ASRS Program Briefing



ASRS Program Briefing Index

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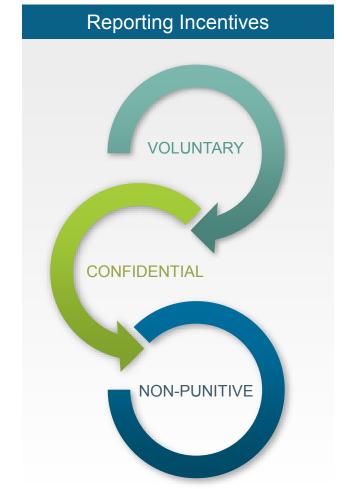
ASRS Program Overview





Concept & Mission

The Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) receives, processes and analyzes voluntarily submitted incident reports from pilots, air traffic controllers, dispatchers, cabin crew, maintenance technicians, and others. Reports submitted to ASRS may describe both unsafe occurrences and hazardous situations. Information is gathered from these reports and disseminated to stakeholders. ASRS's particular concern is the quality of human performance in the National Airspace System.





Purpose

- Identify deficiencies and discrepancies in the National Airspace System
 - Objective: Improve the current aviation system
- Provide data for planning and improvements to the future National Airspace System
 - Objective: Enhance the basis for human factors research and recommendations for future aviation procedures, operations, facilities, and equipment





ASRS Background

WW II	Industry and Military recognized value of voluntary incident reporting
1958	Need for U.S. Incident Data System raised during FAA Enactment Hearings
Oct. 1974	United Airlines incident foreshadowed TWA 514 Accident
Dec. 1974	TWA 514 Accident
Apr. 1975	Study of the National Air Transportation System as a Result of the Secretary's Task Force on the FAA Safety Mission
May 1975	Aviation Safety Reporting Program (ASRP) Implemented (FAA)
May 9, 1975	Advisory Circular 00-46A Issued
Apr. 1976	Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) Established (NASA/FAA)



ASRS Staff

The ASRS Staff is composed of highly experienced pilots, air traffic controllers and mechanics, as well as a management team that possess aviation and human factors experience. ASRS Analysts' experience is comprised of over 600 cumulative years of aviation expertise covering the full spectrum of aviation activity: air carrier, corporate, military, and general aviation; Air Traffic Control in Towers, TRACONs, Centers, and Military Facilities. Analyst cumulative flight time exceeds 200,000 hours in over 50 different aircraft.

In addition, the ASRS Staff has human factors and psychology research experience in areas such as training, fatigue, crew resource management, user interface design, usability evaluations, and research methodology.





Documents Governing ASRS Immunity & Confidentiality

- Federal Register Notice, 1975 & 1976
- Federal Aviation Regulations Part 91.25 (14 CFR 91.25)
- FAA Advisory Circular 00-46E
- FAA policy concerning Air Traffic Controllers regarding ASRS reporting, FAA Order JO 7200.20





