

Importance of 'Safety Culture'

A Brief Overview

...by A.Dorris





Safety Culture - shaped/influenced by...

- How an organization/employees behaves...(when no one is watching)...
- Individuals and groups - values, attitudes, perceptions, competencies...
- Patterns of behavior that determine the '**level of commitment**'...
- How one pictures or sees "**Safety Culture**" in an organization...
- How safety is perceived, valued and prioritized by management and employees...

Safety climate

Safety culture



What is Safety Culture?

Safety Culture:

- Deemed the single most important influence on the management of safety.
- A positive safety culture relies on '**trust**' and '**respect**' between personnel and management
- Empowers effective safety management and **contribute to a safe work environment...**
- Entails being aware of risks and known hazards and continuously preserving and enhancing safety...

ICAO Annex 19 – Safety Management

States and Service Providers - promote “Safety Culture” to foster effective Safety Management implementation through SSP & SMS.

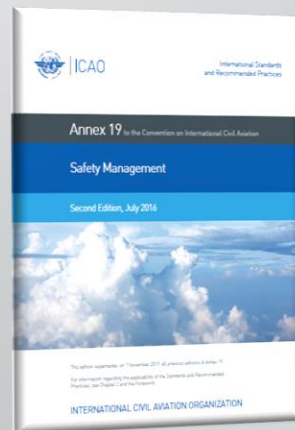
Recommendation - 3.2.3.3 - States should:

- ...facilitate promotion of a positive safety culture in the aviation community

Recommendation 3.5.2 – States should:

- Promote Safety Awareness
- Share and Exchange Safety Information
- Foster Maintenance and Improvement Of Safety
- Support Development a Positive Safety Culture

Standard - 5.3.5 States shall take necessary measures, including the promotion of a positive safety culture, to encourage safety reporting...



Lack of a Safety Culture

Safety Culture – can directly impact safety performance:

- Important to build and promote a Positive Safety Culture...
- If safety culture is viewed as 'not' important, it can result in:
- Cutting corners, skipping steps or phases, making unsafe decisions...
- Likelihood of underperforming...(inefficiencies)



Lack of a Safety Culture

Safety Culture – can directly impact safety performance:

- Increase risks and hazards in operation, and in maintenance...
- **Leads to serious incidents and accidents in aviation...**
- **Result in injury, loss of lives...**
- Loss of assets, disruption in service...



Poor Company and Safety Culture

- Promech Air, Inc. DHC-3 Aircraft Accident (NTSB Report)
- Crashed into Alaskan mountainous terrain on June 25, 2015.
- Resulted in the death of nine (9) persons.

...inter alia...

- ✓ Poor Safety Culture
- ✓ Poor Safety Practices...
- ✓ Competitive pressure on Pilots
- ✓ Lack of safety program, etc.

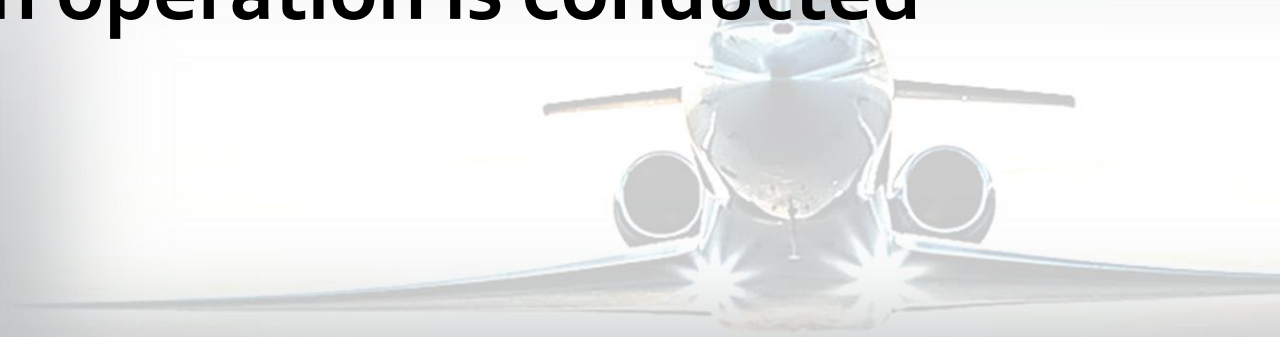


Safety – Everyone's Business

It is the responsibility of all stakeholders:

- Individuals, Aviation Personnel, Aircraft Operators,
- Maintenance organizations,
- Regulatory bodies, Airports
- Air Navigation Service Providers, etc.

...to ensure that aviation operation is conducted safely...



Importance of Safety Culture

- Safety is of utmost importance in the aviation sector... **"IT SAVES LIVES"**
- A strong **Safety Culture** is crucial to reducing risks...
- ...and reducing the causes for incidents and accidents...
- **Accountability** and **responsibility** for safety is shared...
- Signals confidence in air travel for passengers...
 - *...when there is a major accident, air travel is adversely affected...*



Promoting and Maintaining Safety Culture

- To attain a strong aviation culture requires organizations to:
 - **Demonstrate commitment...Political and Organizational will...**
 - Prioritize Safety in its policy and the decision making process...
 - **Continuously** advocate safety and educate employees on safety initiatives
 - Reminding employees of safety goals and objectives...
 - Encourage open communication and information sharing...
 - Mandatory & Voluntary Reporting...
 - Confidentiality and fairness...



Key Considerations

- Adherence to established safety **policies, procedures** and **regulations**...
- **Providing** regular training and development of personnel ...
- Ensuring timely maintenance of aircraft, etc.
- **Investigating** incidents and accidents...
- Benefiting and **improving** from lessons learnt...
- Establishing **Safety Management Systems**...
- Gathering data/information and **utilizing same to make improvements**...



Prioritizing Safety & Promoting a Strong Safety Culture

Organizational

- **Championing** - healthy and positive safety culture reflects commitment to safety.
- **A positive safety culture encourages personnel to identify and report hazards...**
- **Allows for safety issues to be communicated through safety reporting systems...**

Global View

- **Collective implementation of Safety Management Systems**
- **Allow for safer aircraft operation in the aviation sector...**
- **Reduce risks, and reduce or mitigate against accidents and incidents...**
- **Will promote confidence and facilitate efficient passenger travel...**



Safety Culture –

- ✓ Safety is a full-time job – its not a part-time practice...
- ✓ It's a way of life...as we strive to keep the birds in the sky...

The End

