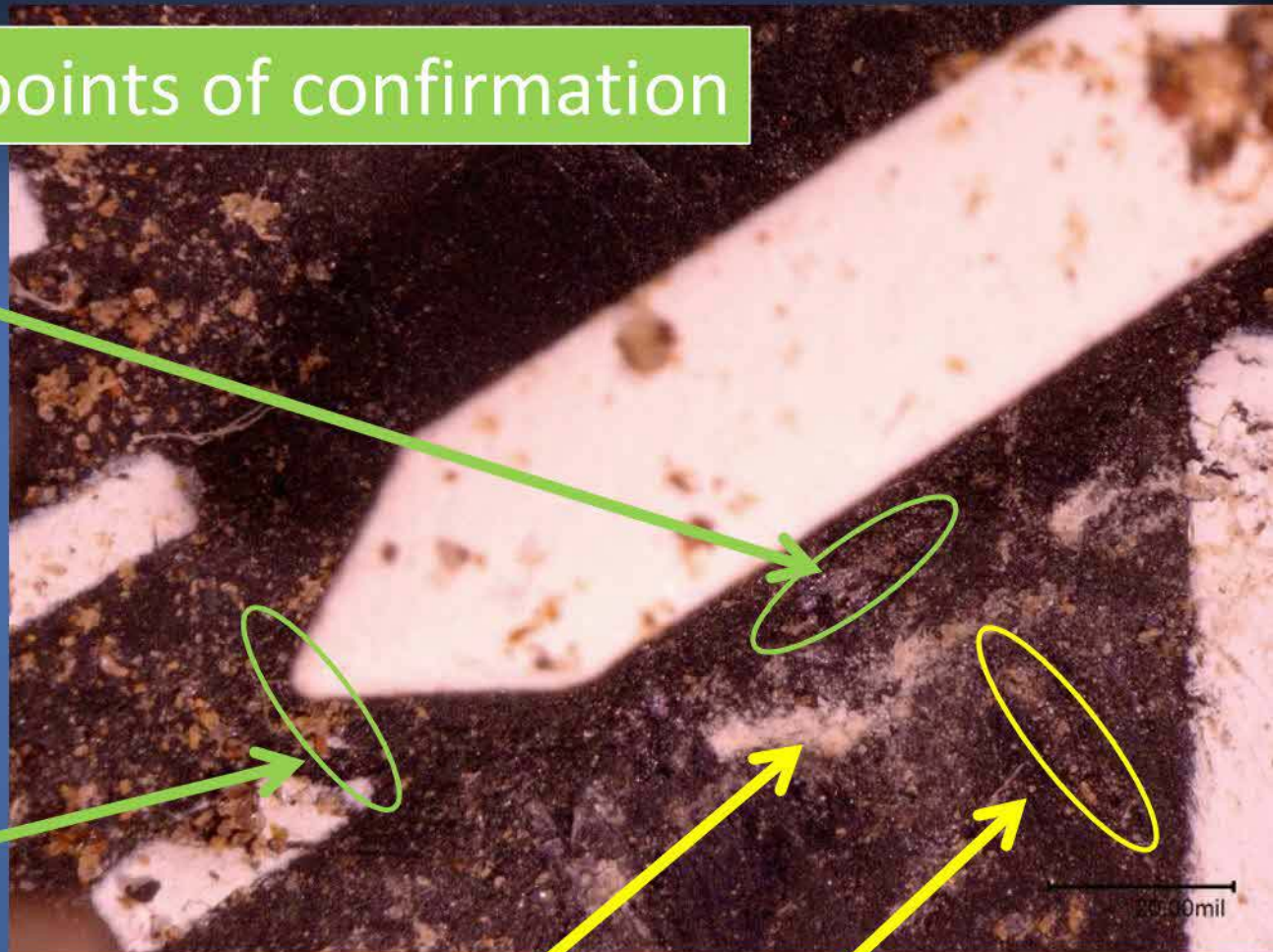
# Instruments

Need multiple points of confirmation

Cut in face  
along edge of  
needle



Facial cut at radial  
length of tip



**Misleading items:**

Salt deposits  
Cuts from glass face



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# Lightbulb examination

## Typical Learjet Caution Warning Panel

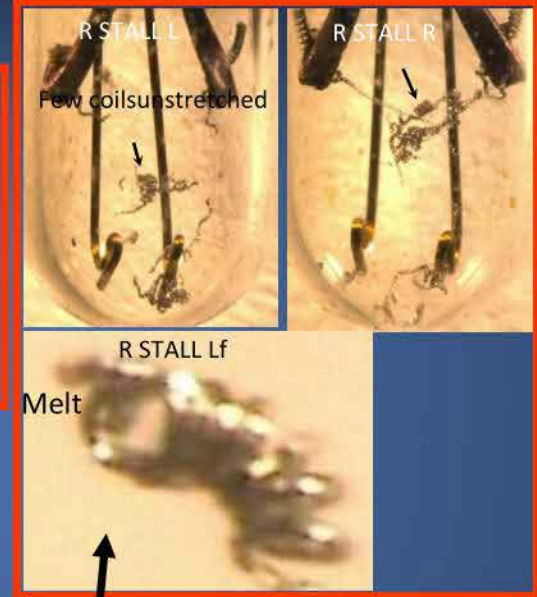
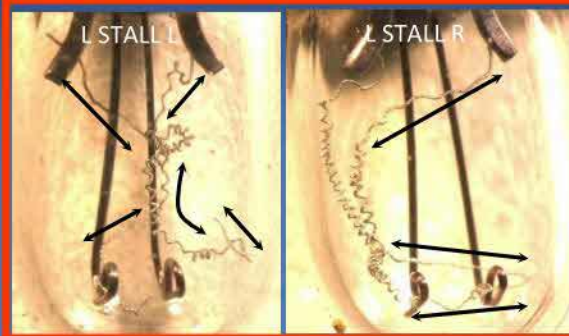
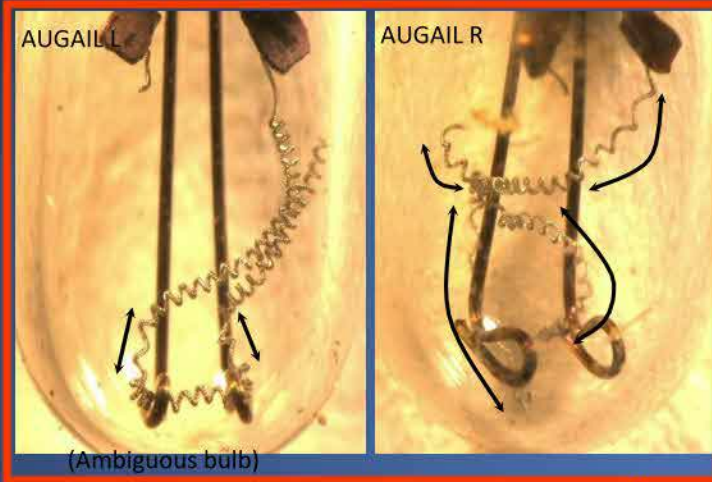
CUR LIM	LOW FUEL	L FUEL PRESS	R FUEL PRESS	SPOILER	DOOR	AUG AIL	PITOT HT	FUEL FILTER	L ENG ICE	R ENG ICE	L FUEL CMPTR	R FUEL CMPTR	L STALL	R STALL	L VG MON	R VG MON	MACH TRIM	DH
PRJ INV	SEC INV	AUX INV	LO OIL PRESS	STAB OV HT	WSHLD OV HT	STEER ON	BLEED AIR L	BLEED AIR R	L GEN	R GEN	CAB ALT	WING OV HT	WSHLD HT	ALC AI	BAT 140	BAT 160	ENG SYNC	T O TRIM



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# Lightbulb examination

## Typical Learjet Caution Warning Panel



CUR LIM	LOW FUEL	L FUEL PRESS	R FUEL PRESS	SPOILER	DOOR	AUGAIL	PITOT HT	FUEL FILTER	L ENG ICE	RENG ICE	L FUEL CMPTR	R FUEL CMPTR	L STALL	R STALL	L VG MON	R VG MON	MACH TRIM	DH
PRI INV	SEC INV	AUX INV	LO OIL PRESS	STAB OV HT	WSHLD OV HT	STEER ON	BLEED AIR L	BLEED AIR R	L GEN	R GEN	CAB ALT	WING OV HT	WSHLD HT	ALC AI	BAT 140	BAT 160	ENG SYNC	T O TRIM

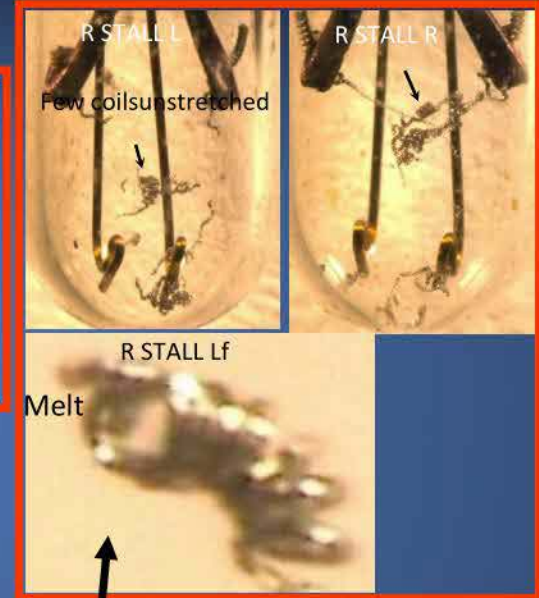
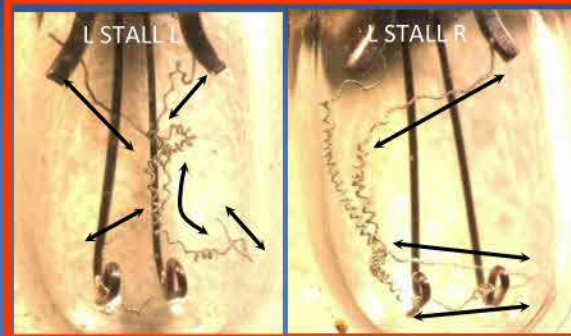
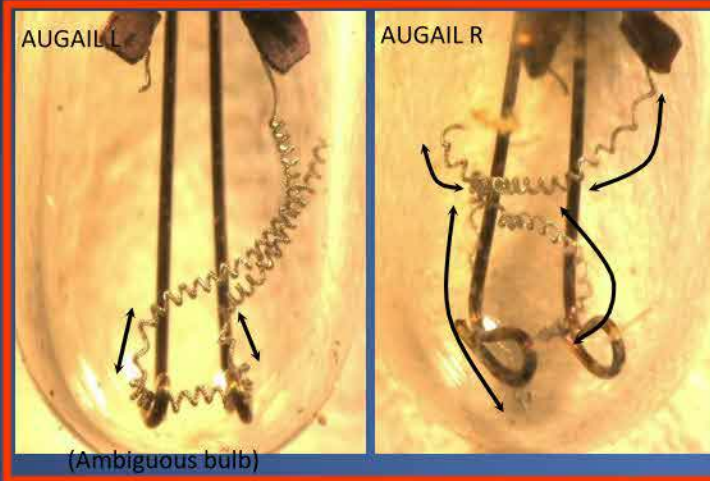


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# Lightbulb examination

## Typical Learjet Caution Warning Panel



N720RA bulb notes - As of Weds, 1/27 at 3:30pm by Swaim, 202-314-6394

CUR LIM	LOW FUEL	L FUEL PRESS	R FUEL PRESS	SPOILER	DOOR	AUGAIL	PITOT HT	FUEL FILTER	L ENG ICE	RENG ICE	L FUEL CMPTR	R FUEL CMPTR	L STALL	R STALL	L VG MON	R VG MON	MACH TRIM	DH
PRI INV	SEC INV	AUX INV	LO OIL PRESS	STAB OV HT	WSHLD OV HT	STEER ON	BLEED AIR L	BLEED AIR R	L GEN	R GEN	CAB ALT	WING OV HT	WSHLD HT	ALC AI	BAT 140	BAT 160	ENG SYNC	T O TRIM



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# Rubber items

- Rubber items generally do not have an expiration date (includes tires) Replace on condition Exceptions exist in mfg maintenance requirements Some Part 121 maintenance has requirements Fittings on hose ends may have been hand assembled in the field Not as common in newer products or higher end





# Fuel systems

- Perishable evidence! Is there any fuel? Record how much and in which tanks  
Capture sump fuel samples  
Engine performance recorders (typically SD card)  
Floats type typical with light piston engines  
No accuracy requirement other than at empty  
Don't trust empty  
Capacitive (tube in tube) type is typical with jets  
Much more accuracy at any attitude  
Accuracy can degrade with age



# We have advanced NDI techniques

X-Ray, Static or real-time

PROS:in-house (RE), quick turn-around, I

ever

Image shows oval around wire damage in Lightning charge cable for an Apple iPhone. The wire on the opposite side is obscured. Can not tell if also damaged.



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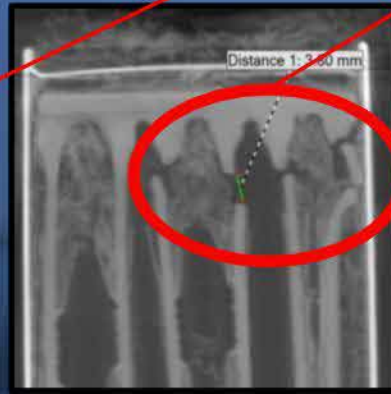
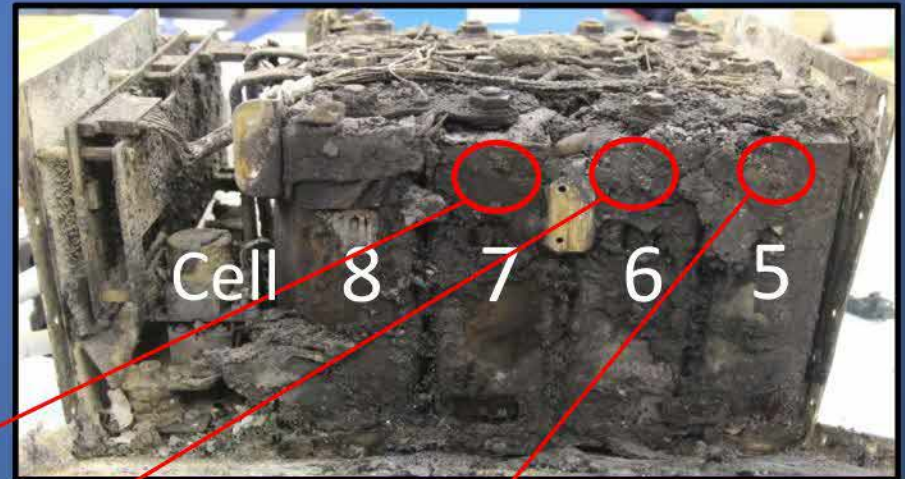


# Computerized Tomography (CT) in 2D

## PROS:

Similar to X-ray with benefit of selecting slices Less expensive and quicker processing than 3D CONS: Sending out for scan, limits part size and slows turn-around. Combined material densities can create shadows or prevent use. Requires talented post-processing. (Scott Warren is AS-40 specialist) Expensive

Two-dimensional CT images below show 787 Lithium-ion battery cells with fused (open) aluminum current conductors

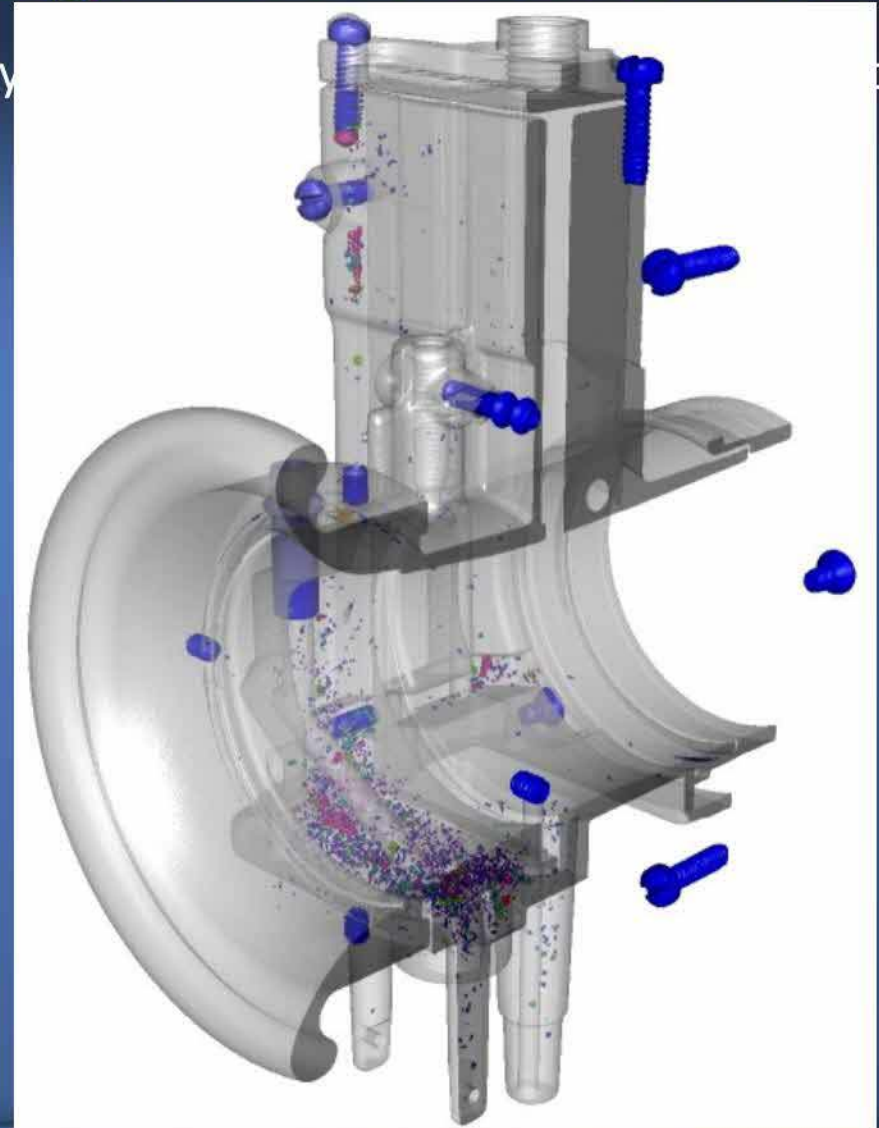
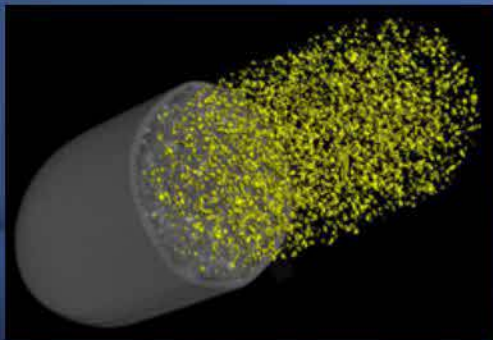


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# CT can provide knowledge before disassembly

Image at right of carburetor: Passages may

To demonstrate potential resolution, this pharmaceutical capsule shows specks of medicine, not filler, isolated by material density.



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# Questions?

AS-40 Systems Investigators: Carolyn  
DeForge, Division Chief Scott Warren,  
Lead & CT Specialist Bob Swaim,  
NRSTom Jacky Steve Magladry Mike  
Hauf Adam Huray Mike Bauer



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**National  
Transportation  
Safety Board**

# Medical Investigations

Nick Webster, MD, MPH Medical Officer





# National Transportation Safety Board

## Medical Staff

Chief Medical Officer – Mary Pat McKay MD,  
MPH  
Medical Officer – Nick Webster MD, MPH

# Medical Investigation: Why do we care?

- Impairment Incapacitation Survivability Evaluate certification process Determine who was in control



# Accident Investigation: Medical Questions

- Did natural disease or its treatment lead to impairment or incapacitation which contributed to the cause of the accident? If .... had occurred, would the accident have been survivable?

# Information Sources

- Certification  
recordFamily  
membersFriends/Co  
-workersPharmacy  
recordsMedical  
recordsNotes, labs,  
specialty  
testingAutopsy  
findings
- ToxicologyEMS  
recordItems from crash  
sceneImagingVoice  
tapesRadar track  
(controlled substance  
prescription database)



# Medical Records

- Certification record May include information on other providers Often limited – relies on self-report Personal medical records May have multiple providers Pharmacy records

# Autopsy Information

- Autopsy SystemsCoronerMedical ExaminerDeath InvestigatorAutopsy performed by pathologist



# Autopsy

(Engineering investigation of the individual)



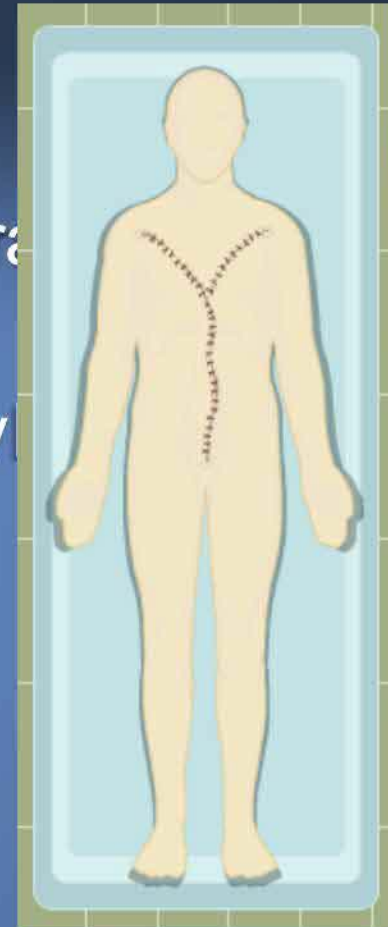
- An examination and dissection of a dead body for the purpose of identifying the deceased, determining the cause, mechanism, or manner of death, obtaining specimens for toxicological and specialized testing, retrieving physical evidence, and recording injuries
- Cause of Death** The underlying disease or injury responsible for setting in motion a series of physiologic events culminating in death
- Manner of Death** A simple system for classifying deaths based in large part on the presence or absence of intent to harm, and the presence or absence of violence
- The choices are natural, accident, homicide, suicide, undetermined, and in some registration districts for vital statistics, unclassified



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# Complete Autopsy

- External exam  
Photographs  
X-ray  
exam  
“Y” incision  
Intracranial  
evaluation  
Histology  
Toxicology  
n of indwelling devices





# FAA Autopsy Program Team Contact Information

- Christy Hileman RHIA – (b)(6), Cell

(b)(6)

(b)(6)



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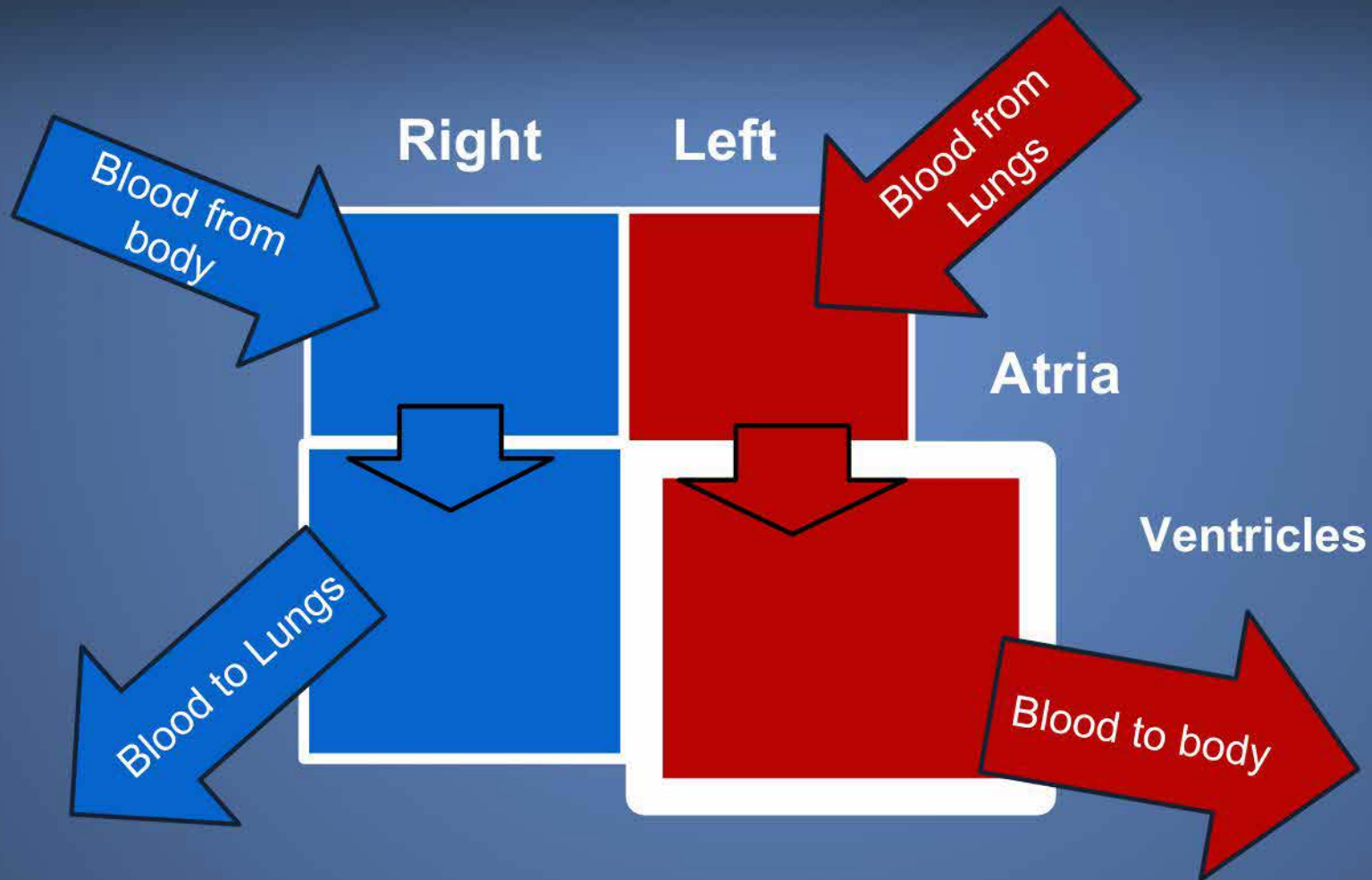
## Case 1:



