

IAOPA Welcomes Officers

Following the recent resignations of Craig Fuller – IAOPA President, and Andrew Andersen - IAOPA Vice President in the Pacific Region, a special IAOPA Nominations Committee was formed and met at the AOPA-US Summit in Ft. Worth, Texas, in preparation for selecting candidates for the two vacant positions. After extensive discussion, and soliciting input and confirmation from active IAOPA affiliates, we are proud to announce the following were nominated and duly elected to serve:

- Mark Baker, President
- Philip Reiss, Vice President, Pacific Region

Mark Baker and Philip Reiss will serve in their respective capacity for the current term expiring 31 December 2016.

UK to Examine GA Regulations

The government and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of the United Kingdom have announced plans to strip away unnecessary bureaucracy for the UK general aviation sector. Some of the proposed changes were suggested during the General Aviation Red Tape Challenge which found that the current regulatory regime is often impractical and too prescriptive. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/general-aviation-red-tape-challenge>.

The CAA is setting up a new GA Unit dedicated to more proportionate, effective regulations that supports and encourages a dynamic GA sector for the UK. The unit is expected to be in place by April 2014 and plans on publishing a detailed delivery plan for its full program of GA work. AOPA-UK and IAOPA Europe have been major participants in the process and will continue to work with the CAA in this process going forward. IAOPA salutes the CAA for this initiative and looks forward to working on the creation of a model on regulatory reform that will foster a better environment for general aviation worldwide.

IAOPA Affiliates - 2013 Dues Reminder

If your Association has not yet submitted its 2013 dues payment to IAOPA, please do so before the end of the year. As you know, IAOPA must function on a limited budget and requires membership dues from each affiliate organization in order to operate effectively, provide continuous representation at ICAO—as well as other aviation rulemaking authorities, and accomplish the goals we set forth for general aviation on a worldwide scale. Going into the New Year, IAOPA would like to report that all affiliates are contributing their fair share of dues, and in turn, wipe the slate clean of all dues in arrears for 2014.

AOPA-Australia President Appointed to Join Aviation Safety Regulation Review Panel

Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss recently announced an independent review of aviation safety regulation in

Australia. “This announcement delivers on one of the key commitments outlined in the Coalition's 2013 Policy for Aviation,” Mr. Truss said. “Australia has an enviable record in aviation safety—among the best in the world—which has been built on a strong regulatory system, forged over many years.”

In launching the review, Mr. Truss said aviation activity is expected to double in the next twenty years. The industry is a vital part of our economy and we must ensure it is supported by a regulatory system that delivers the highest levels of safety.

“Now is the right time to reassess how our safety regulatory system is placed in dealing with this dynamic and evolving sector. The independent review reinforces the Government's commitment to maintaining safety as the highest priority in aviation. “The review will be strategic in nature. It is about whether we are on the right track to meet future challenges and respond to growing demand in aviation.” The review is to be undertaken by a panel of leading aviation safety experts and will benchmark Australia's safety regulation against other leading countries.

Mr. David Forsyth AM, will Chair the review panel. Mr. Forsyth is a prominent figure in Australian aviation. He is the chair of Safeskiies Australia, former chair of Airservices Australia and has over 30 years of experience in safety management and aviation business. Mr. Forsyth will be joined by Mr. Don Spruston, former Director General of Civil Aviation at Transport Canada and former Director General of the International Business Aviation Council, and by Mr. Roger Whitefield, former Head of Safety at British Airways, former safety adviser to Qantas and former United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority board member. The panel will also be supported, as required, by specialist advisers. Mr. Truss has appointed Phillip Reiss to take particular responsibility to ensure that the concerns of general aviation and regional operators are well aired.

“I recognise that it is particularly difficult for the diverse general aviation sector to have its voice heard in a review like this and so I have asked Mr. Phillip Reiss, President of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association of Australia, to take a particular responsibility as a specialist adviser to ensure that the concerns of general aviation and regional operators are well aired. His experience will provide valuable insight and technical expertise to the panel.”

Mr. Truss indicated his confidence that the breadth and depth of expertise secured to conduct this review will ensure that a comprehensive and balanced perspective is reflected in the panel's findings.

Over the coming months, the review panel will undertake extensive industry and public consultation. Further details, including how to make a submission, will be available from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's website at: www.infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/asrr.