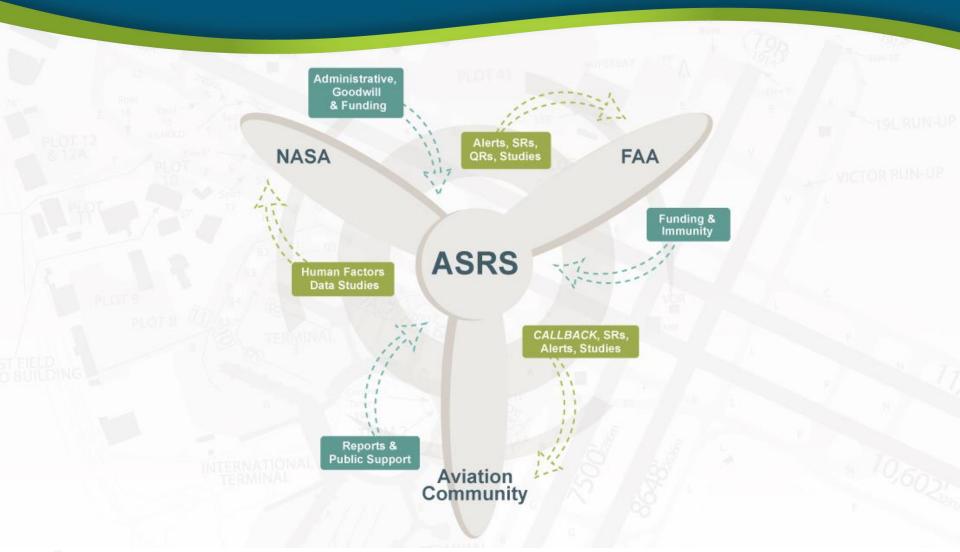
The Immunity Concept

Paragraph 9. c. FAA Advisory Circular No. 00-46E

- C. **Enforcement Restrictions**. The FAA considers the filing of a report with NASA concerning an incident or occurrence involving a violation of 49 U.S.C. subtitle VII or the 14 CFR to be indicative of a constructive attitude. Such an attitude will tend to prevent future violations. Accordingly, although a finding of violation may be made, neither a civil penalty nor certificate suspension will be imposed if:
 - 1. The violation was inadvertent and not deliberate;
 - 2. The violation did not involve a criminal offense, accident, or action under 49 U.S.C. § 44709, which discloses a lack of qualification or competency, which is wholly excluded from this policy;
 - 3. The person has not been found in any prior FAA enforcement action to have committed a violation of 49 U.S.C. subtitle VII, or any regulation promulgated there for a period of 5 years prior to the date of occurrence; and
 - 4. The person proves that, within 10 days after the violation, or date when the person became aware or should have been aware of the violation, he or she completed and delivered or mailed a written report of the incident or occurrence to NASA.



ASRS Stakeholders







Report Processing





Report Intake Overview

ASRS receives reports from pilots, air traffic controllers, cabin crew, dispatchers, maintenance technicians, ground personnel and others involved in aviation operations.

ASRS's report intake has been robust from the first days of the program, in which it averaged approximately 400 reports per month. In recent years, report intake has grown at an enormous rate. Intake now averages 1,964 reports per week and more than 7,858 reports per month.



Report Intake Metrics

Monthly Report Intake

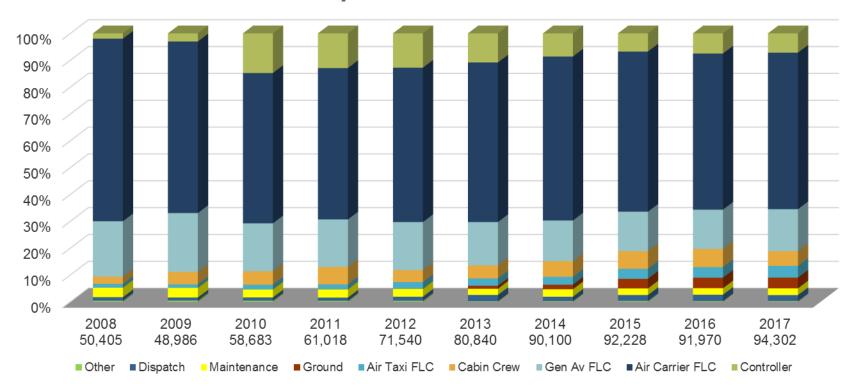
(January 1981 – December 2017)



- Total ProgramReport Intake =1,526,728
- Total Report Intake for 2017 = 94,302
- Averaging 7,858
 reports per month,
 377 per working day