- Loss of control into terrain  
No identified mechanical defects  
82 year old pilot  
Coronary artery disease -> MI,  
CABG  
Third degree heart block ->  
pacemaker  
Special issuance, class III  
medical



# Cardiac anatomy and physiology

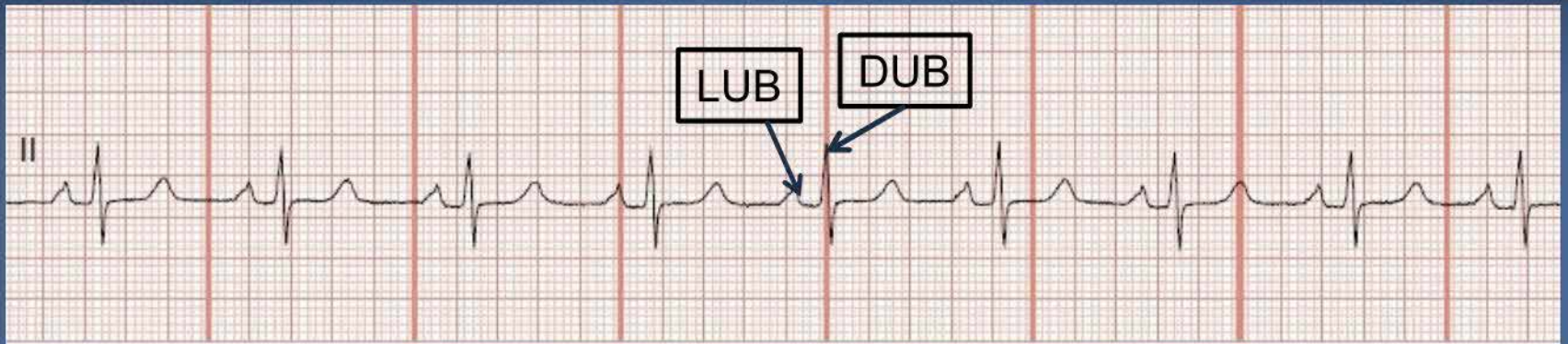


# Case 1: Autopsy

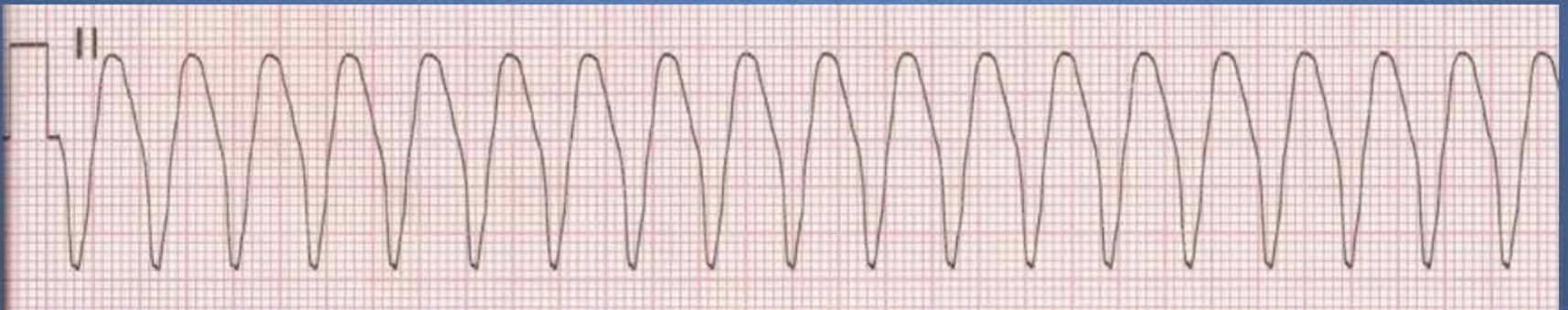
- COD: “Multiple blunt force injuries” Lacerated aorta No significant bleeding (90cc = “Severe” coronary artery disease  
Pacemaker readout: Ventricular tachycardia



# Normal Sinus Rhythm



# Ventricular Tachycardia



# So, what happened?

- Loss of control Severe injury without significant bleeding Evidence of a terminal arrhythmia...Incapacitation from fatal ventricular arrhythmia



## Case 2: Survivable?

- Cessna A185F, 3 POB April in Blanding, UT  
SPOT locator and 406 ELT Spot locator was functioning  
Failed to arrive ~ 8:30pm  
Controlled flight into terrain  
Post impact fire

## Case 2: Initially survived

- Right seat occupant – found outside the plane with evidence of moving around Crash  
~1540 Missing ~2030 Found ~0200

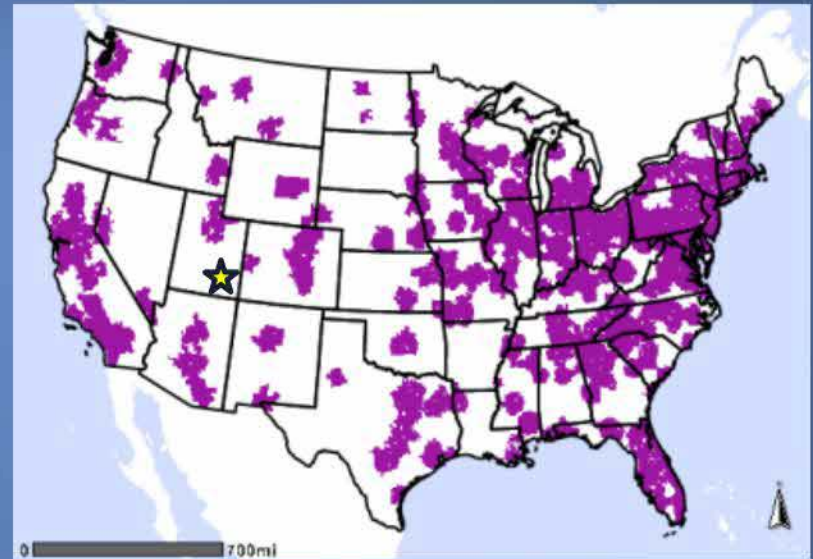


## Case 2: Autopsy results

- No natural diseaseInjuries: Small subarachnoid hematomaRetroperitoneal hematomas; no sourceRight arm and left leg fractures

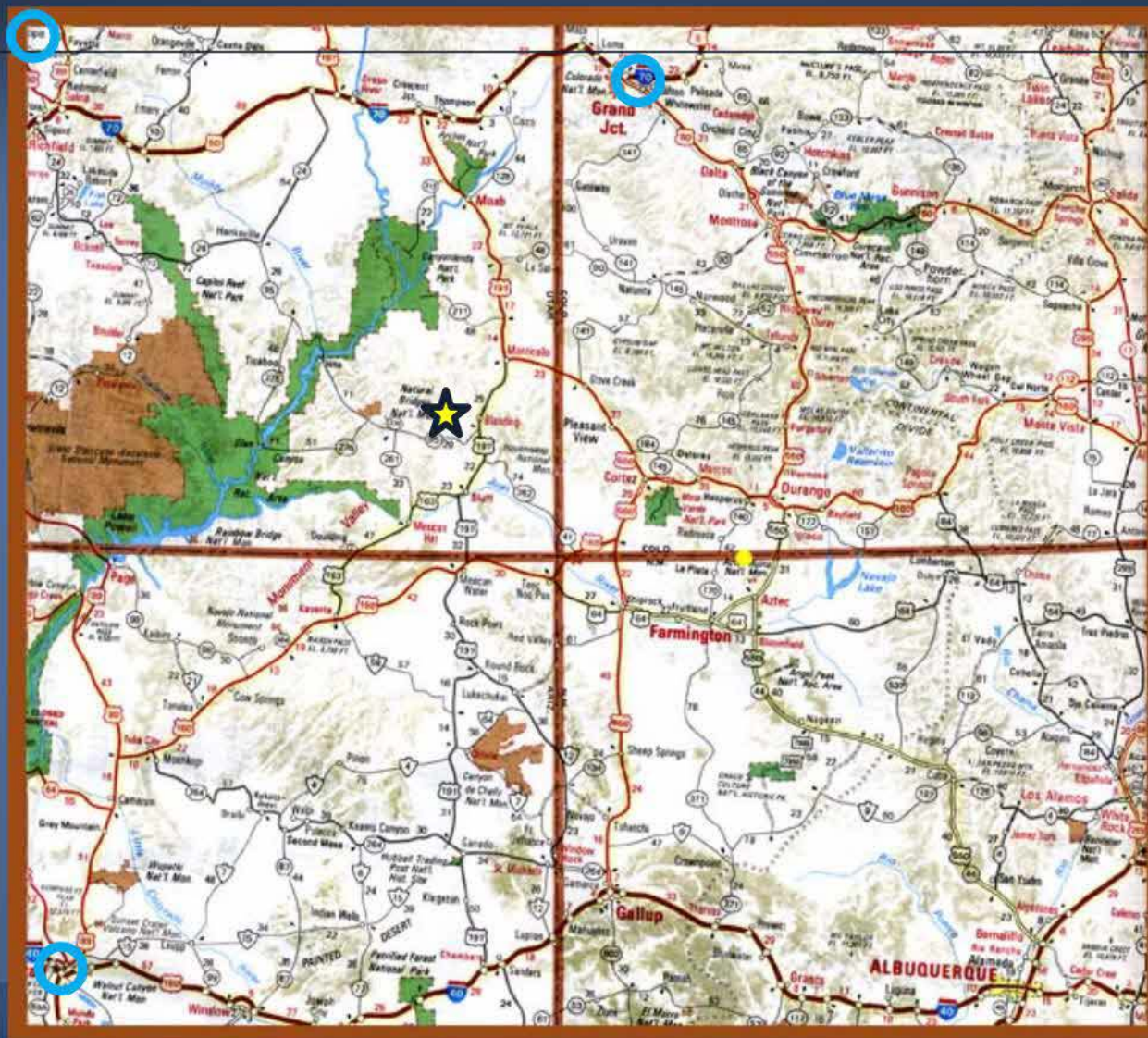
# Trauma Centers

- Level I or II 24/7 trauma surgeons, trauma team, specialty surgical care  
Level III and IV Triage and stabilize





# Geography



## Case 2: Should he have survived?

- If . . . the ELT had worked... and the search and rescue helicopter had found him... and the EMS helicopter had been available Then ~2.5 hours to paramedic care and another hour to a trauma center



# Medical literature

- Previous studies of outcomes from similar injuriesAccount for delay in arrival at trauma center60% chance of long term survival

# Autopsy Quality Issues

- Cause and manner of death usually pretty obvious Looking for the cause of the accident – not well understood Asking for extra work



# Autopsy Quality

Disease	Helpful	Not so helpful
Coronary artery disease	95% stenosis of the LAD 7 mm distal to the left main	“Significant” coronary disease
Heart attack	1.2 cm area of softened, discolored tissue apex of left ventricle Histology: myocytes with apoptosis and contraction bands	“Recent” myocardial infarction
Heart failure	4 chamber symmetric dilation to twice the normal size, heart weight: 680 gm, LV wall thickness 1.3 cm	Moderate to severe dilated cardiomyopathy
Valve disease	Dilation of the left atria to larger than the left ventricle, calcified three leaf mitral valve, opening estimated at 1.2 cm	Calcific mitral stenosis

# Case 3: WPR10GA231

- CHP traffic surveillance 5 knots, clear, 25°C 10am Uncontrolled flight into terrain 39 year old pilot Back surgery



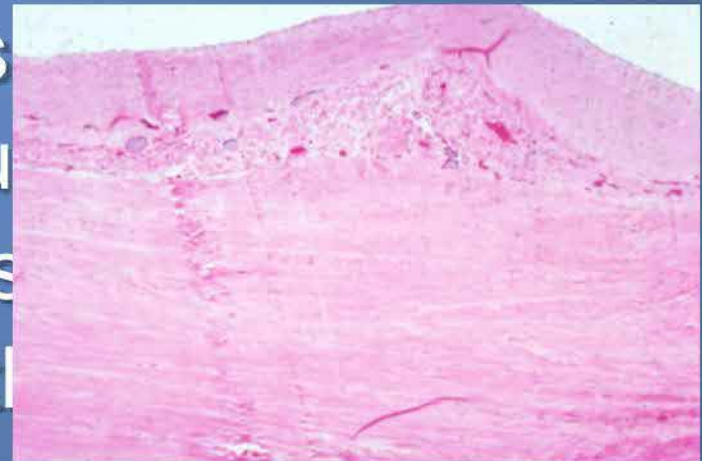
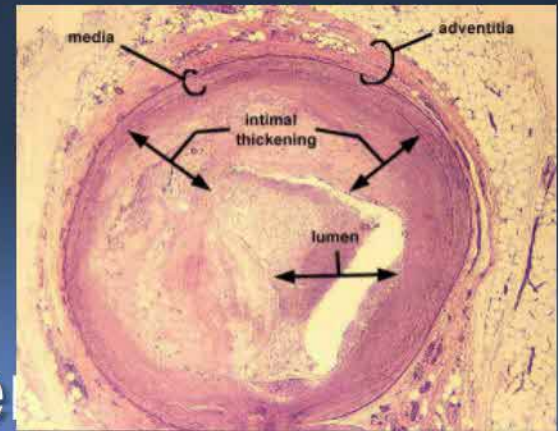


## Case 3: Autopsy results

- Cause: Multiple blunt force injuries  
Manner: Accident  
Natural disease: Severe atherosclerotic disease  
2 x 2 x 1.5 cm area where the myocardium of the left lateral ventricular wall is interrupted and replaced by considerably softer, pale, tan tissue, resembling fat.

# Case 3: Histology

- Right coronary artery: Concealed atherosclerosis with cholesterol crystal clefts Up to 90% stenosis ventricular wall Transmural fibrosis Fibrosis replaces endocardial half of the thickness of the wall





## Case 3: Probable Cause?

- Undiagnosed severe coronary disease with remote heart attack  
Uncontrolled flight into terrain  
No mechanical defects  
Incapacitation from an acute coronary event

# Toxicology

- What are you looking for? Illicit substances Medications Alcohol Where can you look? Blood, urine, organs, vitreous, gastric contents, bile,



# TOX-BOX

(Toxicology Specimen Box)

- GIVEN to the coroner or medical examiner by FAA investigators or shipped from CAMI to the medical examiner  
Highly recommended for sending specimens  
One fatality per TOX-BOX



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# Toxicology testing

- Initial screenVerification  
QuantificationCaveats:Specimen  
unsuitable vs. drug not  
foundPresence doesn't =  
impairmentIs the condition or the  
treatment more impairing?



# Toxicology caveats

- Post-mortem production Ethanol  
Methanol N-propanol N-  
butanol Redistribution

# DOT testing: survivors

- Post-incident testing required for surviving flight crew: Urine only  
THC (marijuana)  
Cocaine  
Amphetamines  
amphetamine, methamphetamine, MDMA, MDA, and MDEA  
Opiates  
codeine, morphine, and heroin  
Phencyclidine (PCP)



# NTSB/CAMI testing for survivors

- Hospitalized survivors Admission specimens subpoena Uninjured survivors Law enforcement – requires probable cause and field sobriety testing Voluntary

## Case 4: Milner, CO



CEN12FA571

- Piper Comanche VMC, flying above 11,000 msl Found by shepherd next day Student pilot certificate, issued 14 months prior Loss of control in flight





## Case 4: Records and Autopsy

- 36 year old pilot Third class  
medical (clean) Personal medical  
records Episode of  
fainting Bradycardia COD: Blunt  
force trauma No natural disease

## Case 4: Toxicology

- Medical Examiner Ethanol = 0.110 mg/dL + amphetamines, + cannabinoids CAMI  
toxicology Ethanol = 0.104 mg/dL THC = 0.074 ug/ml



## Case 4: other items

- Prescription for medical marijuana  
Six pack of beer, two opened

## Case 4: What happened?

- Ethanol, marijuana and hypoxia: Impaired motor coordination Judgment Attention Euphoria Impairment by drugs and hypoxia led to loss of control





# National Transportation Safety Board



**NTSB** *TRAINING CENTER*

# **Conducting An Accident Investigation**

**Jill Demko, Technical Training  
Officer National Transportation  
Safety Board Ashburn, Virginia**



# Module Objectives

- 60-minute “How To” Accident Investigation Overview  
Investigative tips & tricks  
Resources  
Contact information  
Case Study

## What is an Accident?





# What is an Accident?

## Definition of an Aircraft Accident? (\*\*a review\*\*)

An occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, and in which any person suffers death or serious injury, or in which the aircraft receives substantial damage



# Unmanned Aircraft

## What is the definition of an unmanned aircraft accident?

An occurrence associated with the operation of any public or civil unmanned aircraft system that takes place between the time that the system is activated with the purpose of flight and the time that the system is deactivated at the conclusion of its mission, in which:

1. Any person suffers death or serious injury; or
2. The aircraft has a maximum gross takeoff weight of 300 pounds or greater and sustains substantial damage.





# What is an Accident?

## Serious Injury (\*\*a review\*\*)

Any injury which: Requires hospitalization for more than 48 hours, commencing within 7 days of the date that the injury was received; Results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes, or nose);

Cont'd: Causes severe hemorrhages, nerve, muscle, or tendon damage; Involves any internal organ or; Involves 2nd or 3rd degree burns, or burns affecting more than 5% of the body surface



# What is an Accident?

## Substantial Damage (\*\*a review\*\*)

Substantial Damage is... Damage or failure which: Adversely affects the structural strength, performance, or flight characteristics of the aircraft, and which Would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component

Substantial Damage is not... Engine failure or damage limited to an engine if only one engine fails or is damaged, Bent fairings or cowlings Dented skin Small punctured holes in the skin or fabric Ground damage to rotor or propeller blades Damage to landing gear, wheels, tires, flaps, engine accessories, brakes, or wingtips are not considered "substantial damage" for the purpose of this part.



# What is an Accident?

## Incidents

**“An occurrence other than an accident associated with the operation of an aircraft, which affects or could affect the safety of operations.” - 49 Code Federal Regulations 830.2**

# Notification and Reporting

The operator of an aircraft shall immediately and by the most expeditious means available notify the nearest NTSB Field Office when an aircraft accident or any of the following incidents occur:

- Flight control system malfunction
- Inability of any crew member to perform normal flight duties as a result of injury or illness
- In-flight fire
- Damage to property, exceeding \$25,000
- Aircraft collision in flight



# Notification Requirements

## Updated Incidents (830.5)

- Uncontained engine failure (turbine) Release of propeller blade (not ground) Failure 50% of EFIS, EICAS, PFD, PND, etc. TCAS resolution advisory with risk of collision Damage to helicopter tail or main rotor blades, including ground damage, that requires major repair or replacement of the blade(s)



# Types of Accident Investigations

- Major Fire Collection





# Major (MA) Investigation

- Large aircraftHigh visibilityNormally handled by HQ “go team”Regions may be part of investigationRegions may be in charge





# Field (FA) Investigation

- Regional investigator (IIC) and partiesTypically involves a fatalityRegional IIC = manages all aspects





# Limited (LA) Investigation



- NTSB does not travel to the accident site  
FAA can act as the “eyes and ears” of the NTSB at the scene  
FAA 9 areas of responsibility  
Additional NTSB requests  
Probable cause by NTSB  
FAA asking as part of FAA investigation or NTSB investigation?



# Data Collection (CA) Investigation

- One-time reportKnown circumstancesNo obvious safety issues/mechanical issuesNo fatalities or “critical” serious injuriesNot high public visibility





# Incident (IA) Investigations

## Gemini Air Cargo MD-11F, Overrun into EMAS



# Foreign (RA) Accidents





# Suspected Criminal Behavior

- Requires consultation between the Chairman of the NTSB and the US Attorney General if circumstances reasonably indicate intentional criminal act. FBI takes lead. If Federal law enforcement agency suspects criminal activity may have been caused by intentional criminal act: NTSB preserves evidence of criminal act.