The review panel will provide its report to the Deputy Prime Minister in May 2014.

ICAO Establishes Aviation English Language Test Service

ICAO, in an effort to support the implementation of its Language Proficiency Requirements (LPR's), has established a mechanism which provides States with impartial recommendations for English Language Licensing tests that meet ICAO criteria. The Aviation English Language Test Service (AELTS) assesses tests in order to help States to more accurately assess the speaking and listening ability in English of pilots and air traffic controllers.

ICAO now provides States with lists of Trusted Test Service Providers (TSPs). The service provides States with guidance material, a pre-assessment questionnaire that provides feedback to the Test Service Provider to help them self-assess if their tests meets ICAO SARPs for LPRs, provides detailed instructions on how TSPs are to submit their tests to ICAO for assessment and it maintains test information. A more detailed description of the service can be found at www.icao.int/aelts.

For affiliates handling language testing complaints from their members they might ask their respective States if the service providers in their State have been recognized by ICAO by being listed in ICAO's Trusted Test Service Providers. A follow-up question might be: If not, why not?

IAOPA Hosts Delegation from Kyrgyzstan

IAOPA Headquarters in conjunction with the Air Safety Institute hosted a delegation from Kyrgyzstan to explain the benefits of general aviation and offer guidance on how to develop GA within the country. The delegates were part of a US State Department exchange program sponsored by the World Trade Center Institute Professional Exchange and Program Development Office. Members of the delegation were in the US to gain insight into how to enhance air safety, security, and the reliability of air transportation.

IAOPA Website Being Redesigned

IAOPA headquarters staff is working on a redesign of the IAOPA website to make it more user-friendly and allow for easier customization and timely updates. In the past years there have been relatively few changes to the site and a fresh look and updated capabilities are desperately needed. We have a good plan moving forward but would be interested in your suggestions and comments on how we can improve things. If you have any ideas please send them directly to Craig Spence or Ruth Moser. The new site is expected to be up and running in the second quarter of 2014.

International Civil Aviation Day

International Civil Aviation Day was established in 1994 by ICAO to mark the 50th anniversary of the Organization. In 1996, the United Nations General Assembly by resolution officially recognized 7 December as International Civil Aviation Day and listed it as an official UN Day. The purpose of the global celebration is to generate and reinforce worldwide awareness of the importance of international civil aviation in the social and economic development of State, and the role of ICAO in promoting the safety, efficiency and regularity of international air transport.

Be sure to remind your regulators of the importance that general aviation plays in a healthy air transportation system and the important role that AOPA plays in keeping general aviation safe.

The Air Safety Institute launches new “Weather Wise: VFR into IMC”

Why do some pilots place their passengers and themselves in terrible danger by flying into deteriorating visual meteorological conditions (VMC) while lacking an instrument rating or proficiency to deal with instrument weather? Why would anyone take such a risk?

Unfortunately, every year, more general aviation pilots perish in accidents caused by low ceilings and visibility than all other weather phenomena combined. It's a major safety issue, and surprisingly not just for visual flight rules (VFR) pilots—30 percent of these accidents in the United States involve instrument-rated pilots. Even pilots with the best intentions can get into trouble when they fail to recognize a deteriorating situation and don't take corrective action.

How can pilots learn to anticipate conditions that spell trouble, and recognize common scenarios that can lead them to go against their better judgment? Enter the Air Safety Institute's “Weather Wise: VFR into IMC” online course < <http://www.aopa.org/lms/courses/vfr-into-imc/#splash>>, which takes a new approach to the problem. Rather than just pointing out the dangers of low ceilings and visibility, the course prepares pilots for the real world by providing the basic weather knowledge it takes to anticipate poor conditions, explaining common weather scenarios that can trap unsuspecting pilots, and understanding the complexity of decision making and pilot judgment and how these can be compromised.

This is ASI's first course optimized for use on the iPad and designed for touchscreen use, making it easier than ever to navigate.

***Pass on this Newsletter to your Members** - Nothing can keep existing members, and attract new members like reminding them of the great work that IAOPA affiliates, and IAOPA, are doing on national, regional, and international levels to keep them flying. Great work is being done in all parts of the globe to advance the interests of general aviation and the best way to share the message is to make sure that this newsletter gets to as many members and non-members alike. So I encourage you to publish this on your website, send on via email to your members, and do what you can to help spread the word.*