Incident Reporter Distribution

January 2008 - December 2017







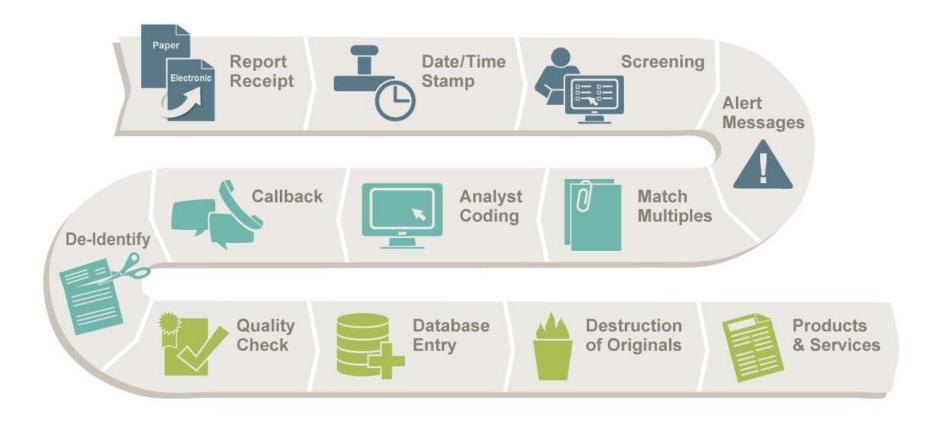
Report Processing Overview

ASRS has securely processed over 1.5 million reports in its 41 year history. The process contains critical elements that ensure each report is handled in a manner that maintains reporter confidentiality while maximizing the ability to accurately assess the safety value of each report. ASRS report processing begins with the receipt of reports through electronic submission or from the post office, and ends with the final coded report entering the ASRS Database.

Reports sent to the ASRS are widely regarded as one of the world's largest sources of information on aviation safety and human factors.











ASRS paper reports are picked-up daily from the Moffett Field Post Office or are received electronically via website Electronic Report Submission (ERS) or ASAP data transmissions



Every report is date and time stamped based on the date of receipt



Two ASRS Analysts "screen" each report within three working days to provide initial categorization and to determine the triage of processing



ASRS Analysts may identify hazardous situations from reports and issue an Alert Message. De-identified information is provided to organizations in positions of authority for further evaluation and potential corrective actions







ASRS retains high-level categorization of 100% of reports received. Based on initial categorization, multiple reports on the same event are brought together to form one database "record"



ASRS Analysts identify reports that require further analysis and entry into the public ASRS database. During the detailed Report Analysis process, reports are codified using the ASRS taxonomy.



An ASRS Analyst may choose to call a reporter on the telephone to clarify any information the reporter provided. This information is added to the analysis and final record.



To ensure confidentiality all identifying data is removed. After analysis, the Identification (ID) Strip, the top portion of the report, is returned to the reporter. This ID Strip acts as the reporter's proof of submittal. All physical and electronic ID Strip data with the reporter's name, address, date and time stamp is removed.





All reports that receive further analysis go through a Final Check to assure coding accuracy. Quality Assurance checks are also performed for coding quality.



Final coded reports enter the ASRS Database. These de-identified records are then available in the ASRS Database Online, which is available through the ASRS website.



Original reports, both physical and electronic data, are destroyed to completely ensure confidentiality



ASRS uses the information it receives to promote aviation safety through a number of products and services, such as Alert Messages, Search Requests, a monthly newsletter, focused studies and more





ASRS Products & Services



ALERT MESSAGES

Safety information issued to organizations in positions of authority for evaluation and possible corrective actions.



QUICK RESPONSES

Rapid data analysis by ASRS staff on safety issues with immediate operational importance generally limited to government agencies.



ASRS DATABASE

The public ASRS
Database Online and
data available in
Database Report Sets
or Search Requests
full filled by ASRS
staff.



*CALLBACK*NEWSLETTER

Monthly newsletter with a lessons learned format, available via website and email.



FOCUSED STUDIES

Studies/Research conducted on safety topics of interest in cooperation with aviation organizations.





ASRS Products & Services Metrics

April 1976 – December 2017

Significant Items	Quantity
Incident Reports Received	1,526,728
Safety Alert Messages	6,322
Quick Responses	144
Search Requests	7,544
CALLBACK Issues	455
ASRS Directline Issues	10
Research Studies	64







Alert Messages





Alert Message Overview

When ASRS receives a report describing a hazardous situation, for example, a defective navigation aid, an aircraft system anomaly, a confusing procedure, or any other circumstance which might compromise safe flight – an alerting message is issued using de-identified information provided in the reports.

Alerting messages have a single purpose: to relay safety information to organizations in positions of authority so that they can evaluate the information and take possible corrective actions.

Alert messages are classified as **Alert Bulletins** or **For Your Information Notices**, and may be included in monthly **ASRS Safety Teleconferences**.





ASRS Alerting Pyramid

Alert Bulletins Time critical safety information issued to organizations in positions of authority for evaluation and possible corrective actions.

For Your Information Notices Less urgent safety information is issued in For Your Information (FYI) Notices.

ASRS Safety Teleconferences & Other Safety Communications

Alert Bulletins and FYI Notices determined appropriate for an in-depth discussion are included in a monthly teleconference with the FAA and others.