# Criminal Events





## Preparing to Launch



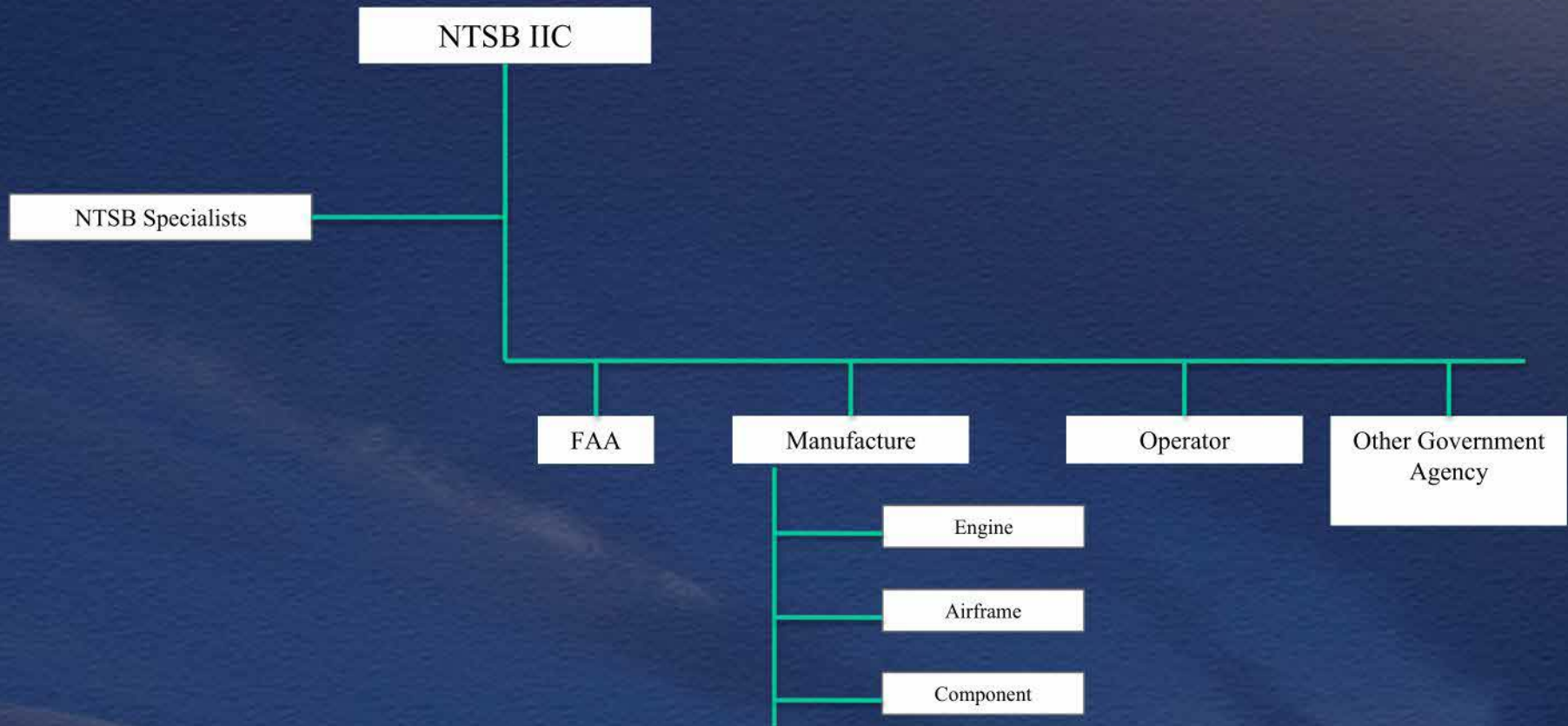
# Go-Bag





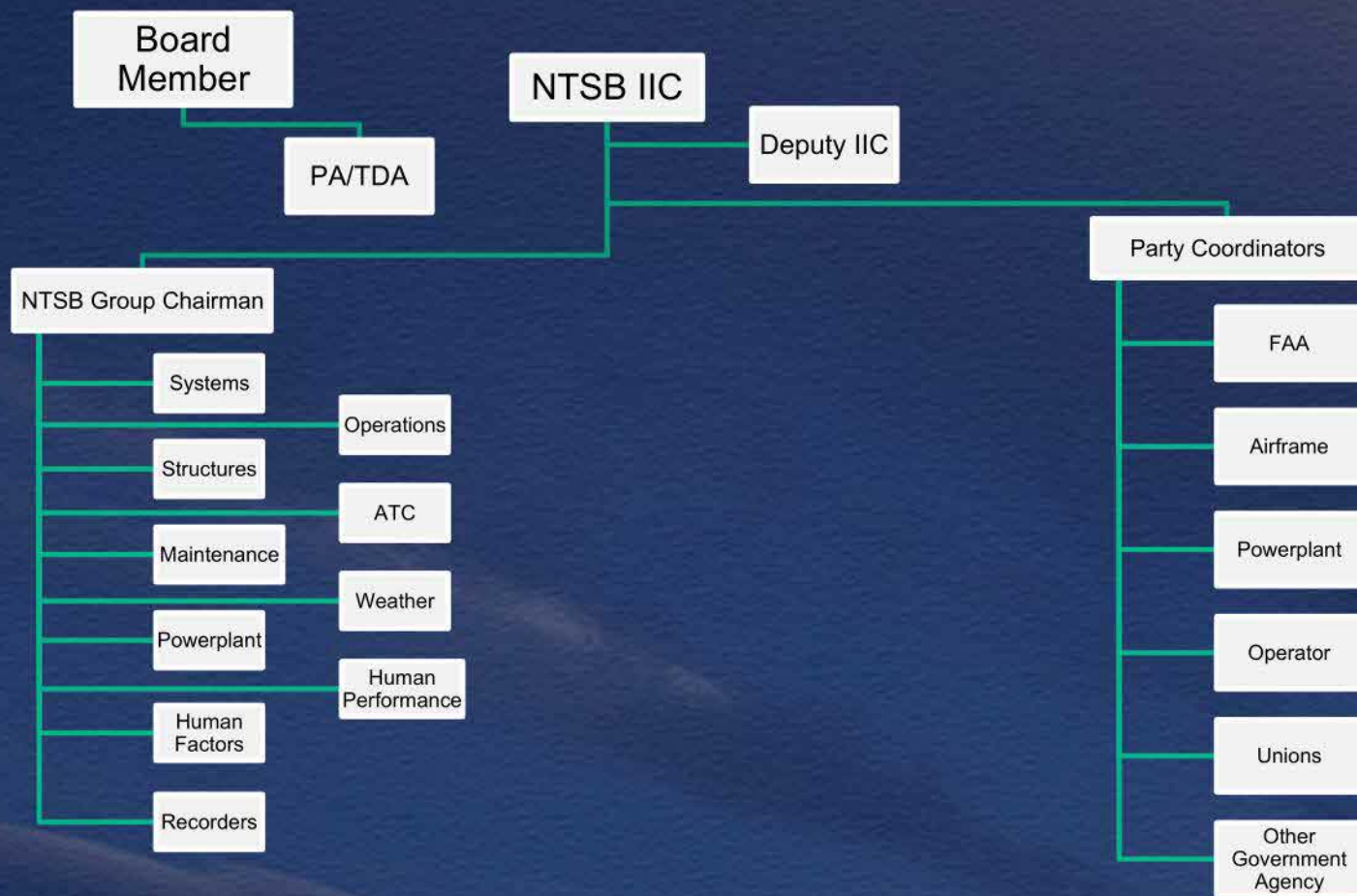
# Coordination of Participants

## Organizational Chart: Regional Investigation



# Coordination of Participants

## Organizational Chart: Major Investigation





# Coordination of Participants

## Board Member

- On scene spokesperson  
Interacts with the media, Family Affairs activities, and federal, state and local authorities  
No investigative role



# Before Launch Checklist

## Before Launch Checklist

✓ Parties notified? Additional assistance requested? Site secured? On-scene hazards? Condition of airplane?

✓ Photos taken? Victims removed? Tox testing/autopsy planned? ETA to Site Commander? Directions to site?



## The Launch Part I: Arrival On Scene





# Managing the Chaos

- Accident location  
Type of aircraft  
Number of fatalities  
Size of team  
Examination logistics





# On Scene Checklist

- ✓ On-Scene Documentation  
Environment and  
Perishable Info  
Wreckage Path  
Four  
Corners  
Flight Control/Engine  
Continuity  
Evidence of Engine Power  
Recorders;  
GPS/NVM; Video  
Witness Interviews  
Site  
Contacts

# Protecting Personnel

## Site Safety

**Is this  
safe?**





# Site Hazards - Rules for Investigators

You will have more of this in a separate module.....this is only a summary....



# Site Hazards – Rules for Investigators

- SAFETY FIRST! -  
Responsibility for  
Team Limit  
Access Appropriate  
Equipment &  
Training Determine  
Hazards Biological  
Hazards Mechanical  
Hazards Health  
Hazards Environmental  
Hazards





# Site Hazards – Rules for Investigators

- ✓ Biological (know how to dispose of biohazard; assure team is trained and equipped) Mechanical (know how to contact BRS; know which aircraft have airbags/parachutes/seats) Environmental (know what kind of shoes/layers to bring) Health (bring appropriate PPE)

# Additional Site Considerations

- Angry  
landowners  
Endangered  
species  
Angry  
Animals  
Poisonous  
Plants  
Public  
spectacle  
High crime  
areas  
Electrical  
Wires  
Sewage....and  
other unfavorable  
accident site locations



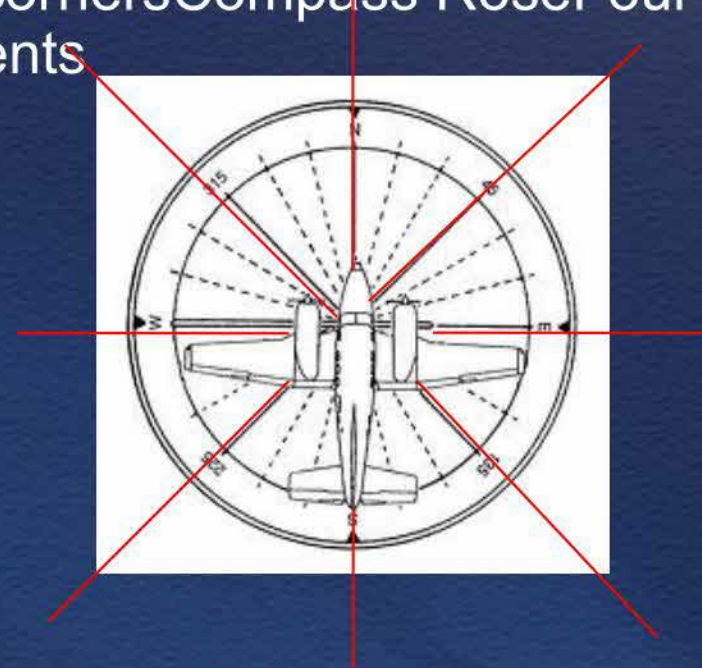


# Initial Walk-Through: Procedure

## Initial Walk-Through

### Procedure

- Aerial photographs Aircraft four corners Compass Rose Four cardinal points 15 Degree segments



# Initial Walk-Through: Procedure

## Aerial Photos





# Initial Walk-Through: Procedure

## Aerial Photos



# Initial Walk-Through: Procedure

## Aerial Photos





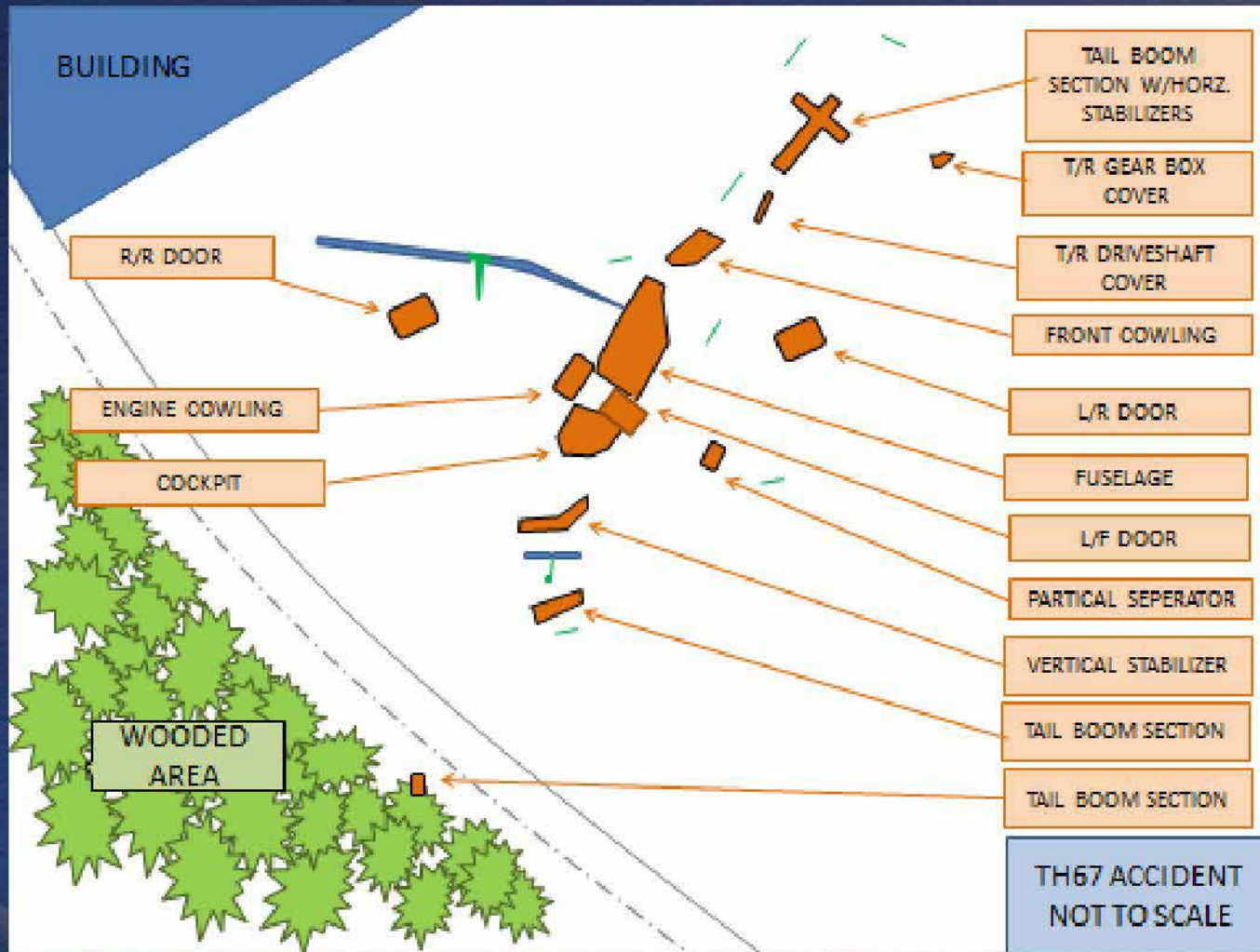
# Wreckage Documentation

## Wreckage Diagramming

GridStraight-lineMost  
Common

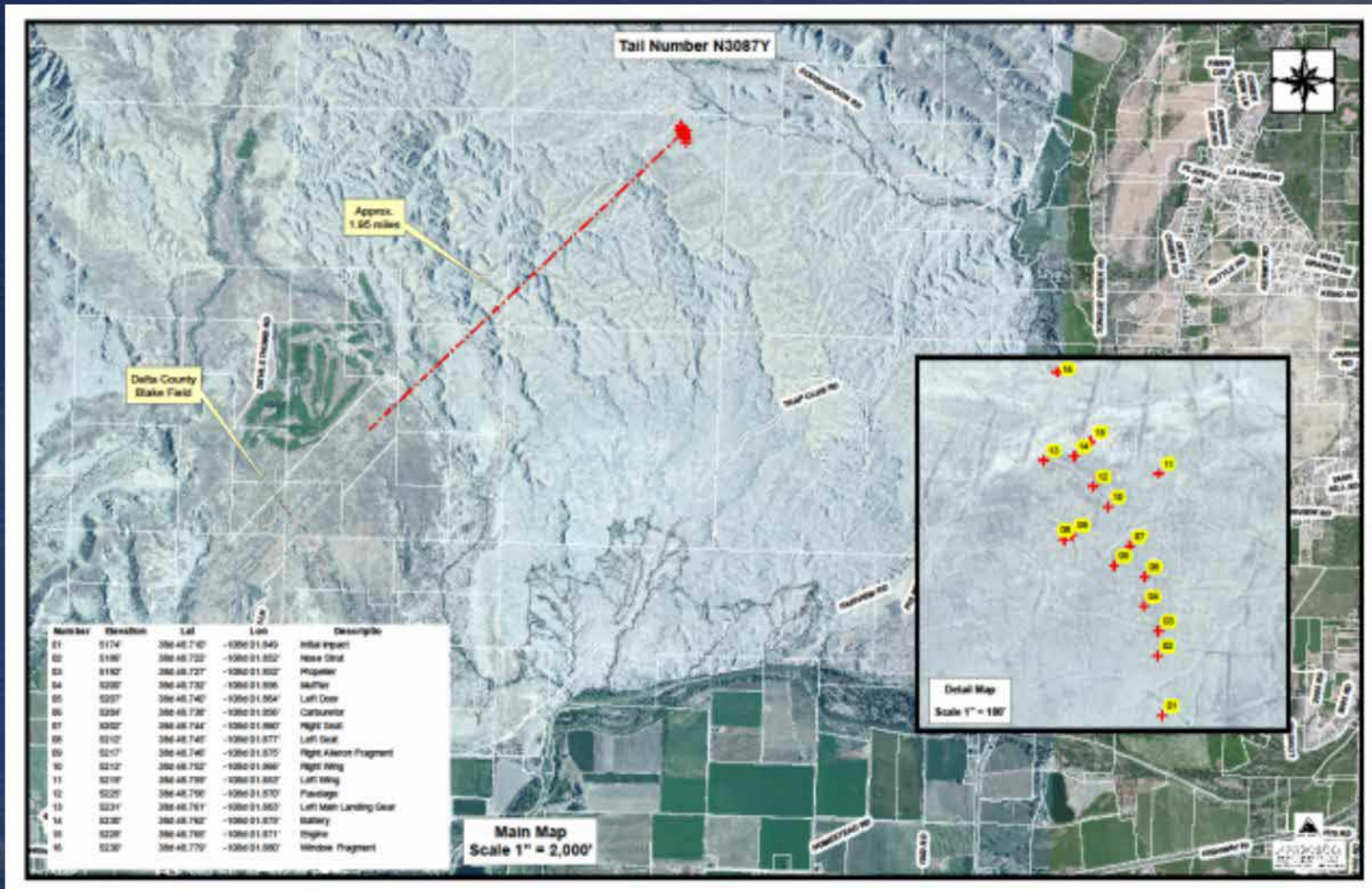
PolarCompact accident  
sites“Smoking hole” accident  
sites

# Wreckage Diagramming





# Wreckage Diagramming



# Wreckage Diagramming

10/13/2004 09:45 5135795428		FAA	PAGE 86
10/12/2004 TUE 18:02 FAX			0005/018

OHIO TRAFFIC ACCIDENT - DIAGRAM/NARRATIVE CONTINUATION		OH-2 (REV. 1/82)
LOCAL REPORT NUMBER 9-120	REPORTING AGENCY Ohio State Highway Patrol	DATE OF ACCIDENT 10 10 04
COUNTY OF Hamilton	ACCIDENT LOCATION MARTIN-MARLETTA GRAVEL PIT 170 PILOTS	1630 Hrs

Diagram labels and notes:

- APPROX. 25°-30° DUMP
- BOTTOM OF OLD SAND/CANAL PIT
- W/RTD CESSNA 150II 152-87237 N6096
- W/YR 1975 N12425 CESSNA 172 SPYRAME 172M 172L 2/123
- 20° COTTONWOOD TREES
- 20° COTTONWOOD TREES
- 20° COTTONWOOD TREES
- 20° COTTONWOOD TREES
- 56' FROM TOP OF ROAD
- 120' SE OF "G"
- DOWN HILL

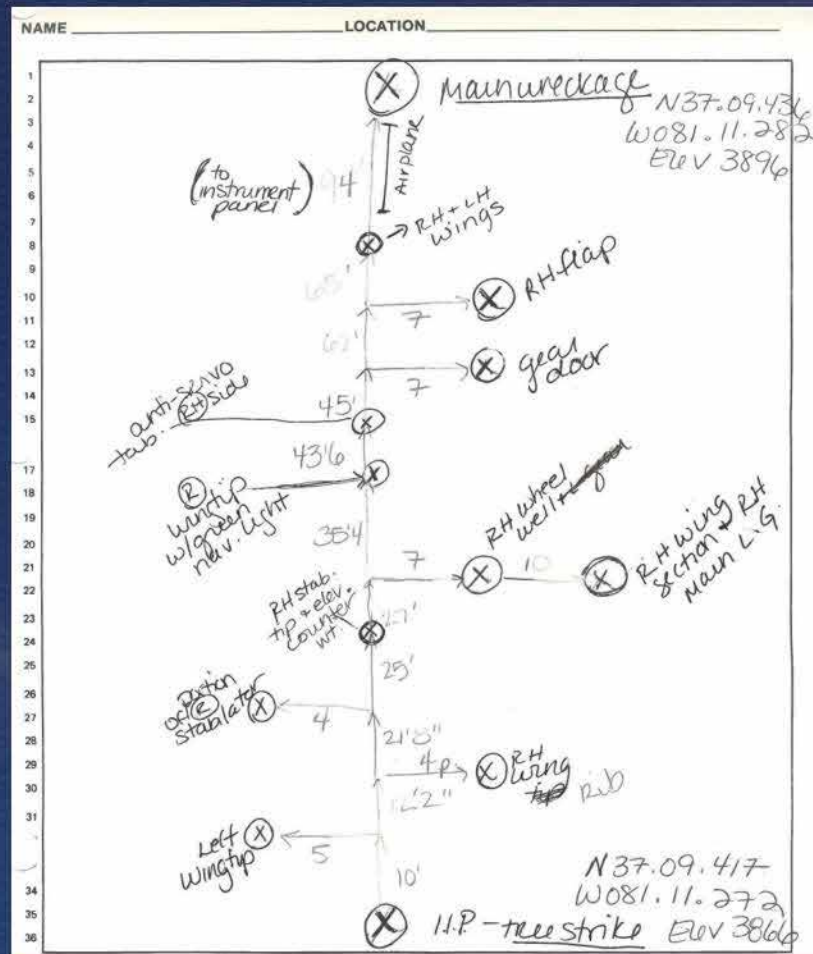
AVIATION SAFETY INVESTIGATED  
MARTHA LUKINS FAA 1810 Hrs  
ON SCENE

VISIBILITY UNLIMITED Sunny No CLOUDING  
APPROXIMATELY 550' ABOVE SEA LEVEL  
RUNWAY 01 JUST N. OF FINAL REST  
CALM SURFACE WINDS OUT OF NORTH

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE *[Signature]* BADGE NO. 1181



# Wreckage Diagramming



# Wreckage Documentation/Photos

## Wreckage Examination/Photos

Surrounding Terrain  
Tree Strikes/Defoliation  
Approach Paths: Magnetic  
Bearing  
Ground Scars  
Wreckage Path: Pieces  
of debris  
Check Surveillance  
equipment





# Wreckage Documentation/Photos



# Wreckage Documentation/Photos





# Wreckage Documentation/Photos

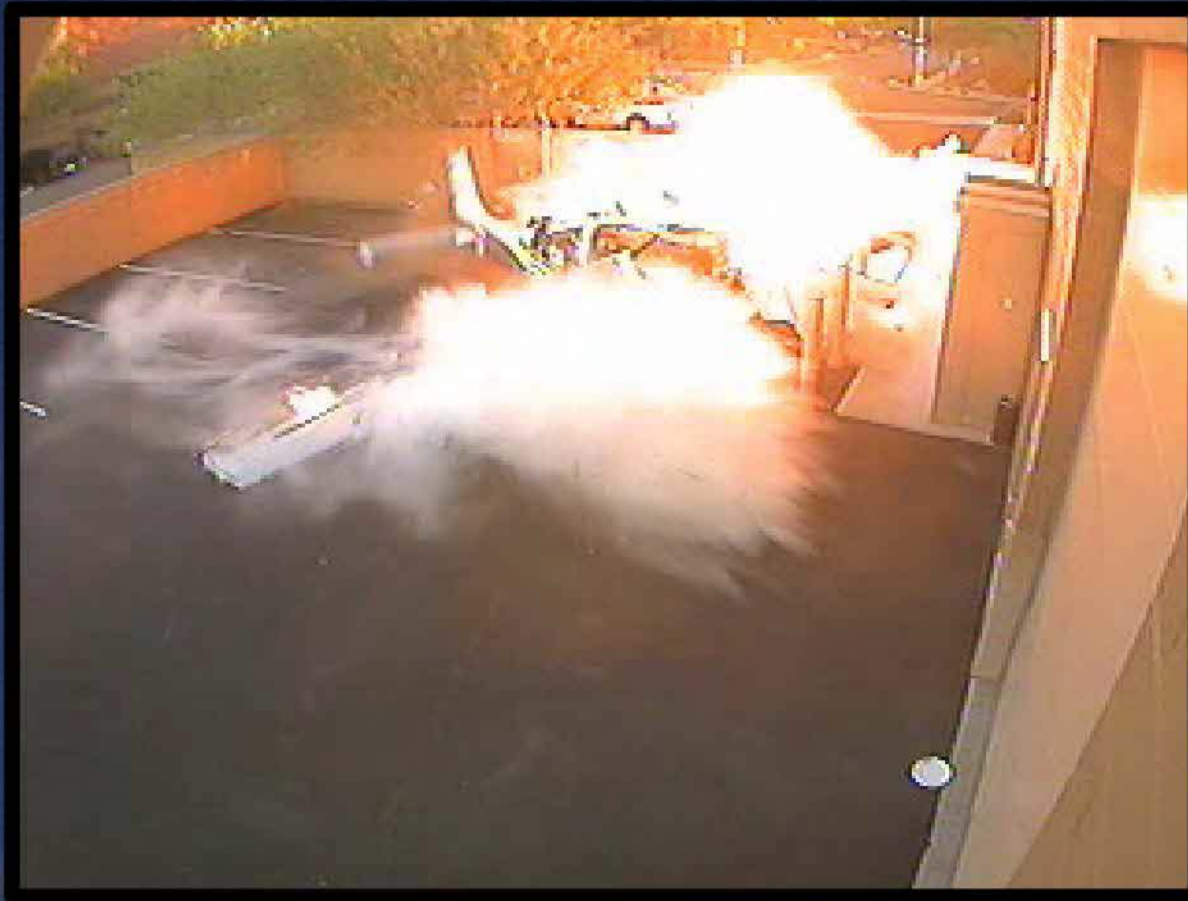


# Wreckage Documentation/Photos





# Wreckage Documentation/Photos



# Wreckage Documentation/Photos





# Wreckage Documentation/Photos



# Checklists

## Checklists



### Personal and Safety Specific Items

- Proper clothing should be the first consideration. Selection of good serviceable clothing capable of withstanding rough usage is recommended. Selection should be appropriate to climate and environment. Multiple layers may be the best choice for colder climatic conditions where exertion is anticipated. (Turtleneck Sweater, Fleece Pullover, Long underwear, Lederhosen, Snow Pants, Winter Gloves, Wool or fleece Socks)
- Footwear appropriate to the accident site terrain/conditions (steel-toed shoes, hiking boots, rubber over-boots, or waterproof boots, as necessary for conditions).
- Coveralls and/or hooded sweatshirt and coat or jacket.
- Rain gear.
- Headgear (hardhat, stocking cap, and/or NTSB baseball hat).
- Back pack for tools and equipment. Should have sturdy frame and be ergonomic. (Fannie Pack for small tools)
- Canteen and/or thermos. Take enough water and/or sports drinks for expected climate conditions and length of investigative activities (in hot arid climates, need 1-gallon of fluid per person per day minimum).





# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

## Tree Strikes/Defoliation



# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

## Tree Strikes/Defoliation





# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

## Evidence of Power





# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

### Ground Scars





# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

### Ground Scars





# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

### Paint Transfer





# Documentation

## Surrounding Terrain

### Glass



# Documentation

## Perishable Evidence

- Recorders/RecordingsGround scarsAircraft fluid (fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid)LogbooksMedication (live and deceased pilots)Icing/weather conditionsAircraft contents (weight and balance)



# Documentation

## Perishable Evidence



# Documentation

## Perishable Evidence





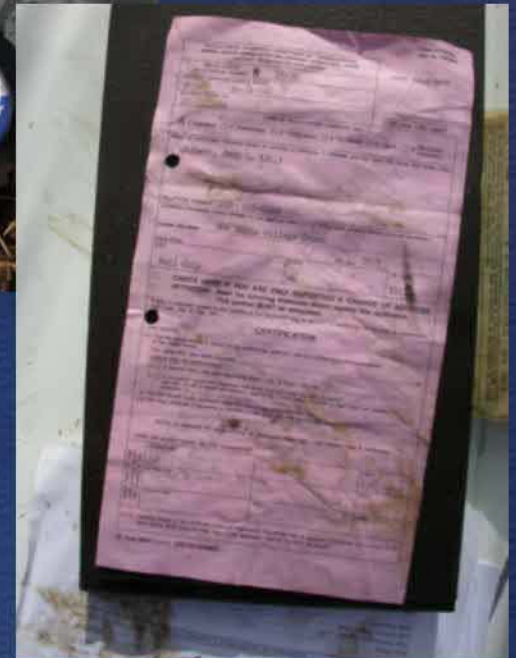
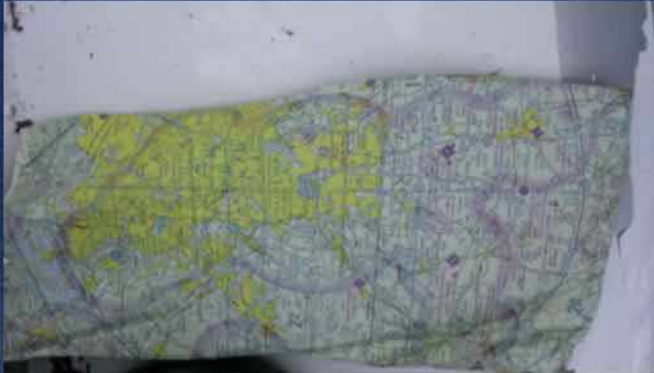
# Documentation

## Perishable Evidence



# Documentation

## Perishable Evidence





# Documentation

## Perishable Evidence



AIRCRAFT: N561N	DATE: 07-09-07	-ACTT	
MAINTENANCE WRITE-UP		MAINTENANCE CLEARING ACTION	
Entered By: ACT	Location: DCA	<input type="checkbox"/> Repaired	<input type="checkbox"/> Replaced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Released - Could Not Duplicate	<input type="checkbox"/> Loaner Installed
RADAR WENT BLANK DUE TO CAUSE RIGHT. RECHECKED - NO RESPONSE. INFLIGHT ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS BURNING TURNED OFF UNIT - POWERED RADAR ON - INFLIGHT WENT AWAY. - RADAR INOP		Corrective Action:	

# The Launch Part II: The Investigation (cont'd)

## Accident Site Photography



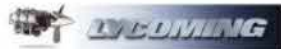
# Taking Good Photos

## Wreckage Examination/Photos

- Be SystematicEstablish a flowFraming the SubjectCapture orientation of subject with respect to wreckage/terrainOrganizationPerishable EvidenceOrientationPhotos To Scale

# Taking Good Photos

## Organization of Photos



Air Safety Investigation →

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### ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

#### PHOTO LOG

DATE OF MISHAP: \_\_\_\_\_ AIRCRAFT MODEL: Cessna T182T  
REGISTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_ ENGINE MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_  
LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ SERIAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### GENERAL EXAMINATION PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1-6 Engine as received
- 7-13 Engine as first viewed
- 14-19 Engine mounted to disassembly ring
- 20 Crankshaft gear and idler gears
- 21-22 Engine data tag
- 23-24 Oil filter element
- 25-27 Accessory housing
- 28-31 Oil pump gears and body
- 32-33 Oil pump body and oil pump drive
- 34 Spark plugs
- 35-47 Cylinders, pistons, pins and plugs
- 48-54 Connecting rods and bearings
- 55-56 Camshaft
- 57 Valve action and valves
- 58-61 Main bearings
- 62-66 Left crankcase
- 67-70 Right crankcase
- 71-72 Crankshaft
- 73-74 Oil pump
- 75 Fuel injector nozzles
- 76 Flow divider and fuel lines
- 77-78 Flow divider
- 79-85 Fuel injector servo and inlet housing attached
- 86-87 Magnetos
- 88 Starter
- 89 Fuel pump and fuel flow transducer
- 90-91 Scavenge pump, fuel pump, vacuum pump drive adapters
- 92-95 Turbo charger
- 96 Exhaust system and slope controller
- 97-98 Tail pipe, bypass valve and clamps
- 99 Slope controller
- 100 Intake pipes
- 101 Miscellaneous molten metal material





# Taking Good Photos

## Photo Orientation



# Taking Good Photos

## Photo Orientation





# Taking Good Photos

## Photo Orientation



# Taking Good Photos

## Scale Photos





# The Launch Part II: The Investigation (cont'd)

**Wreckage Examination Cheat Sheet!**

# Wreckage Examination

## Wreckage Examination/Photos

### Wings

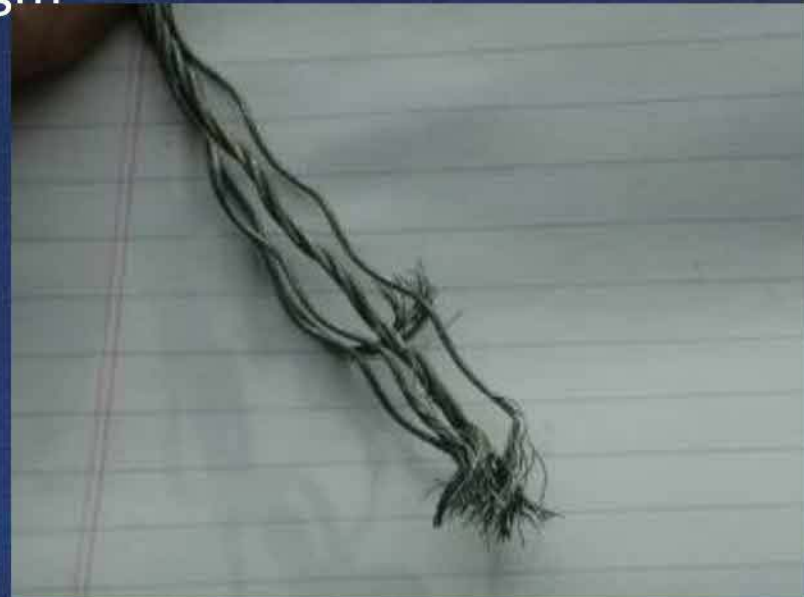




# Wreckage Examination

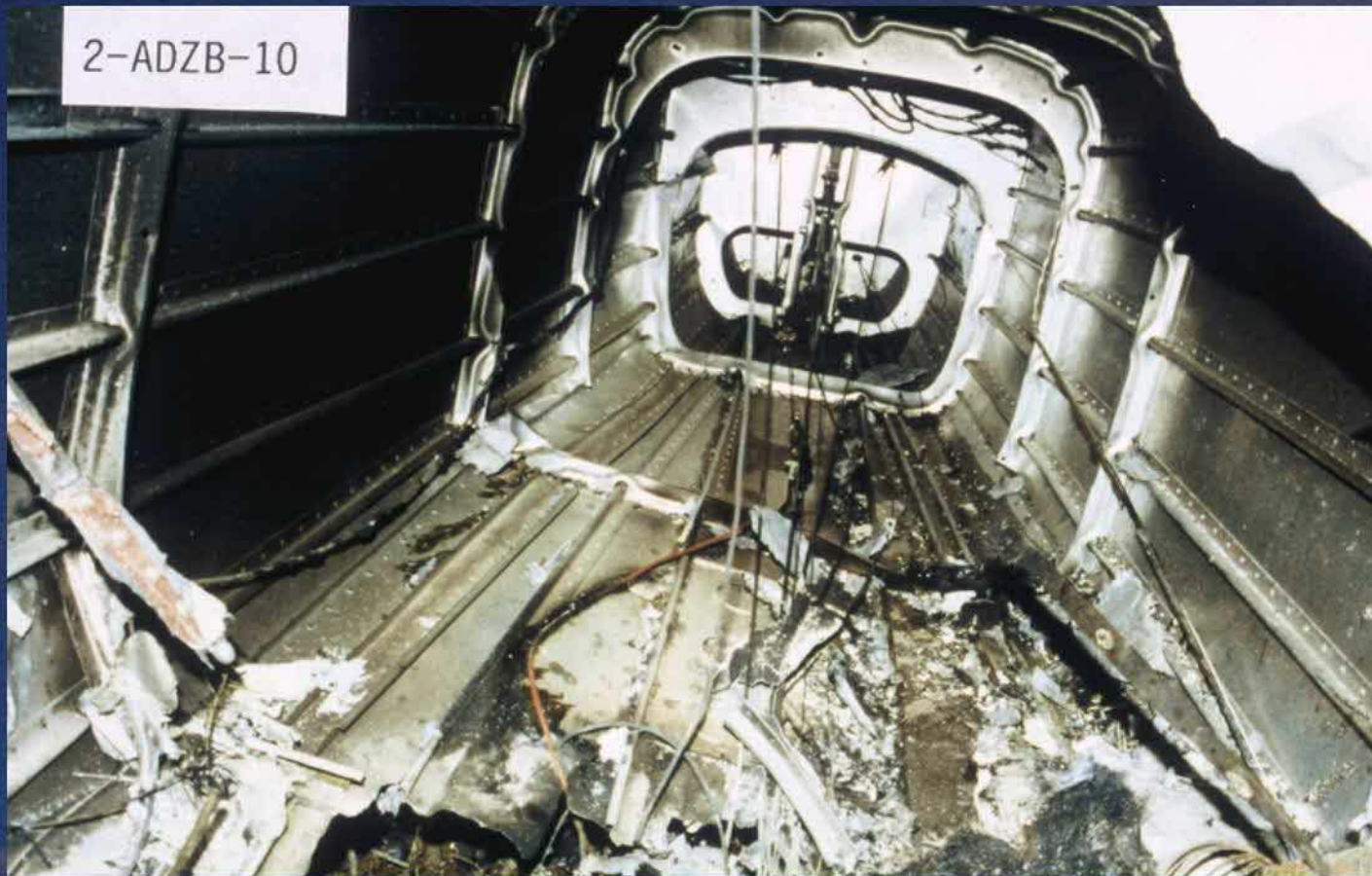
## Flight Controls

- Trace flight controls from cockpit to flight control surfacesDescribe breaks“Flight Control Continuity”Trim Tab ActuatorsFlap Drive Mechanism



# Wreckage Examination

## Flight Controls





# Wreckage Examination

## Flight Controls





## The Launch Part III: The On-Scene Wrap Up





# The On-Scene Wrap-Up

## Investigative Duties (on-scene)

Document Wreckage and Site  
Gather/Retain Evidence  
Disseminate Information to Party Members  
Field Notes  
Organize Wreckage Recovery  
Make additional requests for information (if unable on-scene can request from office):  
FAA statement  
ATC radar  
weather report  
law enforcement  
coroner

# The On-Scene Wrap-Up

## Evidence Retention

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What to retain: CVR/FDR Avionics Instruments Fuel samples Logbooks (mx &amp; pilot) Medication Camera sCell phones</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What not to retain: Personal effects (**however, we may retain to make sure they get returned to the family**)</li></ul> |
|--|--|



# The On-Scene Wrap-Up

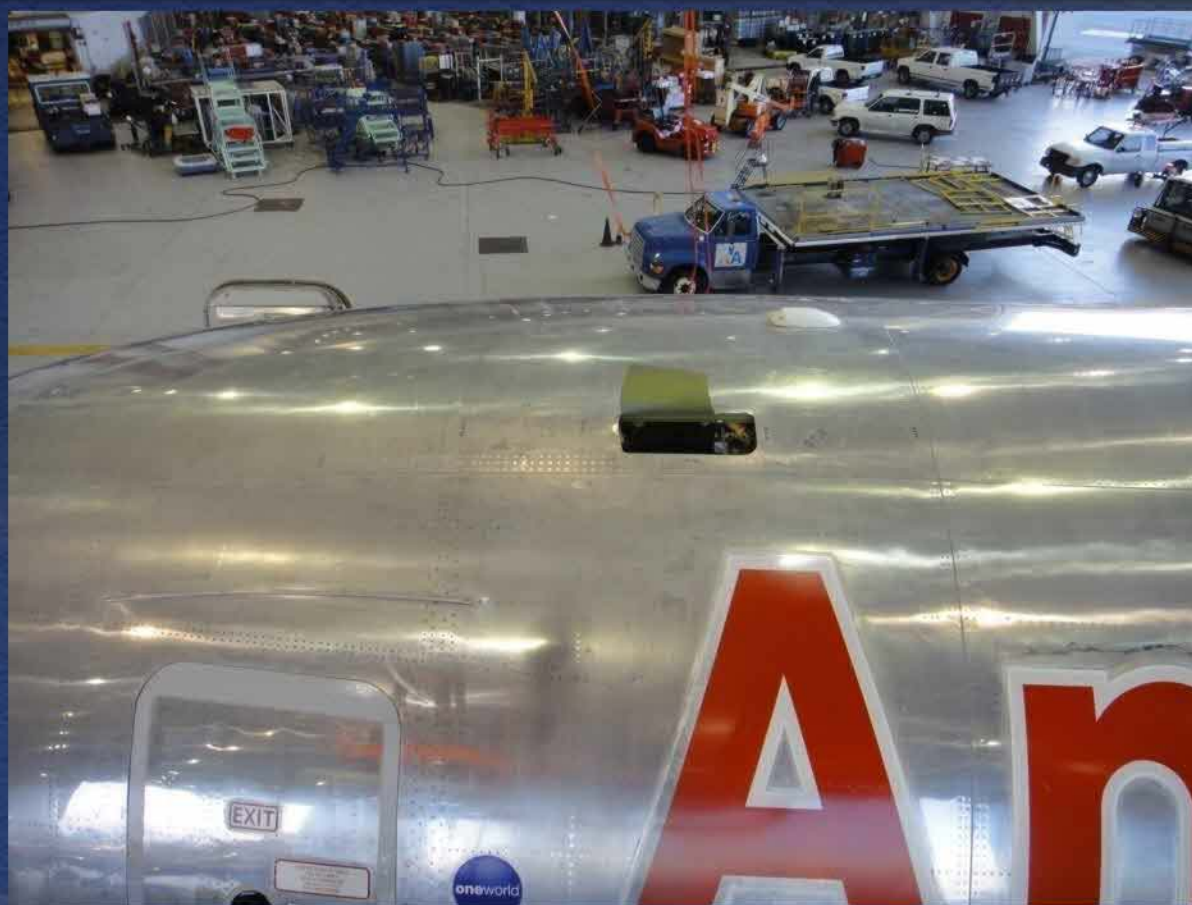
## Evidence Retention

- How to document: Photos, photos, photos! Document item, condition, part number/serial number Evidence form L.E. procedures (tape bag, initial, etc.) Evidence return (close the loop!)

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD EVIDENCE CONTROL		ACCIDENT NUMBER: ERA12FA271
For Use In All Mode Investigations		
OFFICE Aviation Safety	DATE OF ACCIDENT 4/5/12	ACCIDENT LOCATION (City & State) Everglades City, FL
EVIDENCE OBTAINED BY:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EVIDENCE OBTAINED FROM:	LOCATION OR PERSON INFORMATION	DATE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EVIDENCE RECEIVED FROM:	Salvage facility, Air and Sea Recovery, FL	4/25/12
EVIDENCE CONTROL NUMBER ERA12FA271 - 2	Pierce, FL	GROUP N/A
DESCRIPTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN ITEM - HAS BEEN SEPARATED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> remnants of personal wallet, consumed by fire, recovered among the wreckage		
OWNER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE		
FIRST NAME [REDACTED]	LAST NAME [REDACTED]	
ADDRESS [REDACTED]		
PHONE [REDACTED]	EMAIL [REDACTED]	
RETURNED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DATE: 6/19/12	CONTACT: [REDACTED]
RELEASED BY: Jose Obregon		RELEASED TO: LPS #12A509WG3694257998
PURPOSE: Return property to pilot's family (daughter)		DATE: 6/19/12
RELEASED BY: LPS		RELEASED TO: [REDACTED]
PURPOSE: Return property to family		DATE: 6/20/12
RELEASED BY:	RELEASED TO:	DATE:
PURPOSE:		
RELEASED BY:	RELEASED TO:	DATE:
PURPOSE:		
RELEASED BY:	RELEASED TO:	DATE:
PURPOSE:		

NTSB EVIDENCE CONTROL FORM (REV. 1-15-2009)

## The Launch Part IV: The Follow Up





# The Follow-Up

## Further Inquiry

**First** Organize Digital Photography into Folders & Directories  
Pursue New Information  
Request ATC Information  
Police & Autopsy Reports  
Toxicology

**Third** Propeller & Engine Teardown  
Component Teardowns/Exams  
Airport/NAV Aid Information  
Fueling History  
Survival Factors  
Accident/Incident History

**Second** Research Logbooks  
FAA Pilot & Aircraft Data  
Human Factors Issues  
More Witness Interviews  
Schedule Component Exams  
Recorder Downloads (CVR, GPS, etc.)

**Fourth** Coordinate HQ Support  
Toxicology/Autopsy Follow-Up & Analysis  
Begin to Compose Draft Report  
Safety Recommendations  
Manage the Workload

# The Follow-Up

## Organization of Photos (\*a review slide...\*)



Air Safety Investigation →

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### ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

#### PHOTO LOG

DATE OF MISHAP: \_\_\_\_\_ AIRCRAFT MODEL: Cessna T182T  
REGISTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_ ENGINE MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_  
LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ SERIAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### GENERAL EXAMINATION PHOTOGRAPHS






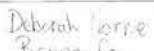
- 1-6 Engine as received
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- 92-95 Turbo charger
- 96 Exhaust system and slope controller
- 97-98 Tail pipe, bypass valve and clamps
- 99 Slope controller
- 100 Intake pipes
- 101 Miscellaneous molten metal material





# The Follow-Up

## Contacts & Logbooks

 <b>Rowan County Airport</b> 100 Airport Lane, Rowan, NC 28137 www.rowanairport.com	 <b>DAHER-SOCATA</b> Philippe SANTORO Network & Recovery Manager - NTSB Liaison SOCATA North America, Inc. 1000 West Street, Suite 100, Rowan, NC 28137
 <b>Federal Aviation Administration</b> Eric L. Newsome Aviation Safety Specialist	 <b>Federal Aviation Administration</b> Charlotte Flight Standards District Office 1000 West Street, Suite 100, Rowan, NC 28137
 <b>Crawford's Garage Towing &amp; Recovery</b> Light Medium and Heavy Duty 40 Ton Capacity Flat Maintenance & Repairs Road Side Service Air Cushion Recovery	 <b>Deborah Lorne</b> Rowan Co.



# The Follow-Up

## Pilot & Aircraft Information

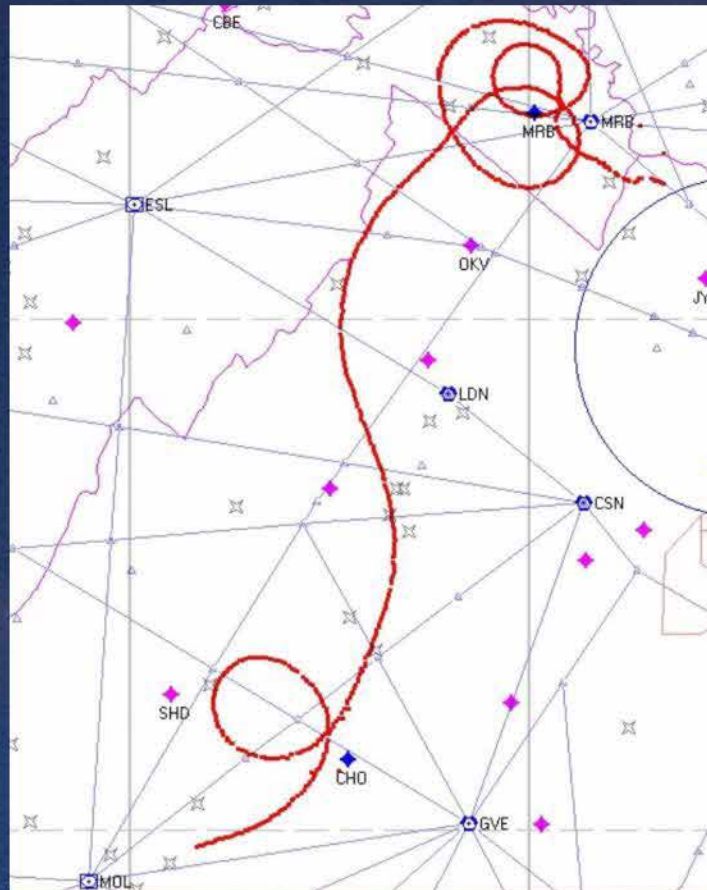
- Obtain all available aircraft information  
Logbooks  
Engine  
Propeller





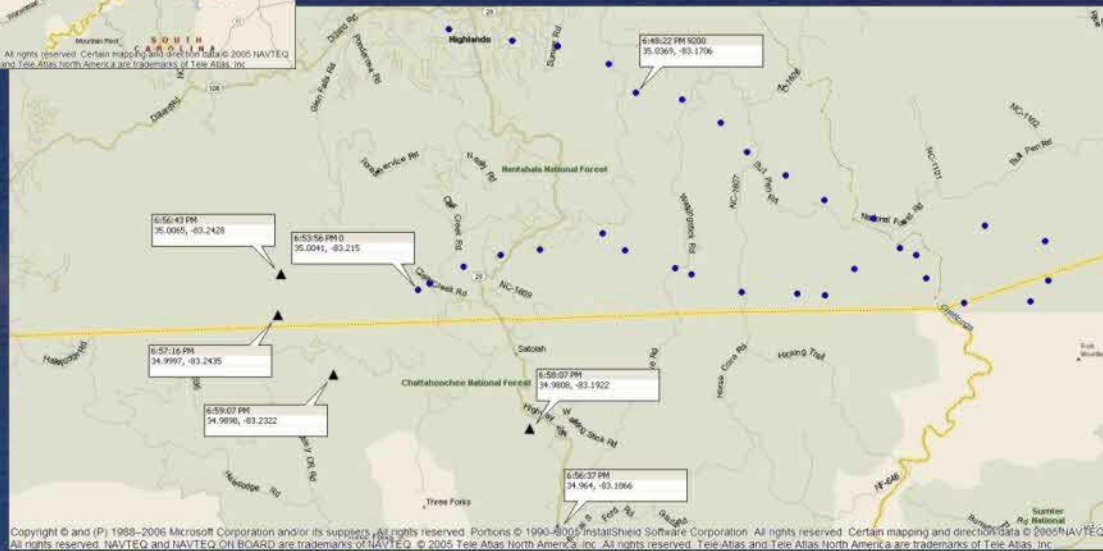
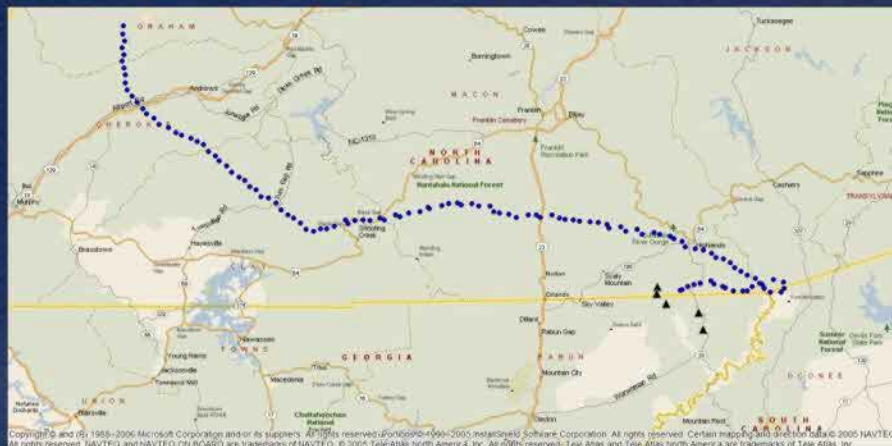
# The Follow-Up

## Radar Data Analysis



# The Follow-Up

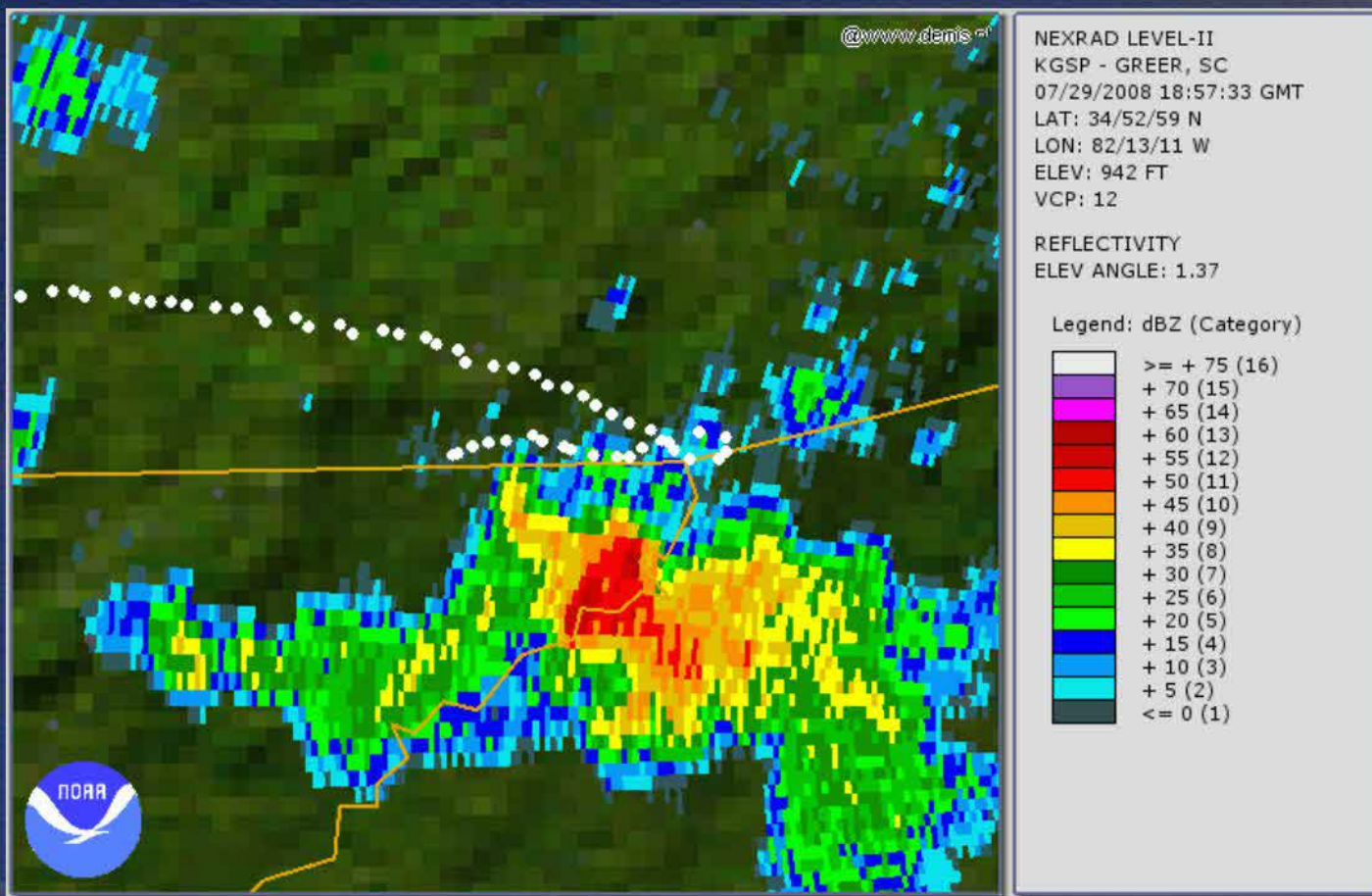
## Radar Data Analysis





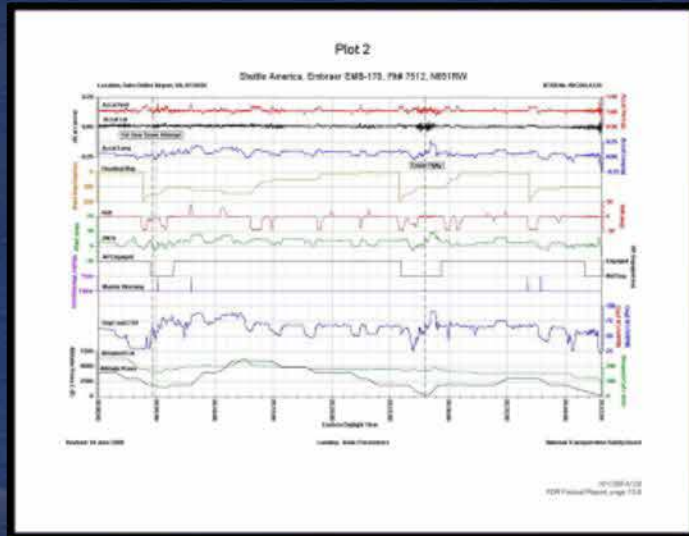
# The Follow-Up

## Weather Data Analysis



# The Follow-Up

## Records Lab





# The Follow-Up

## Other Recorder Downloads

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Vehicle Recorder Division  
Washington, D.C. 20594

April 25, 2006

### Video/Image Study Report

NTSB Accident Number:  
NYC05FA117A/B

by Douglass P. Brazy

#### A. ACCIDENT

Location: Lewes, DE  
Date: July 10, 2005  
Time: 1052 Eastern Daylight Time  
Aircraft: Rutan Long EZ, registration N78LC, Van's RV-8, Registration N899RM

#### B. GROUP

N/A

#### C. SUMMARY

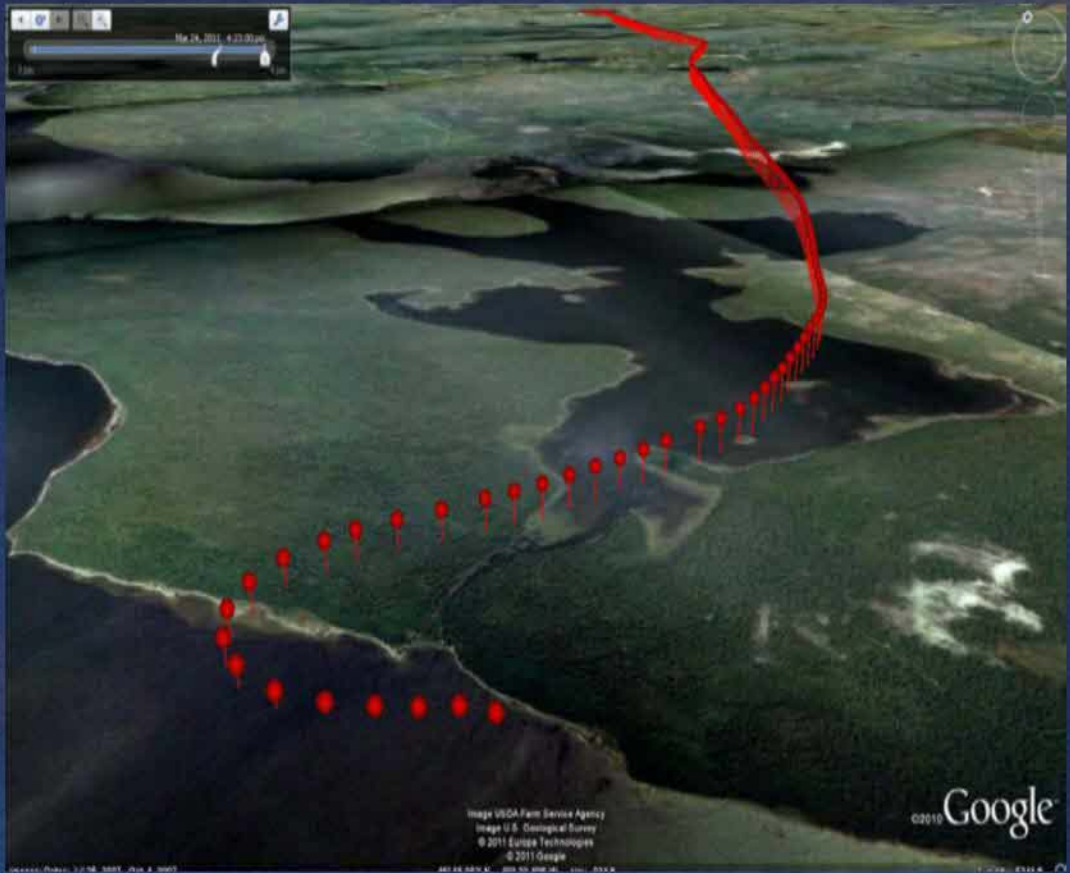
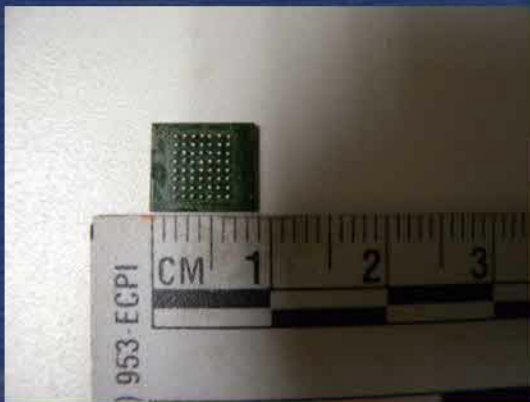
On July 10, 2005, at 1052 eastern daylight time, a homebuilt Rutan Long EZ, N78LC, and a homebuilt Van's RV-8, N899RM, were substantially damaged during a midair collision and subsequent impact in the Delaware Bay near Lewes, Delaware. The certificated commercial pilot flying the Long EZ and the certificated private pilot flying the RV-8 were fatally injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan was filed for either flight conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

NYC05FA117A/B - Video Factual  
Report  
Page 1 of 21



# The Follow-Up

## NVM: Portable GPS Receiver





# The Follow-Up

## PFD/MFD

### Primary Flight Display



### Multi Function Display



# The Follow-Up

## PFD/MFD





# The Follow-Up

## PFD/MFD



## Other Recorder Downloads – RDM

[illegible]



# The Follow-Up

## Cell Phones

- Recent calls/texts Camera Search and Rescue



# The Follow-Up

## Toxicology

- Beware of positive results for alcohol (decomposition) Compare with other info sources Positive results may warrant further investigation. Pilot medical records should be obtained from the FAA The pilot's personal medical records may need to be obtained via the family or by subpoena.



# The Follow-Up

## Autopsy

- Detailed overview of the injuries  
Underlying health issues  
Survival factors  
Pilot at controls



# The Follow-Up

## Human Factors

- 72-hour historyMedical records indicate chronic fatigue (fatigue)





# The Follow-Up

## Material's Lab Examination



# The Follow-Up

## Material's Lab Report

### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Research and Engineering  
Materials Laboratory Division  
Washington, D.C. 20594



January 26, 2009

#### MATERIALS LABORATORY FACTUAL REPORT

##### A. ACCIDENT

Place : Reno, Nevada  
Date : September 1, 2008  
Vehicle : Lockheed P2V-7S (SP-2H), N4235T  
NTSB No. : SEAD8GA194  
Investigator : Thomas Little (ASI-NWRA)

##### B. COMPONENTS EXAMINED

11th stage compressor disc, P/N 60E575-  
turbojet engine, S/N 211235, mounted in the #1 pos

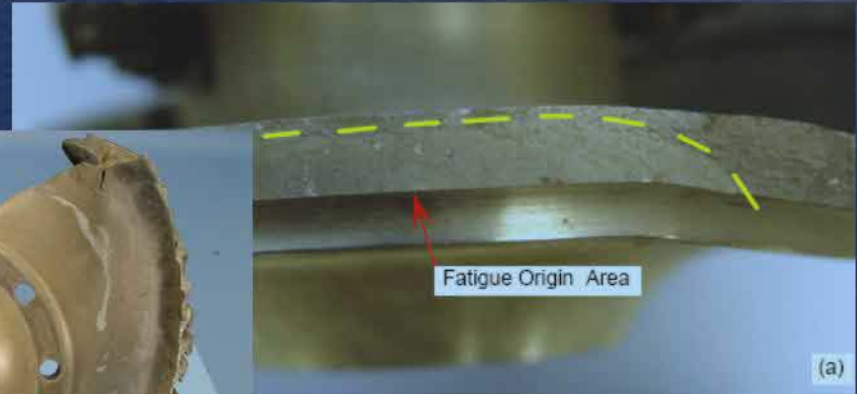
##### C. DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION

The forward and aft faces of the as-received disc were displayed in figure 1. The disc was fractured into contained about half of the rim and one third of the web and the entire bore were contained in the large compressor rotor extension shaft attached. The 60E575-2, made from type 302, corrosion resistant

FAA databases identify N4235T as a Lockheed 150282 manufactured in 1962. Neptune Aviation S holder, operating the aircraft in the restricted category. The aircraft were originally manufactured by Westinghouse Electric Corp. The current type certificate (E-265) is held by Steward-Davis Incorporated. The subject compressor disc came from the #1 (left) engine, S/N 211235 and had reportedly accumulated 950.1 hours total time since new (TTSN) and 619.1 hours since (Navy) overhaul (TSOH) including 491.4 hours in service with Neptune Aviation.

Initial optical examinations of the fractures revealed extensive post separation damage to the majority of the fracture surface on the smaller pieces. The fracture on the larger piece was relatively undamaged and clear fracture features were visible on the

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Naval Weapons, NAVWEPS 02B-110BC-3, Table VIII, dated 15 July 1962, material specification PDS 6599-2.





# The Follow-Up

## Follow-Up Examination

### Salvage Yard



# NTSB Assets Available

- Materials Lab  
Recorders Lab  
Investigator  
Manpower  
Investigator (Specialist) Expertise  
(objective viewpoint):  
Meteorologists  
Air Traffic Control Specialists  
Structures  
(Engineering Manufacturer Investigators)

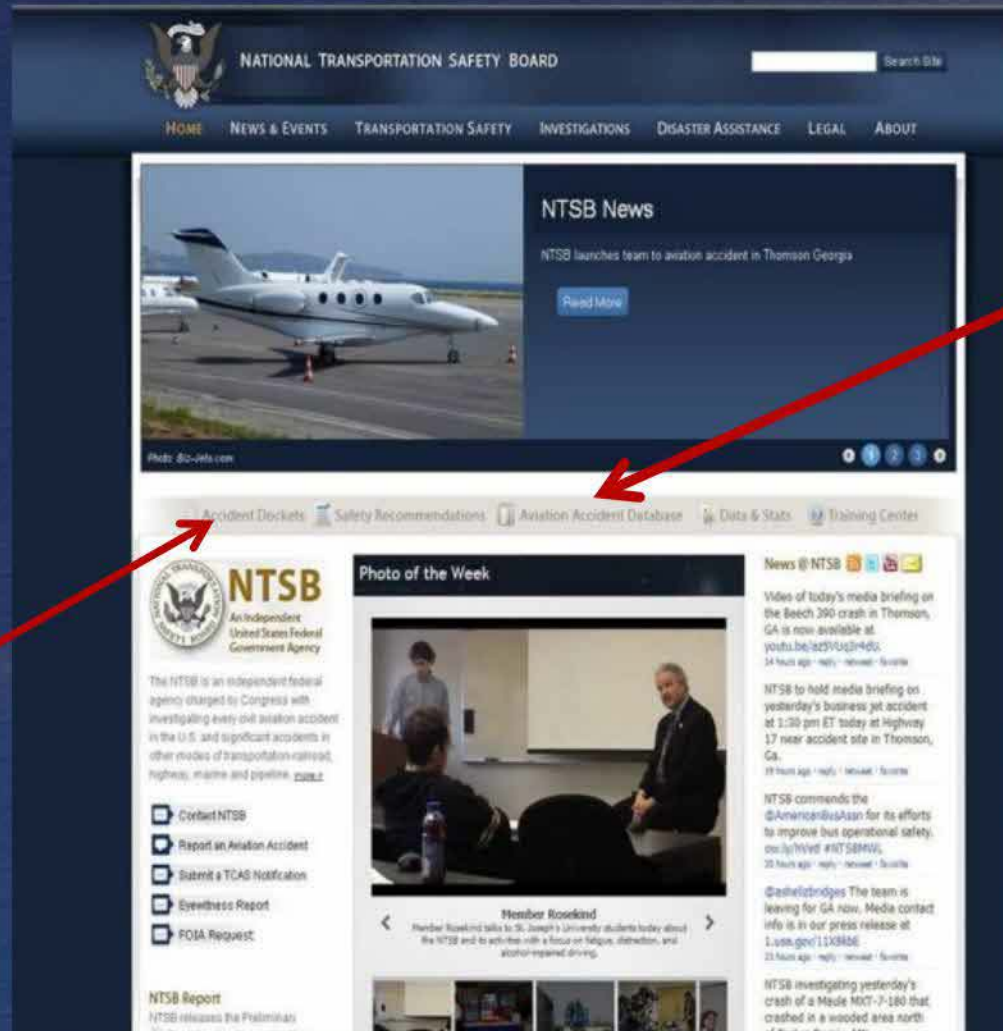


# NTSB Contact Information

**NTSB's 24-hour  
Response  
Operations Center:  
844-373-  
9922 [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov)**



# Resources



Reports

Public  
Dockets





# Resources

- NTSB Training Center Courses NTSB website ASI resources:  
<http://www.asiresource.com/FAA>:  
<https://www.faa.gov/ISASI>:  
<http://www.isasi.org/>

# Summary

- ✓ Pack go-bag early, and often
- First hours/days of investigation =
- Communication is critical
- Emergency plans
- Manage chaos = know
- resources
- Site hazards
- Perishable evidence



# Summary

## ✓ Accident Site

Photography Scale Organization Retain  
evidence recording devices Don't  
forget surrounding terrain  
evidence! Beware of confirmation  
bias!

# Are all Accidents Preventable? (Or could a good pilot just have a bad day?)





# Thank You For Your Time





**NTSB** *TRAINING CENTER*







# **Major Investigations**

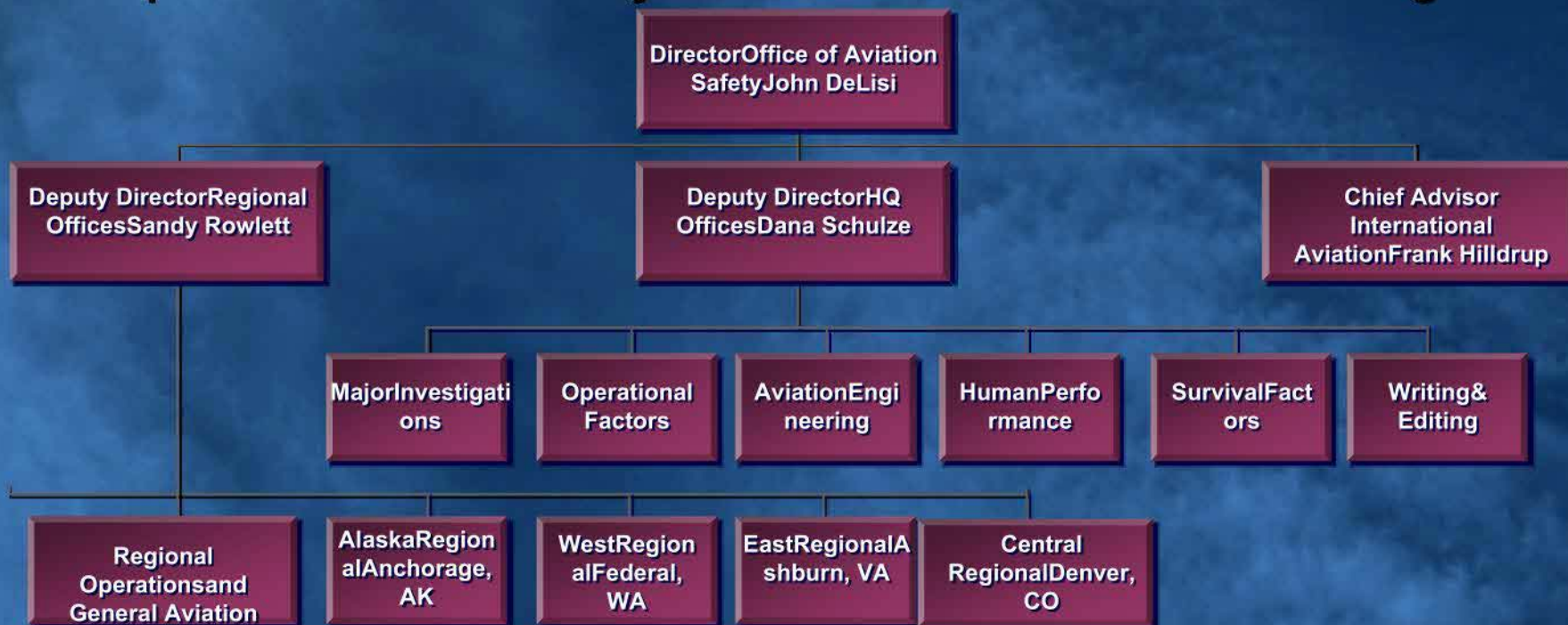
**Tim LeBaron**  
**IIC / US Accredited Representative**





# The Office of Aviation Safety

Responsible for the Safety Board's aviation accident investigations





# Regional Offices



- ◆ Investigate general aviation accidents and small incidents involving air carriersSupport major investigations≈ 45 general aviation/field investigators





# Major Investigations

- ◆ Investigate accidents and incidents involving FAA Part 121 air carriersCommercial Space≈ 50 HQ investigators and 5 IICs





# Desk Investigations

- ◆ **Turbulence events resulting in serious injuries Substantial damage that doesn't require travel**







# A Partial Go-Team

Dispatched to non-fatal accidents or incidents that involve safety issues or circumstances that warrant investigation such as: Newly certificated aircraft      Air traffic control issues      High accident potential      Significant public interest



# An International Go -Team

Dispatched with an NTSB Accredited Representative and Advisors to major accidents that are investigated by foreign states per (ICAO ANNEX 13). The basis for participation is:

- US operator
- US registered aircraft
- US designed / manufactured / certificated aircraft
- US citizens fatally injured
- Significant public interest







# A Full Go-Team

**Dispatched to major accidents – those involving a major carrier or commuter airliner having substantial damage, multiple injuries or deaths.**



# A Full Go-Team



- ◆ Led by Investigator-In-Charge (IIC) Includes Group Chairmen, Board Member, Member's assistant, public affairs and transportation disaster specialists Prepared to launch within 2 hours of notification







# The Launch

- ◆ Immediate and substantial communications with the FAA and representatives of the organizations involved, including non-U.S. authorities  
FAA airplane may be used to transport team to accident site





# The Launch

- ◆ **Communications Center arranges logistical support for the team's arrival on the scene**







# The Launch

- ◆ Regional offices move quickly to secure the accident site, gain control of the wreckage, coordinate with local fire and rescue authorities, retrieve flight recorders and establish liaison with media





# Arrival On-scene

- ◆ Survey accident site
- Establish command post (serves as point of contact)
- Arrange communications
- Confirm security arrangements
- Confirm biohazard precautions with local authorities





# Organizational Meeting

**Managed by the IIC, the organizational meeting is designed to:**

<b>Establish order</b>	<b>Identify</b>
<b>NTSB participants</b>	<b>Designate parties and party coordinators</b>