ASRS has no direct authority to directly correct safety issues. It acts through and with the cooperation of others.



Alerting Subjects

January 2008 - December 2017

Subject	Total
Aircraft Systems	610
Airports Facility Status and Maintenance	376
Other	223
ATC Procedures	201
Airport Lighting and Approach Aids	106
ATC Equipment	93
Hazards to Flight	62
ATC Operations	51
Navigation	35
Aircraft Avionics	26
Aircraft Power Plants	26

Alerting Responses

January 2008 – December 2017

Response	Percentage
Action taken as a result of the AB/FYI	20%
Action initiated before AB/FYI received	16%
Action initiated in response to AB/FYI but not completed	13%
Issue raised by AB/FYI under investigation	3%
Addressee agrees with AB/FYI but unable to resolve	3%
Addressee disputes factual accuracy of AB/FYI	17%
Information in AB/FYI insufficient for action	15%
Addressee in factual agreement but sees no problem	8%
Action not within addressee's jurisdiction	4%
For information only, no response expected	1%

Total 55%





Examples of Safety Alerting Success

- SLC Airport Ramp Charting (FYI 2017-2)
 - Airport Official responded and stated "Salt Lake International Airport reviewed our base maps and diagrams and discovered that some of our documents did not reflect the island between taxiways Y and H and H-3. We have updated all our documents and sent those updates to the FAA and our usual charting organizations."
- Cessna CE680 Nose Gear Steering Cable Anomaly (AB2017:4)
 The FAA (MKC-ACO) office responded and stated "As soon as I received the notification a few days ago, I provided the ASRS report to Cessna to review and provide me a response regarding the Maintenance Manual and whether there is adequate coverage or if further guidance or inspection tasks may be necessary. I just received their response this morning and I have one of our engineers reviewing it along with the attached maintenance manuals to see if we concur with Cessna or if we have further questions."
- Similar Sounding Close Proximity Fix Names, KLYNE/KLINE (FYI 2017-5)

FAA ARTCC ZOB responded and stated "ZOB has decided to go with changing the KLINE fix name to KLOEE because of the ASRS reports. It appears that KLINE is the end point for V275, will this require rule making action in the FR because of this name change? Besides being used on an airway, KLINE is also used on an RNAV and DP procedure."











Quick Response Overview

Quick Responses are rapid turnaround data analysis that are typically accomplished within two to ten business days of the request. They are a high value service directed towards safety issues with immediate operational importance. Quick Responses are generally limited to government agencies such as FAA, DOT, NTSB, NASA, and U.S. Congress.





Quick Response Applications

- An Analysis of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Related Incidents
- An Analysis of NOTAM Related Incidents
- An Analysis of Flight Service Station Related Incidents
- An Analysis of General Aviation ADS-B Related Incidents
- An Analysis of Part 121 Similar Call Sign Related Incidents











Search Requests

Information in the ASRS Database is available publicly. The ASRS will provide **Search Requests** to members of the aviation community. ASRS will search its database, download relevant reports, and send to requestor.

Since the inception of ASRS, over **7,543** Search Requests (SRs) have been directly provided by ASRS Research Staff to various aviation organizations and agencies, as well as individuals through December 2017.

Search Requestors by Organization

January 2008 - December 2017

Organization	Total
FAA	165
Air Carriers	84
NASA	71
NTSB	60
Media	59
Alphabet Groups	47
Miscellaneous Safety Organizations	22
Other	18
Individuals	16

Organization	Total
Research Organizations	14
Student	12
Miscellaneous Government	11
Foreign	9
Aircraft Manufacturers	8
Military	5
Law Firms	3
Educational Institutes	3
DHS	2





Recent Search Request Samples

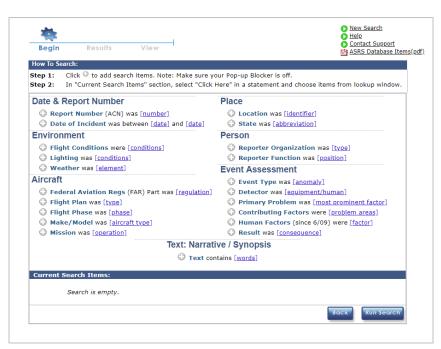
- A380 Wake Vortex Related Incidents (SR 7254)
 - Completed for the Idaho National Laboratory
- Cabin and Cockpit Interphone Communication Related Incidents (SR 7256)
 - Completed for the NTSB
- Taxiway Approach/Landing Related Incidents (SR7263)
 - Completed for the FAA (AJV-83)
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Related Incidents (SR 7266)
 - Completed for the NASA





ASRS Database Online

Direct access to search de-identified reports in the ASRS database is available through **ASRS Database Online** (DBOL) at https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/search/database.html.