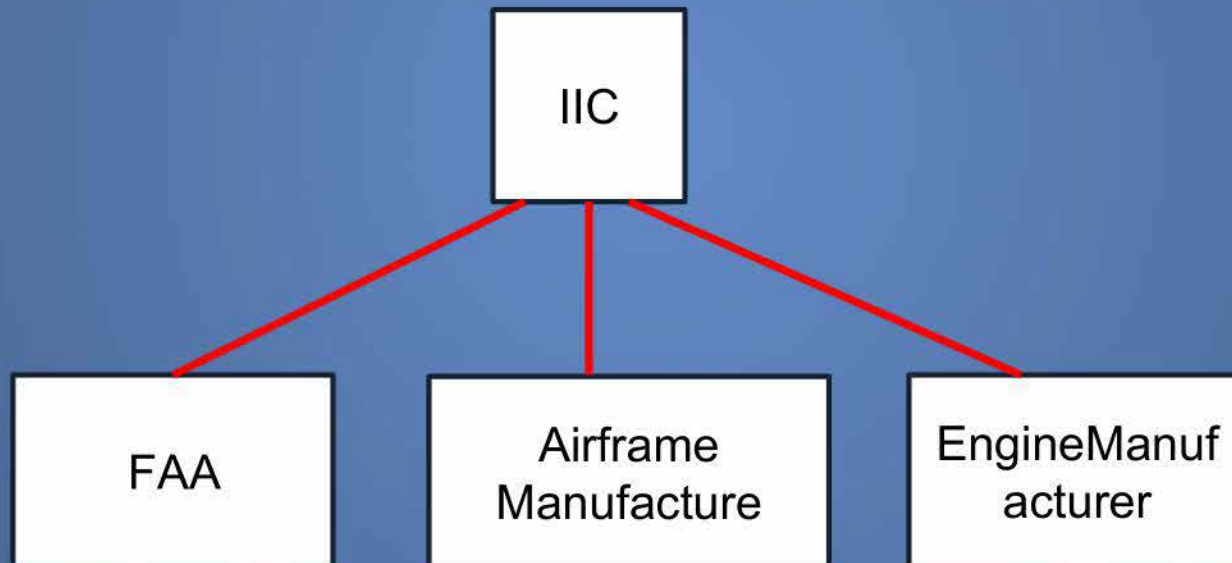
# Organizational Meeting

- ◆ Approve official observers  
Review rules of conduct of the investigation  
Review on-site safety precautions  
Identify accredited representatives and advisors  
Establish and organize groups

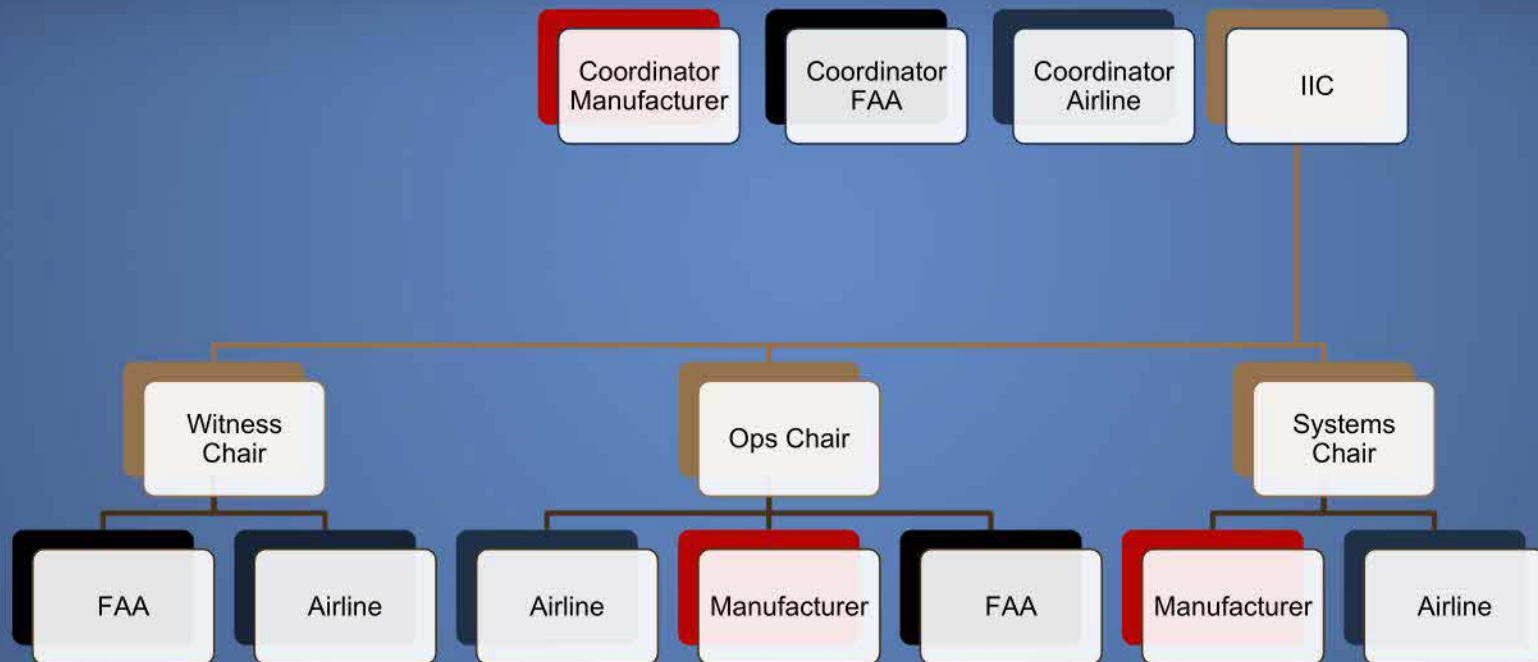




# On Scene Organization Chart



# On Scene Organization Chart







## Composition of Investigative Team

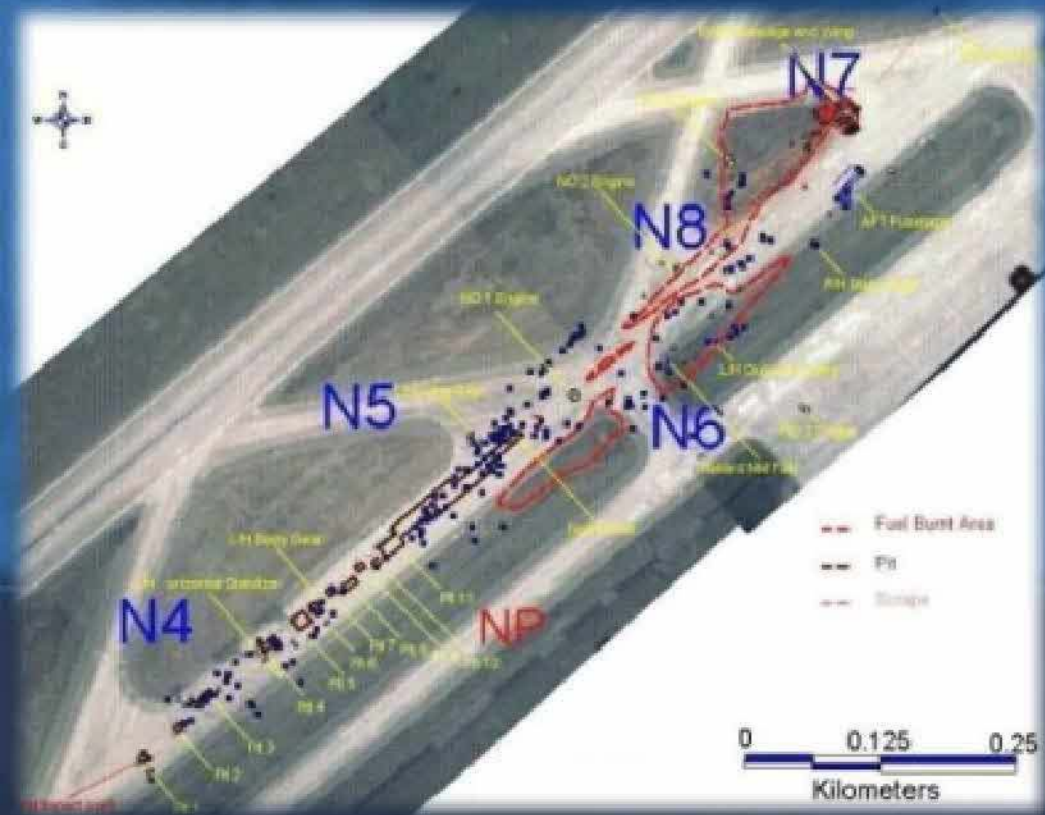
The on-scene investigative team typically consists of groups in the following disciplines:

◆ Structures



# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Structures







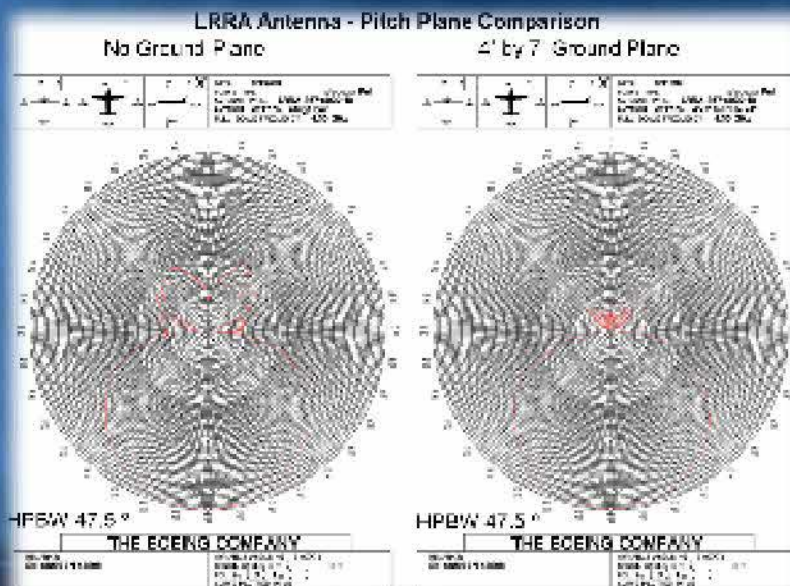
# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Systems



# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Systems







# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Powerplants





# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Powerplants





# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Maintenance Records

### MAINTENANCE & ENGINEERING

## Major Repair Tracking

#### Major Repairs

Add a Repair

Review Repairs

#### EA Log

Get a New EA ID

Review Log

#### Reports

DTE Report

#### FCBS Lists

B737

B757

B767

B777

MD80

#### FCAS Lists

B737

B757

#### Review Major Repairs

MRT #	AC	Date	Description	Location	Damage Type	Repair Type	Status	DTE
025843	5CS	4/16/10	Doubler External	L/H fuselage St...	Impact/Accident	New	Active	OPEN
025207	5CS	3/12/10	Other	LW and RW upper...	Corrosion	New	Active	CLOSED
025144	5CS	3/9/10	Splice Repair	STA 700 at LBL ...	Crack	New	Active	CLOSED
025142	5CS	5/27/93	Other	"Void" Invalid...	Unknown	Existing	Removed	NOTREQUIRED
014760	5CS	8/20/08	Splice Repair	str 24L sta 166...	Corrosion	New	Active	OPEN
014671	5CS	8/14/08	Part Replacement	cabin A zone #2...	Corrosion	New	Active	NOTREQUIRED
014670	5CS	8/14/08	Part Replacement	A zone #1 seat ...	Corrosion	New	Active	NOTREQUIRED
014668	5CS	8/14/08	Doubler External	station 1720 LB...	Corrosion	New	Active	NOTREQUIRED
014648	5CS	8/13/08	Doubler External	station 1720 RB...	Corrosion	New	Active	NOTREQUIRED
014646	5CS	8/13/08	Doubler External	station 1720 LB...	Corrosion	New	Active	NOTREQUIRED
007668	5CS	9/24/07	Other	R/H Winglet Ins...	NotBlueprint	New	Active	CLOSED
007667	5CS	9/24/07	Other	L/H Winglet Ins...	NotBlueprint	New	Active	CLOSED
005476	5CS	8/14/00	Part Reinforcement	STA 1825 S6R ha...	NotBlueprint	Existing	Active	TBD
005477	5CS	8/11/00	Part Reinforcement	Floor beam STA ...	Corrosion	Existing	Active	CLOSED
005476	5CS	8/11/00	Part Reinforcement	Floor beam STA ...	Corrosion	Existing	Active	CLOSED
005475	5CS	8/11/00	Other	RH strut drier	Minor	Existing	Active	CLOSED



# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Operations







# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Operations

**Interview:** Todd Wesley Brann  
**Date/Time:** Dec. 30, 2010; 1700 EST  
**Location:** Via telephone; JAC Airport conference room  
**Present:** Roger Cox, Katherine Wilson – NTSB; Thomas Lange – Boeing; Robert Hendrickson – FAA; John David – APA (Allied Pilots Association; Head of Accident Investigation; First Officer)  
**Represented by:** Ray Duke - APA

During the interview First Officer (FO) Brann stated the following:

His current position was First Officer B757/767 domestic operations. He was 48 years old and his date of birth was ----- . His date of hire at American Airlines (AA) was January 16, 1992. He had flown the B757/767 about 5.5 years (6 years as of May 2011), and he had about 3500 hours on the airplane. He held an ATP and airplane multi engine land certificates and a type rating on the B757/767. The limitations section stated B757/767 circling VMC only and B757/767 limited to FAR 121.543 for operations at AA. He had about 11,800 hours total pilot flight time, including 10,000 at AA and 1,800 in the USAF. He also had about 1,800 hours of flight engineer time in the B-727 and DC-10. He did not have any recent leave or absence from flying that might have affected his currency to fly the 757.

He had flown to Jackson Hole (JAC) since mid-December 2010 with the incident captain. The incident landing was his 4<sup>th</sup> time into the airport since mid-December and he had also flown into JAC a few months previously. He said flying into JAC in the winter, they dealt with slippery runway conditions, airplane loads were full and they had to be careful of takeoff and landing weights, the high elevation and the "slippery airport". He said the airport was a high emphasis airport and they had a lot more than normal to deal with; they had to be on their toes and be thinking of everything to get in and out of there safely. He said it was normal to start planning

### Crew Duties

#### General

Normally, crew duties are divided between the Captain and First Officer during ground operations; and between Pilot-Flying and Pilot-Monitoring in flight. Although crew duties are divided, each pilot should always maintain an awareness of the other pilot's activities.

Crew duties are assigned to each crewmember so that maximum crew coordination and efficiency may be maintained regardless of changes in loadings.

Pre-flight inspection will normally be accomplished by the First Officer on international flights. However, at the Captain's discretion, the pre-flight inspection may be accomplished by any pilot individually, or may be shared between the pilots.

The concern of one pilot will be directed primarily to the control of the airplane. The Captain will designate which pilot is responsible for flying the airplane and that pilot will not perform any duties which could or would detract from this primary responsibility.

When a particular procedure specifies otherwise, whenever the Pilot-Flying Pilot is to transfer control of the airplane to the Pilot-Monitoring, the Pilot-Flying Pilot will state to the Pilot-Monitoring – "You have the airplane." The Pilot-Monitoring, after taking control of the airplane, will state – "I have the airplane," indicating that the transfer of control has taken place.

In general practice, the Pilot-Monitoring will normally accomplish certain duties such as handling of flaps, gear, radio communications, etc.

The First Officer will normally not make gear or flap configuration changes without first obtaining the Captain's concurrence.

When the fuel panel is set up for crossfeed and it becomes necessary for either pilot to leave the cockpit, a tank-to-engine configuration shall be established before either pilot's return.

#### Procedures Checklist

The Standard Procedures Checklist is used to ensure that all important safety

# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Survival Factors







# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Airports





# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Airports







# Composition of Investigative Team

◆ ATC





## Composition of Investigative Team

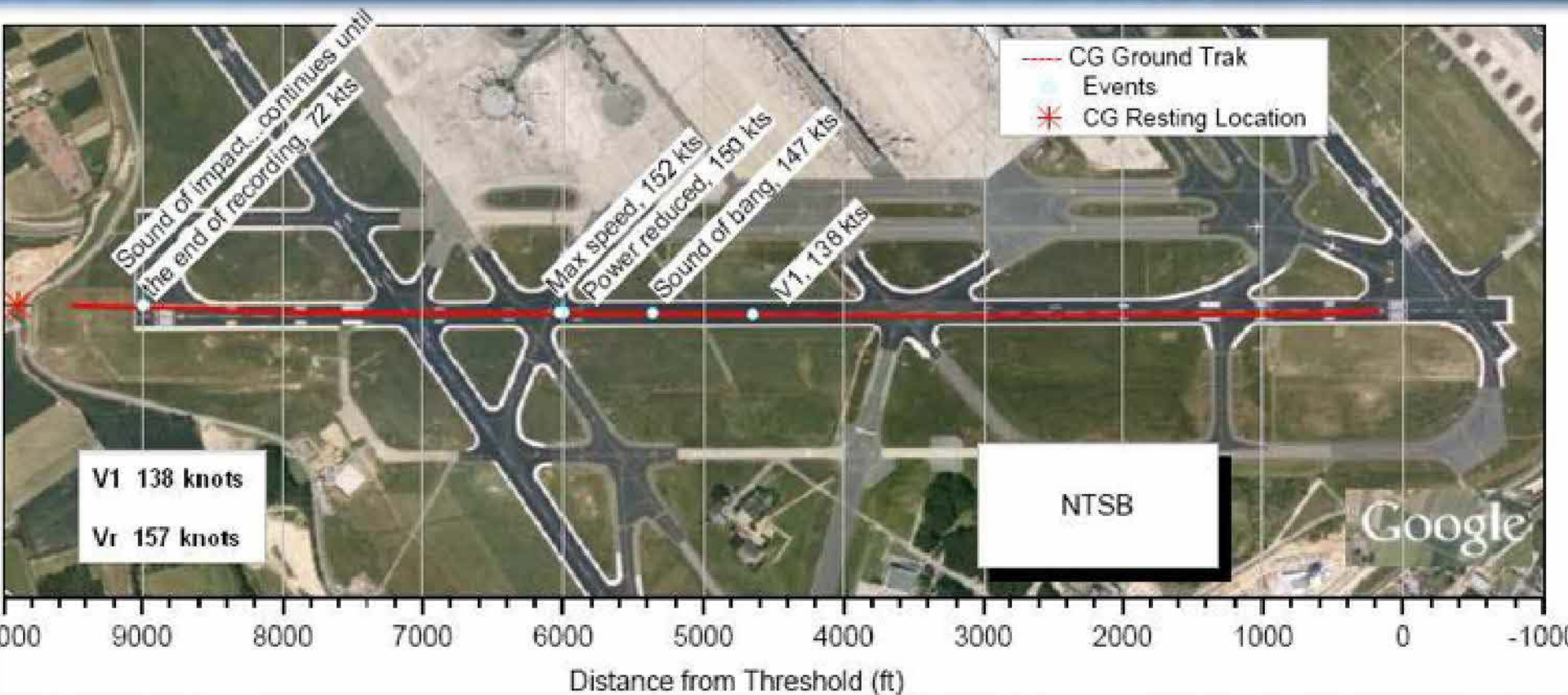
### ◆ Airplane Performance





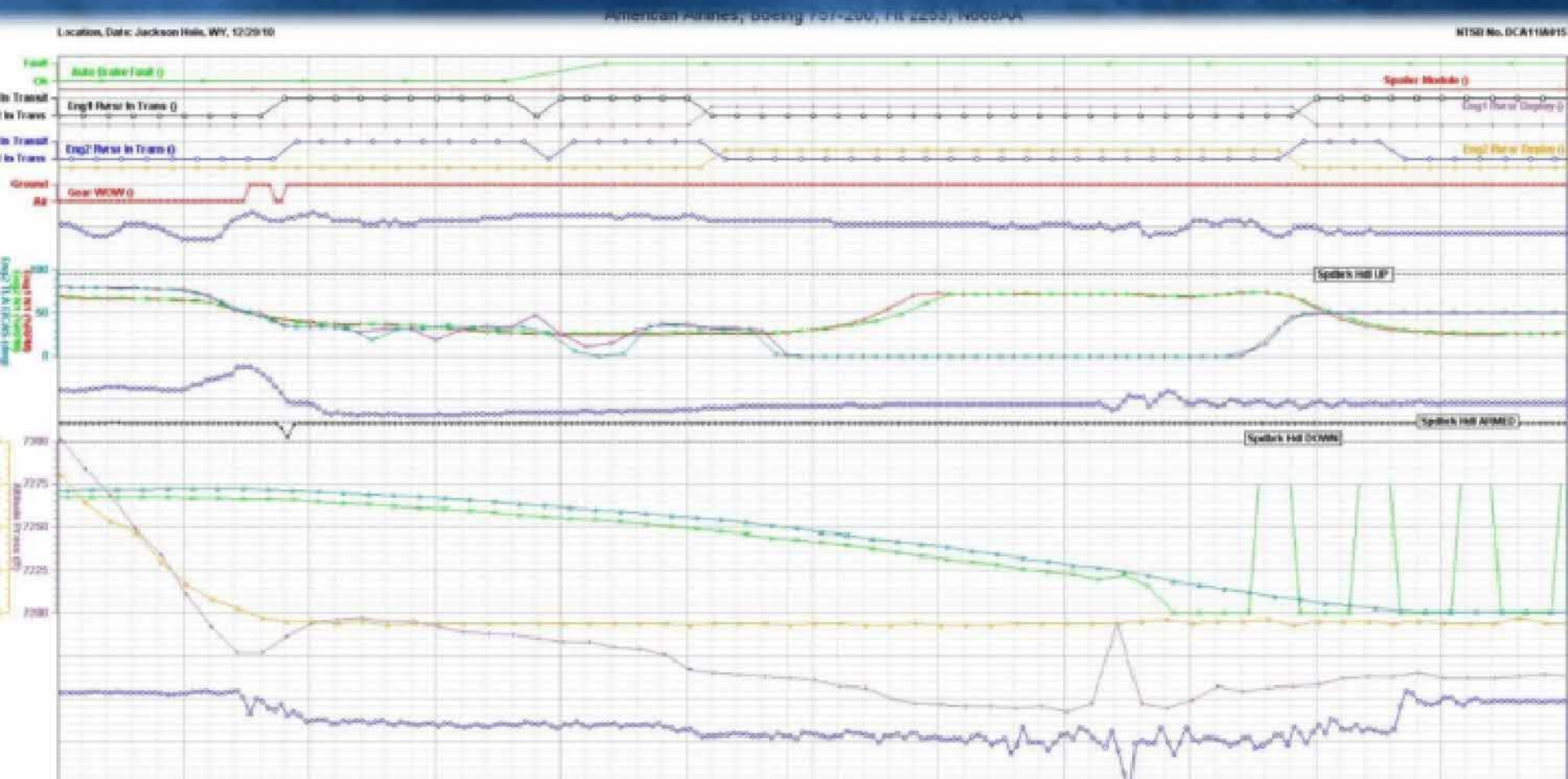
# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Airplane Performance



# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Flight Data Recorder







# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Cockpit Voice Recorder

<u>TIME and SOURCE</u>	<u>INTRA-AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATION CONTENT</u>	<u>TIME and SOURCE</u>	<u>AIR-GROUND COMMUNICATION CONTENT</u>
11:31:12.8 HOT-1	there's the turn.		
11:31:18.0 HOT-2	come'n inside of QUIRT I got the localizer thank you ninety seven hundred feet please.		
11:31:20.4 HOT-1	altitude capture.		
11:31:23.9 HOT-1	ninety seven.		
11:31:24.8 HOT-2	ninety seven.		
11:31:32.0 HOT-2	and approach is armed.		
11:31:33.9 HOT-1	*kay good.		
		11:31:36.4 RDO-1	Jackson ah tower American twenty two fifty three is at QUIRT.
		11:31:42.1 TWR	American twenty two fifty three Jackson tower report FAPMO.

# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ Meteorology

### Surface Observations

Jackson Hole Airport (KJAC) in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, was equipped with a Weather Observing System-3 (AWOS-3). The following reports were issued by an official weather observer who was logged into the AWOS-3 system.

METAR KJAC 291355Z 23014KT 3/4SM OVC012 M05/M07 A29

ECI KJAC 291441Z 22012KT 1/2SM SN OVC010 M05/M07 A2

PTAR KJAC 291451Z 22013KT 1/4SM SN OVC008 M05/M07

ECI KJAC 291545Z 22013KT 1SM -SN OVC010 M05/M07 A2

PTAR KJAC 291555Z 21013KT 3/4SM -SN OVC010 M05/M07

PTAR KJAC 291656Z 22011KT 3/4SM -SN BKN004 OVC010 M

ECI KJAC 291725Z 23009KT 1/2SM SN BKN004 OVC010 M0

PTAR KJAC 291751Z 22007KT 3/4SM -SN BKN004 OVC010 M0  
A2915

ECI KJAC 291843Z 24010KT 1SM -SN BKN004 OVC019 M0

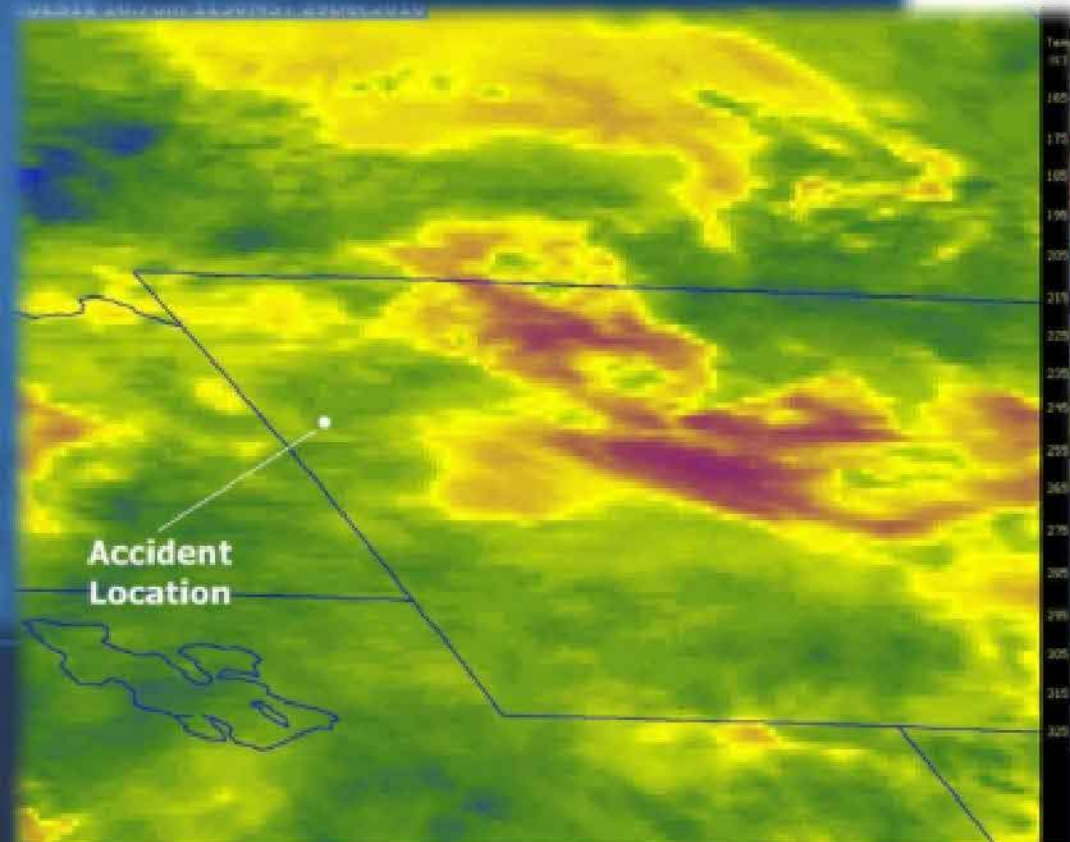


Figure 3 – GOES-11 (10.7um) scan at 1130 MST. Color-enhanced



# Composition of Investigative Team

## ◆ MATERIALS LABORATORY

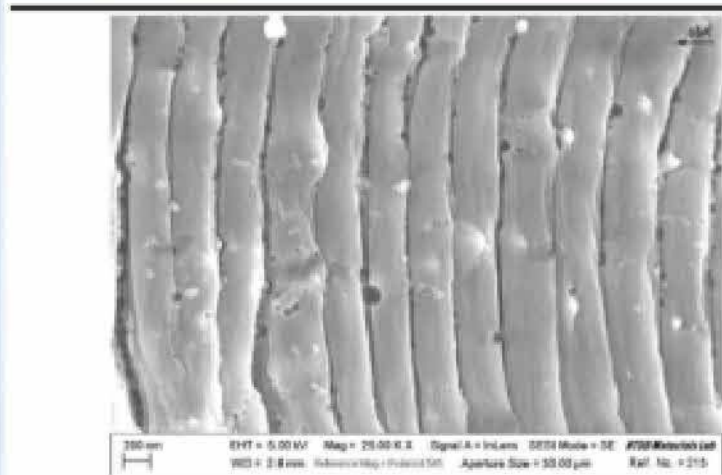
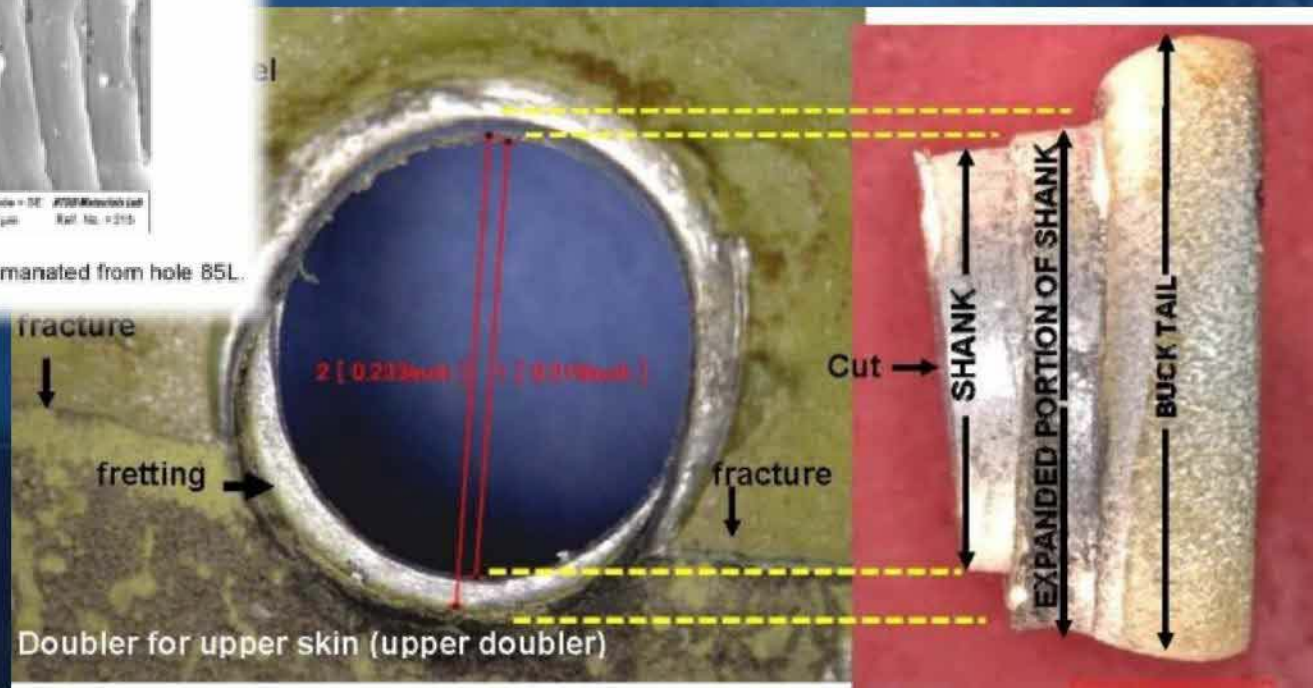


Figure 9. Photograph of typical fatigue striations that emanated from hole 85L.



# Composition of Investigative Team



**Other potential groups:**  
**Human Factors**      **Radar**  
**data**   **Maintenance records**  
**Hazmat**





# Composition of Investigative Team



**Other specialized groups  
are formed as necessary:**

**Human performance**

**Hazardous materials**

**Fire/explosion**

**Witness interviews**





# Composition of Groups

- ◆ **Group chairman** FAA  
(entitled by  
law) Technically  
qualified party  
members Advisors to  
accredited  
representative team





# Group Process

- ◆ Groups develop a factual account of the on-scene findings – and document in field notes Groups work very closely under the direction of the group chairmen -- and remain intact for the duration of the investigation (on-scene 7-20 days and follow-up usually not less than 6 months)







# Progress Meetings

- ◆ At the end of each day, a progress meeting is held, led by the IIC and attended by all members of the investigative team. No one other than the investigative team may attend these meetings. At the meeting, group chairmen summarize their findings from the day and present their plans for the next day. Factual information reported at the daily progress meeting is summarized and reported to families and media by the Board Member, IIC, or public affairs specialist on scene.







# Press Briefings



- ◆ **Factual information is reported to the media daily in briefings** The NTSB Board Member or IIC are the sole spokespersons for the investigation







# Press Briefings

- ◆ Parties are prohibited from speaking to the media regarding the investigation and may be removed from the investigation for doing so

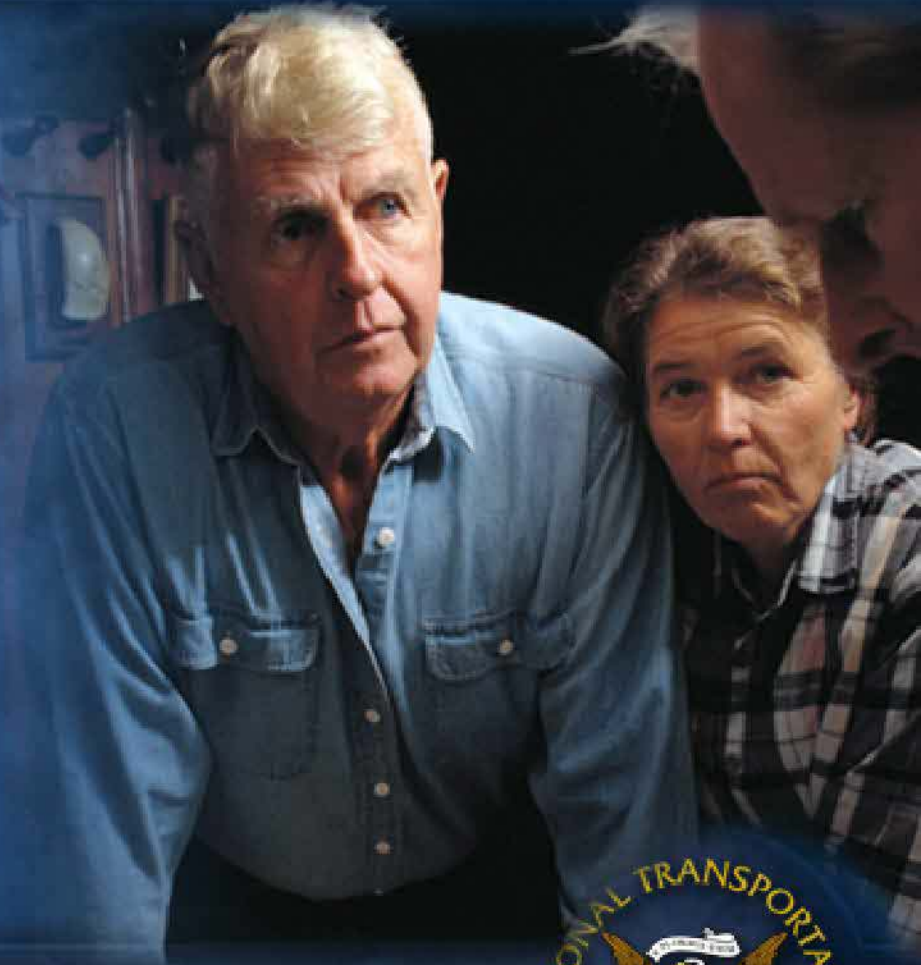






# Family Briefings

- ◆ **Factual information is provided to the families by the Board Member, the IIC or the Transportation Disaster Assistance staff representative prior to the media briefing**





# Completion of On-Scene Phase

- ◆ Before being released from the scene, all group members must: Assist in the completion of field notes of the evidence gathered on-scene Sign the field notes No group member is released until approved by the IIC

National Transportation Safety Board  
Office of Aviation Safety  
Washington, DC 20594

August 30, 2006

## AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL GROUP FIELD NOTES

DCA06MA064

### A. AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

Location: Lexington-Blue Grass Airport (LEX), Lexington, Kentucky  
Operator: Comair flight 5191 (COM5191)<sup>1</sup>  
Date: August 27, 2006  
Time: 0607 Eastern Daylight Time (1007 UTC)<sup>2</sup>  
Aircraft: N431CA, CRJ-100

### B. ATC GROUP

Chairman: Hilton Hall, NTSB  
Washington, DC

Sandra L. Rowlett, NTSB  
Washington, DC

Joe Mantello, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)  
Washington, DC

Ken McConahay, National Air Traffic Controller's Association (NATCA)  
Atlanta, Georgia

### C. SUMMARY

### D. IN-BRIEF

On August 28, 2006, the ATC Group met at the LEX Air Traffic Control Tower and Deborah Ramsdell, ATO-S; Scott Guetzko, ATO-S; Mark Baylens, AGC-400; Paul AJO-2E1; Daryl Collins, Cincinnati Hub Manager; Duft Ortmann, LEX ATC Manager.





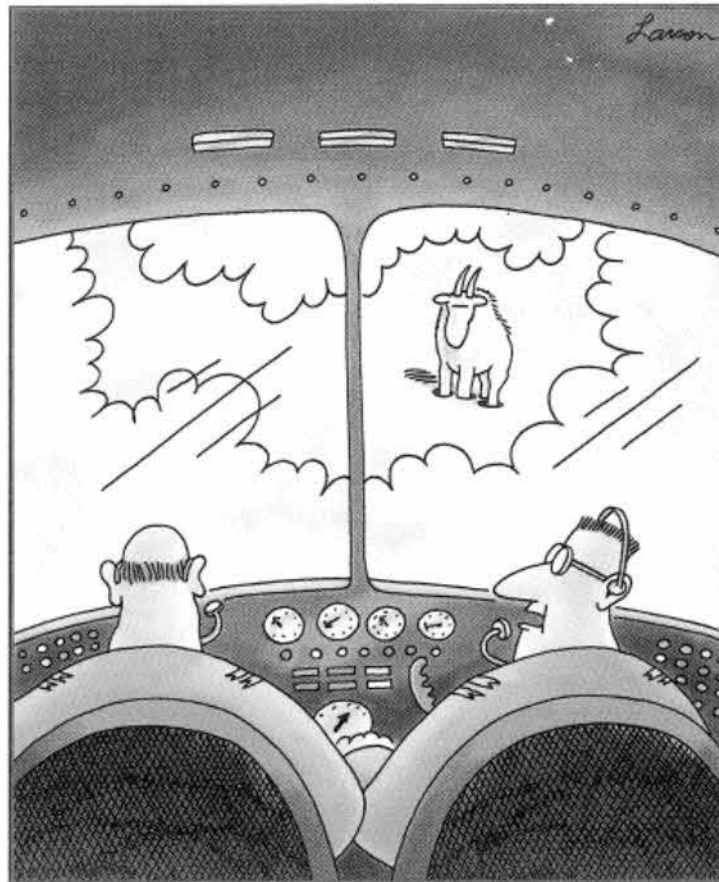
# Law Enforcement



- ◆ FBI responds routinely  
Shares information with teamIf NTSB investigators suspect any foul play, it is brought to the immediate attention of FBIIf circumstances reasonably indicate that an accident may have been caused by an intentional criminal act, FBI assumes the lead in the investigation and NTSB provides technical support as requested (formal agreement between NTSB Chairman and Attorney General)



# ANY QUESTIONS?



"Say ... what's a mountain goat doing way up here in a cloud bank?"







# **Post On-Scene Investigation and Report Preparation**



## Group Activities

**Additional investigative work continues after the on-scene phase. This work is carried out at the NTSB laboratory, airline or manufacturer, and independent testing facilities. Examples include:**

- ◆ **Engine tear-downs**
- ◆ **Component testing**
- ◆ **Simulator studies**



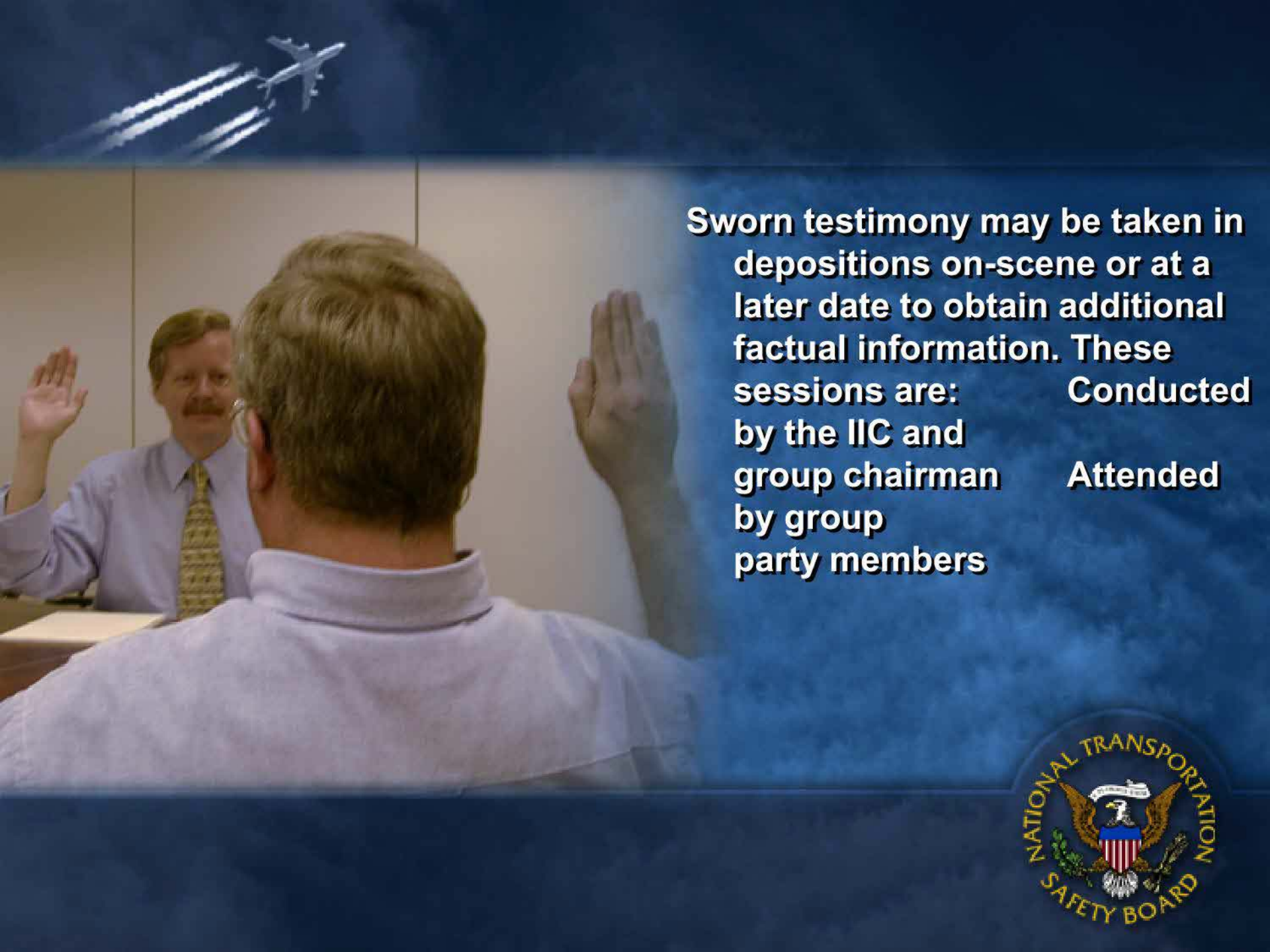




## Group Activities

**Off-scene group work is carried out  
under the same rules and procedures  
as on-scene**



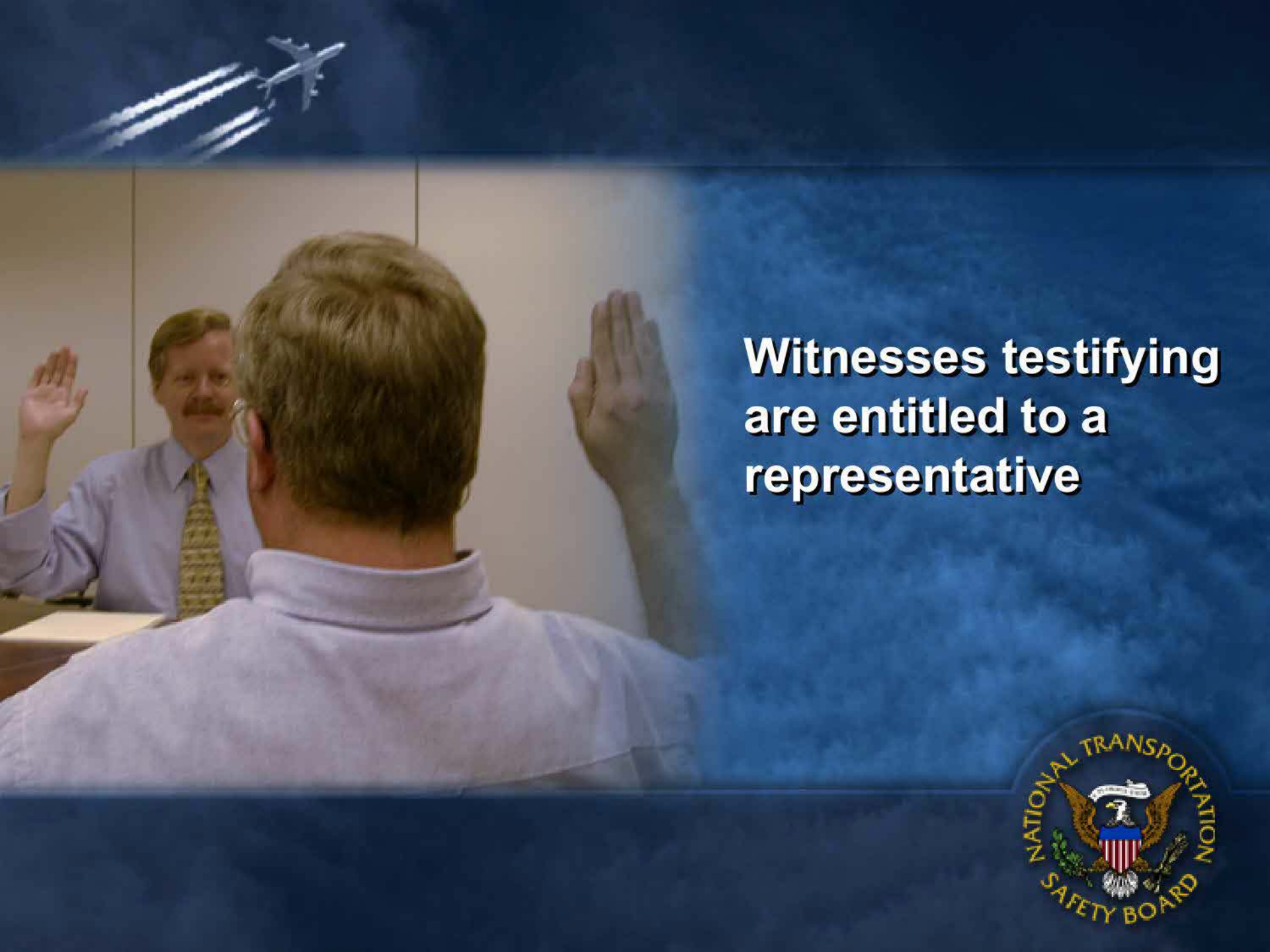


**Sworn testimony may be taken in depositions on-scene or at a later date to obtain additional factual information. These sessions are:**

<b>Conducted</b>
<b>by the IIC and</b>
<b>group chairman</b>
<b>Attended</b>
<b>by group</b>
<b>party members</b>







**Witnesses testifying  
are entitled to a  
representative**





Docket No. SA - 816

Exhibit No. 9A

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SYSTEMS GROUP CHAIRMAN'S  
FACTUAL REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

**Upon completion of all  
investigative work, the  
group chairman's factual  
report is distributed to all  
group members for  
review and comments**







# Public Hearing

**Public hearings are normally convened for major catastrophic, high public interest accidents involving complex national safety issues. The full Board votes on staff recommendations to convene or not to convene a public hearing**







# Public Hearing

The Board holds an investigative hearing to: Gather testimony to expand on issues identified in the investigation, and Publicly present the findings to date to demonstrate that a complete, open, and objective investigation is being conducted







# Public Hearing Participants

**Public hearings include:**  
An NTSB Board Member who serves as the presiding officer  
A Board of Inquiry composed of senior NTSB managers  
A technical panel composed of IIC and group chairmen





# Public Hearing Participants

**Public hearings include:** Parties designated by the Chairman of the Board of Inquiry (not necessarily the same parties that were on-scene) Accredited representative(s) Witnesses







# Conduct of a Public Hearing

Witnesses are questioned in this order by a: Technical panel  
Party spokesmen Board of Inquiry  
A second round of clarification questions may be permitted in the same order





# Technical Review

**All parties are encouraged to attend a technical review of the factual record of the accident. The purpose of the meeting is to:**

- Ensure the accuracy of the factual record**
- Review the need for additional investigative work**
- Discuss further avenues of investigative activities regarding the scope and depth of the investigation**







## **Party Submissions**

**Parties are encouraged to submit their own analysis and probable cause of the accident as well as proposed recommendations**





# Preparation of the Final Report

**Parties do not participate in the preparation of the final report; however,**

- ◆ **Party submissions are reviewed by staff before preparation of the final report For investigations conducted under Annex 13 to ICAO, the foreign accredited representative receives a copy of the draft final report for comment**







# Draft Final Report

**A draft final report and party submissions are reviewed and approved by the five Board Members**

**John J. Goglia**  
Member

**Carol Carmody**  
Acting Chairman

**John Hemmenschmidt**  
Member

**George W. Black Jr.**  
Member





# Board Meeting

- ◆ The Board reviews and discusses the draft final report with staff in a public meeting. Major issues are explored at length. The final report, conclusions, probable cause and recommendations are adopted.