- Over 1,486 queries are completed each month
- More than 211,170
 DBOL queries
 completed since its
 launch in July 2006





ASRS Database Report Sets

For your convenience, selected relevant reports on several safety topics are available on the website called **ASRS Database Report Sets**. Each report set consists of 50 ASRS Database records, all pre-screened to assure their relevance to the pre-selected topic and are available at https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/search/reportsets.html.

From the ASRS website, ASRS Database Report Sets are downloaded on average over **3,670** times a month, Report Sets were first posted in January 2000.





ASRS Database Report Sets

2017 Top Ten Report Sets

Report Set Topic	Total Downloads
Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Reports	9,966
Passenger Electronic Devices	4,605
Flight Attendant Reports	2,311
Cabin Smoke, Fire, Fumes, or Odor Incidents	2,107
Passenger Misconduct Reports	1,507
Maintenance Reports	1,477
Cockpit Resource Management (CRM) Issues	1,384
Air Carrier (FAR 121) Flight Crew Fatigue Reports	1,196
Altitude Deviations	1,091
Bird or Animal Strike Reports	1,048











CALLBACK Overview

CALLBACK, the award winning ASRS monthly safety newsletter, has been published since 1979 in a popular "lessons learned" format. CALLBACK presents ASRS report excerpts that are significant, educational, and timely. Occasionally features on ASRS program developments and research are also presented. Over 455 issues have been published and distributed throughout the U.S. and to the international aviation community. All issues since December 1994 are available for download at the ASRS website at:

https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/publications/callback.html





CALLBACK Distribution and Subscription

 In addition to being published online, CALLBACK is distributed by email. Subscription is free and available via the ASRS website.

- The total number of email subscribers for 2017 was over 29,000
- CALLBACK views for 2017 (HTML and PDF) were over 217,500



The FAA is striving to improve efficiency in the National Airspace System (NAS) by increasing capabilities in Airspace System (NAS) by increasing capabilities in a metal-wave supplied of the control of the national stripe of the stripe of t

The Optimized Profile Discort (OPD), the Optimization of Airspace and Proculture in the Metroplecy (OAPA), and Time Based Flow Management (TBFA) are important pieces of the Metroplec concept. Operational problems that occur in Metroplec sense are not unique to Metroplec and the Optimization of the Metroplec sense are not unique to Metroplec and the Optimization of the Optimization of the Optimization of the Optimization of the Optimization and Control of the Metroplec and calculated on Metroplec and enterople in Metroplec and enterople in Metroplec and calculated to the Metroplec and calculated to the Metroplec and calculated to the Metroplec and Control of the Metroplec incontrol of the Metroplec and Control of the Metroplec and C

This month CALLBACK offers a sample of reported Metroplex incidents from Pilot and Controller points of view. Resulting complications include traffic compression, aircraft separation, vectors for spacing, airspace violations, potential airborne conflicts, and airspeed reassignments that result in unachievable altitude restrictions.

Sweet Separation

After receiving clearance for a visual approach, a Challenger Jet Captain was drawn into a compromising position. The incident illustrates a looming concern as Amport Acceptance Rates (AAR's) and Airport Departure Rates (ADR's) are increased within a Metroplex.

as South of Asenda, ATC (vectored) a heavy B747 1,000 feet above us, sequencing us behind them for Runway 24L with repeated cautions for wake turbulence. Both aircraft were instructed to fly heading 065 after Santa Monica, which puts then on a domining for humory 3.1. The 3.13 float made the term to from them. The cable of 150 feet at small on the term to from them. The cable of 150 feet at small on the 18.14 fl. 80 schowledged that we fide and were cleared for the visual. At the princip separation from termin and other visual is now may responsiblely. We set up for a sparand off base to final time to extensitive whole tradence approach to the heavy 37.14. Before we interrepted the final spread control of the miles of the state of the spread of

Waking Up During the Descent

This CS60XJ. Captain was a bit upset when he encountered the wake of another aircraft. The two aircraft were descending within a Metroplex on different STARs that serve different airports, share common waypoints, and provide guidance to aircraft whose weights could differ by two orders of magnitude.

While fring the FEEN's arrival two South Abnica, descending the FLEN's arrival two South Abnica, descending the FLEN's owe experienced arrow waste to the lower from unother circumly in from of a. I believe filter to the property of the property of the property of the property of the state of the lower filter arrows on the state of the lower filter arrows on the state of the lower filter arrows on obeyet to eggs the op 5, filtered insteadilet by a right two or obeyet to eggs the g. 5, filtered insteadilet by a right was on obeyet to eggstave g. 5, filtered filtered filtered that waste of the state of the st

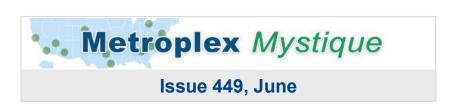




CALLBACK Topics

2017 CALLBACK Topics Covered

- Communication
- Complacency
- Crew Resource Management
- Interactive Situational Resolutions
- Maintenance Issues
- Metroplex Incidents
- Pilot Weather Reports (PIREPs)
- RNAV Problems
- Unusual Encounters
- Weather Hazards
- Windshear Encounters











Aviation Community Feedback

Sample Reader Comments from 2017

"I teach an SMS course and would like to share this issue of CALLBACK as an example of safety reporting."

"As a long-time pilot wanting my landings and takeoffs to come out even, I have read CALLBACK nearly from its inception.... This I know: Reading accounts from contributors to the ASRS program has enhanced my knowledge and awareness of aviation safety significantly. And this has helped me apply effective and practical behaviors and techniques in the conduct of my piloting duties."

"This is a GREAT edition. I have over 25 years of aviation safety experience and yet, I still make...rookie mistakes."

"I have been an avid reader of NASA ASRS [CALLBACK] since early in my primary flight training. I have found this system to be invaluable in helping me keep up to date on the "gotchas" that occur for pilots of all levels of experience."











Focused on Operations and Human Factors

- 64 Research Studies and Special Papers Published
 - Operations: Deviations, De-Icing/Anti-Icing, Rejected Takeoffs, Clearances, Weather Encounters, Landing Incidents, Runway Transgressions, TCAS II, Crossing Restrictions, etc.
 - Human Factors: Communication, Memory, Confusion, Time Pressure, Judgment, Training, Crew Performance, Flight Crew Monitoring, etc.
 - Confidential Reporting: ASRS Reporting Model, Case for Confidential Reporting, Development of ASRS, Cross Industry Applications, etc.
- Research agendas are developed in collaboration with government and industry safety organizations
- There are over 30 ASRS Research Papers available to download on the ASRS website



Focused Study – Wake Vortex

Wake Vortex Encounter Study

In cooperation with the FAA, ASRS is currently examining Wake Vortex Encounter incidents reported to ASRS. ASRS began this study in 2007 and will continue through 2018. At present the Wake Vortex Encounter Study includes all airspace within the United States, enroute and terminal. In quarterly reports, the ASRS documents event dynamics and contributing factors underlying unique wake vortex encounter incidents.

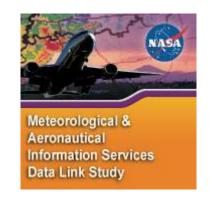
A sampling of the factors to be analyzed includes reporters' assessed magnitude of wake encounter, aircraft spacing, aircraft type, runway configuration, and consequences from the encounter.



Focused Study – AIS Data Link

Meteorological and Aeronautical Information Services Data Link Services and Applications Study

In cooperation with the FAA, ASRS is conducting a study focused on meteorological and aeronautical information services (AIS) via data link. ASRS is gathering reports of incidents that occurred while pilots were utilizing weather or AIS information in the cockpit (textual and/or graphical) obtained via data link (including ACARS) or other sources on the ground or in the air.