# Safety Recommendations

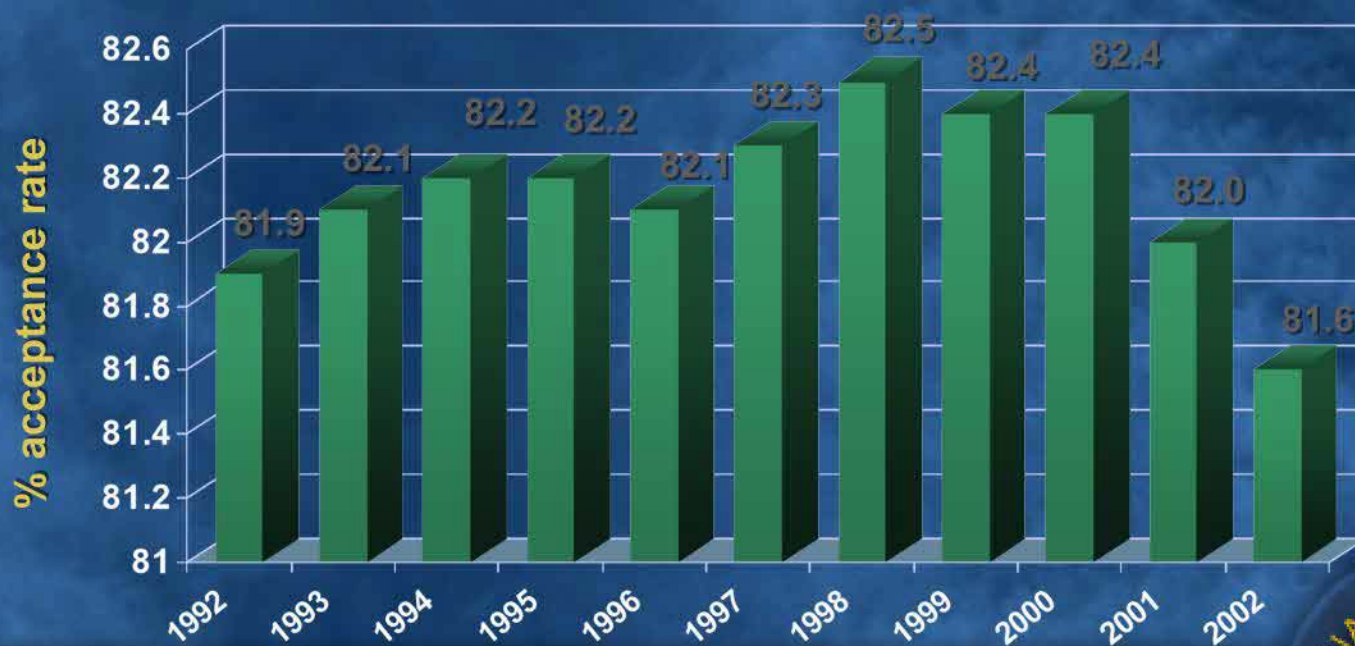
- ◆ Are the major product of the Safety Board  
Designates the party or person expected to take action  
Describes the action the Board recommends  
States the safety need to be satisfied  
Result in immeasurable safety improvements that save lives, reduce injuries, cut economic losses and eliminate the emotional trauma of an accident





# Acceptance Rates by Year

## All Modes







# Petition for Reconsideration

If a party chooses to request a reconsideration of the report, conclusions, and probable cause as adopted by the Board, they may file a petition for reconsideration if they can: Provide new evidence Demonstrate an analysis not previously considered





# **Major Investigations**

## **Party Process**





# The Party Process

- ◆ The Safety Board investigates more than 2,000 aviation accidents and incidents a year and about 500 rail, highway, marine and pipeline accidents. With only about 400 employees, the NTSB accomplishes this task by leveraging its resources and designating parties to its investigations.





# The Party Process

- ◆ NTSB regulations state, in part, that “parties shall be limited to Those persons, government agencies, companies and associations whose employees, functions, activities or products were involved in the accident or incident, and...

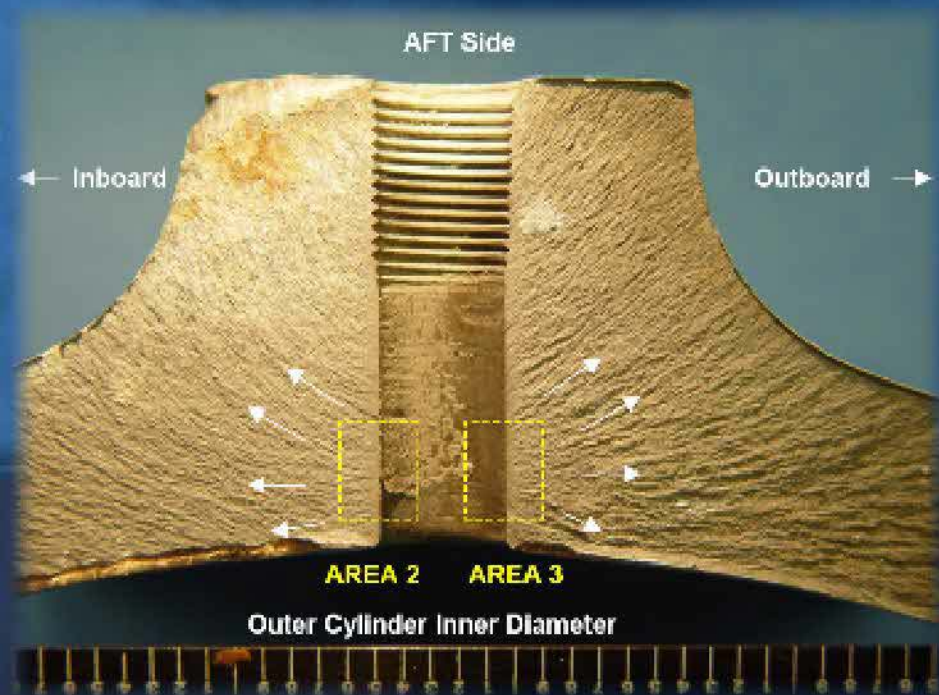




# The Party Process



*...who can provide  
suitable qualified  
technical personnel to  
actively to assist in the  
field investigation”*





# The Party Process

- ◆ The IIC designates parties on scene. The participation of accredited representatives from foreign countries is established under the provisions of ICAO Annex 13.





# The Party Process

- ◆ The NTSB has complete discretion over which organizations it designates as parties, except FAA, which is a party by law



# The Party Process

- ◆ Typically, parties include:  
FAA (by law)  
Air carrier  
Airframe manufacturer  
Engine manufacturer





# The Party Process

◆ Major component manufacturer  
Pilot, ATC, maintenance and flight attendant union representatives  
Local airport and law enforcement





# The Party Process

- ◆ **Absolutely no news media, company media relations, individuals occupying legal positions or insurance personnel are permitted to participate in any phase of the investigation, including meetings**







# Who to Send to an Accident

- ◆ Parties to an investigation should send the following:  
Party coordinator/  
spokesperson  
Employees with expertise in the technical areas





## Party Coordinator

- ◆ Should not be assigned to a groupSupervises the group members from his/her organizationWorks directly to support the IIC








# Party Coordinator

- ◆ **Must be able to speak for and make decisions for the organization they represent****Remains near or in contact with the IIC/command center at all times****Is responsible for ensuring that NTSB rules are followed**

# Party Form

- ◆ All party members are required to sign a form titled “statement of party representatives to NTSB investigations” which specifies that all members of their organization have read the applicable rules and regulations governing the investigation and agree to abide by them.



NTSB Investigation No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Accident: \_\_\_\_\_  
Accident Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION OF PARTY REPRESENTATIVE<sup>1</sup>**

I acknowledge that I am participating in the above-referenced accident or incident investigation, on behalf of my employer who has been named a party to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) safety investigation, the purpose of providing technical assistance to the NTSB's evidence documentation and fact-finding activities. I understand that as a party participant, I and my organization shall be responsive to the direction of NTSB personnel and may be expelled from the investigation for conduct that is prejudicial to the investigation or inconsistent with NTSB policies or instructions. No information pertaining to the accident, or in any manner relevant to the investigation, may be withheld from the NTSB by any party or party participant.

I further acknowledge that I have familiarized myself with the attached copies of the NTSB Accident/Incident Investigation Procedures (49 C.F.R. Part 831) and "Information and Guidance for Parties to NTSB Accident and Incident Investigations," and will comply, and ensure all employees and representatives of my organization will comply, with these requirements. This includes, but is not limited to, the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §§ 831.11 and 831.13, which, respectively, specify certain criteria for participation in NTSB investigations and limitations on the dissemination of investigation information.

A party representative may occupy a legal position or be a person who also represents claimants or insurers. I certify that my participation is not on behalf of either claimants or insurers, and that, although factual information obtained as a result of participating in the NTSB investigation may ultimately be used in litigation (or the appropriate forum), and in a manner that is not inconsistent with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. § 831.13 and 49 U.S.C. § 1154, my participation is to assist the NTSB safety investigation and not for the purposes of preparing for litigation. I also certify that, after the NTSB IIC releases the parties and party participants from the restrictions on dissemination of investigative information specified in 49 C.F.R. § 831.13, neither I nor my party organization will in any way assert in civil litigation arising out of the accident any claim of privilege for information or records received as a result of my participation in the NTSB investigation.

I further acknowledge my responsibility to ensure that the NTSB is informed in writing, immediately and with specificity, when information or records provided to the NTSB, in any format, or other investigative activities, are subject to United States export controls, classification or licensing requirements, or sanctions restrictions. Similarly, commercially sensitive and/or proprietary material provided to the NTSB investigation should be clearly marked in accordance with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. Part 831.6.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Title







# Party Specialists



- ◆ **Must be a full-time employee of the party (no consultants) Must possess needed expertise in group subject**



# Party Specialists



05.28.2008 12.21

- ◆ **Work under direct supervision of the group chairman** Must abide by the NTSB's rules and procedures







# Party Specialists



- ◆ **No independent investigations by parties or group members are permitted. No information will be withheld from the NTSB.**





# What to Prepare For

- ◆ Upon a launch to a major investigation, group team members should be prepared for: Extended work hours lasting 7 to 21 days Travel to off-site locations for follow-up group activities (such as tear down activities)







# What to Prepare For

- Potential for extreme environmental, physical and psychological stress while on-site
- “Team concept” cooperation and spirit
- Once a specialist is assigned to a group, substitutions are highly discouraged







# Protective Measures

- ◆ Any party specialist who will participate in wreckage retrieval should have current tetanus and hepatitis-B inoculations. Federal regulations require investigators to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) while on scene to protect against bloodborne pathogens like hepatitis-B and HIV. Party members must supply their own PPE.







# Lines of Authority for Conflict Resolution

- ◆ Director, Office of Aviation Safety
- IIC – accredited representative
- Party coordinator
- Group chairman
- Group member



08.27.2006 13:20



# Group Representation



- ◆ Group members are responsible for pointing out discrepancies in factual reports. Issues regarding the scope of the investigation, findings or the content of factual notes should be resolved with the group chairman. If issues cannot be resolved at this level, the party coordinator and group chairman should apprise the IIC for resolution.







# Group Representation

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
Office of Aviation Safety  
Washington, DC 20594

## SURVIVAL FACTORS GROUP CHAIRMAN'S FACTUAL REPORT

December 21, 2006

### ACCIDENT

Operator : Comair, Inc.  
Aircraft : Bombardier CL-600-2B19 [N431CA]  
Location : Lexington, KY  
Date : August 27, 2006  
Time : 0609 Eastern Daylight Time<sup>1</sup>  
NTSB # : DCA06MA064

### SURVIVAL FACTORS GROUP<sup>2</sup>

Group Chairman : Jason T. Fedok  
National Transportation Safety Board  
Washington, DC

Member : Mark H. George  
National Transportation Safety Board  
Washington, DC

Member : Paul S. Nelson  
Air Line Pilots Association  
Hebron, KY

Member : D. Scott Lanter  
Blue Grass Airport

- ◆ If a satisfactory resolution is not forthcoming, the coordinator should request that the IIC raise the issue to the chief, major investigations division for resolutionA full set of all final group chairman's factual reports with attachments are provided to party coordinators upon completion





# Discussions About the Investigation

◆ Parties and group members are prohibited from speaking about investigative findings with the news media or public. Group members should advise their coordinators of information derived from the investigation, but should refrain from speculating or analyzing unsubstantiated information.







# Field Notes

- ◆ All group members assist in documenting the factual data gathered on-sceneSign the field notesAnnotate any differences

National Transportation Safety Board  
Office of Aviation Safety  
Washington, DC 20594

August 30, 2006

**AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL GROUP FIELD NOTES**  
DCA06MA064

**A. AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT**

**Location:** Lexington-Blue Grass Airport (LEX), Lexington, Kentucky  
**Operator:** Comair flight 5191 (COM5191)<sup>1</sup>  
**Date:** August 27, 2006  
**Time:** 0607 Eastern Daylight Time (1007 UTC)<sup>2</sup>  
**Aircraft:** N431CA, CRJ-100

**B. ATC GROUP**

**Chairman:** Hilton Hall, NTSB  
Washington, DC

Sandra L. Rowlett, NTSB  
Washington, DC

Joe Mantello, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)  
Washington, DC

Ken McConahay, National Air Traffic Controller's Association (NATCA)  
Atlanta, Georgia

**C. SUMMARY**

**D. IN-BRIEF**

On August 28, 2006, the ATC Group met at the LEX Air Traffic Control Tower and Deborah Ramsdell, ATO-S; Scott Guetzko, ATO-S; Mark Baylens, AGC-400; Paul AJO-2E1; Daryl Collins, Cincinnati Hub Manager; Duft Ortmann, LEX ATC Manager.



# Post On-Scene Phase

- ◆ Parties in good standing are invited to participate in several ways after the on-scene phase. They will be asked to participate in:
  - Scheduled hearings held in furtherance of the investigation
  - Follow-up tests, interviews or studies initiated by their group
  - The technical review of the completeness of the factual portion of the investigation







# Submissions & Final Report



Submission of the  
Air Line Pilots Association, International  
to the  
National Transportation Safety Board  
Regarding the Incident Involving

Northwest Flight 188  
A320  
DCA10IA001  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

- ◆ Parties do not participate in the analysis of the draft final report, however Parties can contribute to the analytical process by submitting their own findings, recommendations and probable cause based on the factual reports





# Submissions & Final Report

Attempted Takeoff From Wrong Runway  
Comair Flight 5191  
Bombardier CL-600-2B19, N431CA  
Lexington, Kentucky  
August 27, 2006



National  
Transportation  
Safety Board

ACCIDENT REPORT  
NTSB/AAR-0706  
FEB2007-810406

- ◆ These 'party submissions' become part of the public docket and are considered by staff and the Board Members before adoption of the final report by the Board





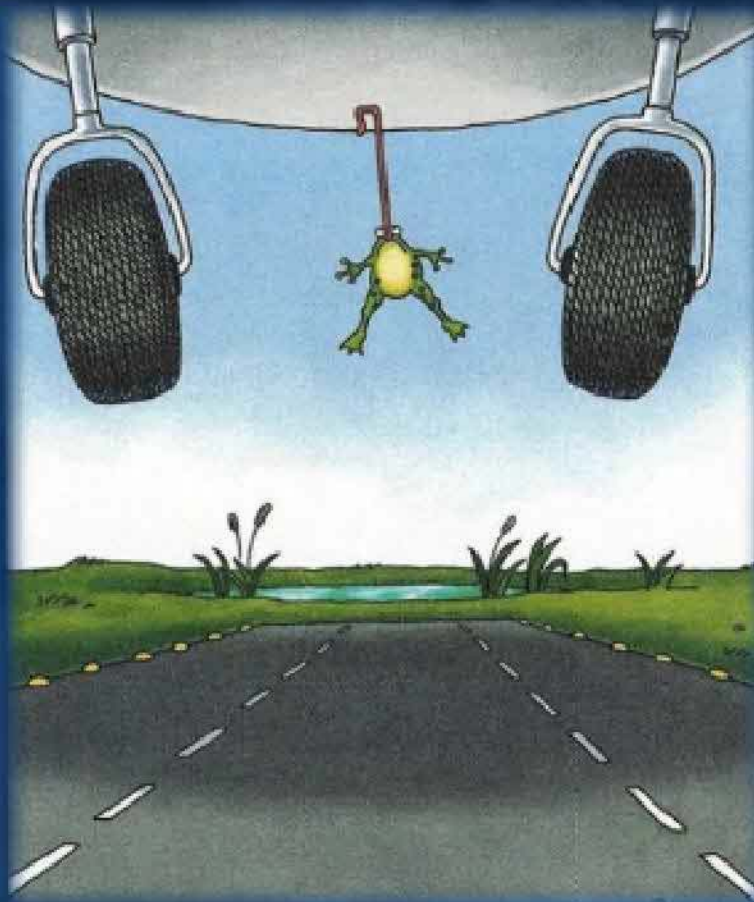
# Other Party Responsibilities

- ◆ Parties are encouraged to take immediate corrective action to prevent a similar accident if factual information uncovered during the investigation warrants such action. The party coordinator is expected to apprise the IIC of any such actions before they are taken





# ANY QUESTIONS?





# **NTSB RULES AND AUTHORITY FOR CONDUCTING AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS**

**Jim Rodriguez Office of General Counsel**



# HISTORY OF THE AGENCY

- In the beginning...Civil Aeronautics Board





# HISTORY OF THE AGENCY

- Congress establishes NTSB by statute Located within the DOT



# HISTORY OF THE AGENCY

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- **Independent Safety Board Act of 1974** Severed ties with DOT and all other m





# NTSB AUTHORITY

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**Title 49, United States Code Chapter 11 (49 U.S.C. §§ 1101 - 1155) and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations Parts 800-850**



# STRUCTURE OF THE NTSB BOARD

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- **The National Transportation Safety Board consists of 5 Members, appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Members serve 5-year staggered terms.**





# STRUCTURE OF THE NTSB BOARD

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- **2 Members are designated by the President to serve as Chairman and Vice Chairman. They each serve 2-year terms. The Chairman's nomination requires Senate confirmation.**



# TASKS OF THE BOARD

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- **Promote safety in transportation by:**
  - Investigating certain accidents**
  - Determining the facts, conditions, and circumstances of accidents**
  - Determining the probable cause of the accident**
  - Issuing transportation safety recommendations**
  - Conducting safety studies**





# TASKS OF THE BOARD

## (CONTINUED)

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- **Reviewing other agency action on appeal: Denials by the FAA Administrator of applications for airman certificates, & orders modifying, amending, suspending, or revoking certificates issued by DOT Secretary, or imposing civil penalties Decisions of US Coast Guard Commandant on appeals from orders of ALJs suspending, revoking, or denying mariner licenses, certificates, or documents**





# BACK TO INVESTIGATIONS...

- ... shall investigate or have investigated: Aircraft accidents Railroad accidents Major marine accidents
- clause





# AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD

The NTSB shall investigate  
involving civil aircraft  
a public aircraft other than  
Armed Forces or b





# THE PARTY SYSTEM

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**Parties to the investigation are limited to (1) those persons, government agencies, companies, and associations (2) whose employees, functions, activities, or products (3) were involved in the accident (4) AND who can provide suitable qualified technical personnel to actively assist in the investigation.**





# THE PARTY SYSTEM

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- Only the FAA is afforded the “right” to participate in aviation investigations Party representatives (except federal agencies) sign a “Certification of Party Representative,” or a “Statement of Party Representatives to NTSB Investigation”



# EXCLUDED FROM PARTY SYSTEM

- Specifically excluded are representatives of claimants or insurers and occupants of legal positions. IIC works with insurance personnel to:
  - Allow to establish a claim
  - Tell of investigative plans
  - Release wreckage with approval of owner (if possible)
  - Provide same factual info given to family and press





# OTHER AGENCIES AND NTSB

- **All covered federal agencies - not just law enforcement**  
**An investigation by the Board under para (1)(A)-(D) or (F) ... has priority over any investigation by another department, agency, or instrumentality of the US Govt. The Board shall provide for appropriate participation by other departments, agencies, or instrumentalities in the investigation. But those depts, etc, may not participate in the decision of the Board regarding the probable cause of the accident.**





# SUSPECTED CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

- Requires consultation between the Chairman and the US Attorney General If circumstances reasonably indicate an intentional criminal act, then the FBI takes the lead If a law enforcement agency suspects an intentional criminal act Then the NTSB preserves evidence of criminal act





# EXAMPLE

**Feb 18, 2010**  
**Pipe**  
**TX**  
**Which agency**  
**investigation?**





# LESS RECENT EXAMPLE

**Nov 12, 2001  
Beaumont  
587  
Which agency  
investigation? Why?**





# OTHER AGENCIES AND THE NTSB

- Other depts, agencies, or instrumentalities of the Govt may still have the authority to investigate an accident, or to obtain information from parties and from witnesses. Both the NTSB and those other governmental entities will ensure that appropriate information is exchanged in a timely manner.





# NOTIFICATION & REPORTING

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The operator shall immediately and by the most expeditious means available, notify the nearest NTSB field office when an aircraft accident or any listed incidents occur.





# NOTIFICATIONS AND REPORTING

- **Applicability**US registered aircraft anywhereForeign aircraft in US territories and possessionsIncludes certain public aircraft operations





# PUBLIC AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS

- **An aircraft: Used only for U.S. Government or Owned and operated, or exclusively leased for at least 90 continuous days, by a government of a State, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the U.S. Limited exception for Search and Rescue purposes May not be operated for a Commercial Purpose (with one limited exception) nor for carriage of passengers not associated with a governmental function.**





# DEFINITIONS: AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

- An occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which:  
Takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, and in which  
Any person suffers death or serious injury, OR  
in which  
The aircraft receives substantial damage



# MORE DEFINITIONS

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- **Fatal injury**Any injury which results in death within 30 days of the accident.**Serious injury**Requires hospitalization for >48 hrs, beginning w/in 7 days of the date injury received;**Fracture** of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes, or nose); **Severe hemorrhage**; nerve, muscle, or tendon damage;**2nd- or 3rd-degree burns**, or burns affecting >5% of the body surface;**Involves any internal organ.**





# DEFINITION: SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE

- **Damage or failure which: Adversely affects the structural strength, performance, or flight characteristics of the aircraft AND which Would normally require repair or replacement of the affected component**



# EXCLUSIONS TO SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE

- Engine failure or damage limited to an engine if only one engine fails or is damaged  
Bent fairings or cowling  
Dented skin  
Small punctured holes in the skin or fabric  
Ground damage to rotor or propeller blades  
Damage to landing gear, wheels, tires, flaps, engine accessories, brakes, or wingtips





# DEFINITION: INCIDENT

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- **An occurrence other than an accident associated with the operation of an aircraft, which affects or could affect the safety of operations**





# ENTRY AND INSPECTION

- **An officer or employee of the NTSB: On display of appropriate credentials and written notice of inspection authority, may enter property where a transportation accident has occurred or wreckage from the accident is located and do anything necessary to conduct an investigation; and During reasonable hours, may inspect any record, process, or information related to an accident or investigation in this chapter.**





# DEALING WITH INTERVIEWEES



# INTERVIEWEES

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- **Rights of interviewees** Any person interviewed by an authorized representative of the Board during the investigation, regardless of the form of the interview has the right to be accompanied, represented, or advised by an attorney or non-attorney representative.





# INTERVIEWEES

- The investigator cannot: Grant immunity from prosecution Assure confidentiality



However, a person may object to public disclosure of information and the Board may withhold it under an exemption to the FOIA if its release is found not to be in the public interest. 49 CFR 831.6(b).



# DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

- Most Information is publicly available  
Trade Secrets Act  
Voluntary Submissions of Information  
Cockpit Recordings and Transcripts



**'TRADE  
SECRET'**





# MISCELLANEOUS LEGAL PROVISIONS

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- Board Accident Reports may not be used or admitted into evidence in any civil action for damages (49 U.S.C. 1154(b); 49 C.F.R. §835.2)Factual Accident Reports may be admitted (49 C.F.R. §835.2)Board employees may testify once for all civil litigations (49 C.F.R. § 835.5)Scope limited to factual information; no opinion testimony (§ 835.3)Board employees may not appear in court for civil litigation (49 C.F.R. § 835.5)Testifying in criminal matters (49 C.F.R. § 835.10)





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