Some factors to be analyzed include type of weather data received, cockpit display utilized, software or applications used to receive meteorological information, and end user graphical interface issues. In March of 2012 an interim report was published and is available on the ASRS website. (https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/docs/rs/64_ASRS_Meteorological_AIS_DataLinkStudy.pdf)

ASRS Model Applied





ASRS Model Applied

The ASRS model is utilized internationally in the aviation community. The International Confidential Aviation Safety Systems (ICASS) Group promotes confidential reporting systems as an effective method of enhancing flight safety in commercial air transport and general aviation operations.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has revised Annex 13 – Accident Prevention and created Annex 19, Chapter 5, which addresses member states establishing a voluntary incident reporting system.

ASRS Model Applied to International Aviation Community

- UNITED STATES: Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) [1976]
- UNITED KINGDOM: Confidential Human Incident Reporting Program (CHIRP) [1982]
- CANADA: Confidential Aviation Safety Reporting Program (CASRP) [1985], SECURITAS [1995]
- AUSTRALIA: CAIR [1988], Report Confidentially (REPCON) [2007]
- BRAZIL: Confidential Flight Safety Report (RCSV) [1997]
- JAPAN: Aviation Safety Information Network (ASI-NET) [1999], VOICES Reporting System [2014]
- FRANCE: Confidential Events Reporting System (REC) [2000], REX [2011]
- TAIWAN: Taiwan Confidential Aviation Safety Reporting System (TACARE) [2000]
- SOUTH KOREA: Korea Aviation hindrance Reporting System (KAIRS) [2000]
- CHINA: Sino Confidential Aviation Safety System (SCASS) [2004]
- SINGAPORE: Singapore Confidential Aviation Incident Reporting (SINCAIR) [2004]
- SPAIN: Safety Occurrence Reporting System (SNS) [2007]
 Safety Reporting System SEPLA (SRS) [2007]
- SOUTH AFRICA: Civil Aviation Hazard Reporting System (CAHRS) [2013]





ASRS Model Applied to International Aviation Community



ASRS Model Applications

Because of the success of ASRS, the ASRS reporting model is also being applied to other disciplines such as railroad, medicine, security, firefighting, maritime, law enforcement, and others.



















ASRS Model Applications

Confidential Close Call Reporting System (C³RS) 2010 to present

C³RS is a partnership between participating railroad carriers, railroad labor organizations, NASA, and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) designed to improve railroad safety by collecting and analyzing reports which describe unsafe conditions or events in the railroad industry.

NASA uses the expertise it has gained from developing and managing the successful Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) to administer the C³RS program. The program is based on the same guiding principles of being *voluntary*, *confidential* and *non-punitive*.

To learn more about C3RS visit https://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov





ASRS Summary





ASRS Summary

ASRS is a highly successful and trusted program that has served the needs of the aviation community for over 42 years. It is available to all participants in the National Airspace System who wish to report safety incidents and situations.

The ASRS identifies system deficiencies, and issues alerting messages to persons in a position to correct them. It educates through its newsletter *CALLBACK*, its journal *ASRS Directline* and through its research studies. Its database is a public repository which serves the needs of the FAA and NASA, and those of other organizations world-wide which are engaged in research and the promotion of safe flight.





Advantages of the ASRS Model

- System-Wide Perspective
- System-Wide Alerting
- Data Processing through Expert Analysts
- Comprehensive and Time Tested Coding Taxonomy
- Strong Immunity and Legal Provisions
- Information Sharing on Safety/Security
- National and International Reputation





Why Confidential Reporting Works

- When organizations want to learn more about the occurrence of events, the best approach is simply to ask those involved
- People are generally willing to share their knowledge if they are assured
 - Their identities will remain protected
 - There is no disciplinary or legal consequences
- A properly constructed confidential, voluntary, non-punitive reporting system can be used by any person to safely share information
- Confidential reporting systems have the means to answer the question why - why a system failed, why a human erred
- Incident/event data are complementary to the data gathered by other monitoring systems

Thank You

Contact the NASA ASRS Director

Becky L. Hooey
 — Becky.L.Hooey@nasa.gov

Additional Information & Resources

- Confidentiality & Incentives to Report https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/overview/confidentiality.html
- Immunity Policies
 https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/overview/immunity.html
- Requesting ASRS Data https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/search/requesting.html



