

The 8th Triennial International Fire and Cabin Safety Research Conference
October 24 – 27, 2016
Atlantic City, NJ

“Safety Research – Teamwork in Action”

Monday, October 24, 2016

Opening Session

Location: Ballroom: Salon 3 & 4, 1:00 PM

Topic	Presenter
Welcome and Conference Logistics	International Cabin Safety Research Technical Group
Introduction of Keynote Speaker	Shelley Yak Director, William J. Hughes Technical Center United States Federal Aviation Administration
Keynote Address	Victoria Wassmer Acting Deputy Administrator United States Federal Aviation Administration
International Cooperation on R&D	Jonathan Tan Senior Manager Airworthiness Engineering, Standards Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) Singapore
R&D and Certification	Jeff Gardlin Transport Airplane Directorate Transport Standards Staff – Airframe, Cabin Safety Branch United States Federal Aviation Administration
CAST & Relationship with Fire and Cabin Safety	James Wilborn Program Manager – Safety Enhancements Transport Airplane Directorate – Safety Management Branch United States Federal Aviation Administration
Materials and Systems Working Groups	Richard Hill Program Manager – Fire Safety Branch William J. Hughes Technical Center United States Federal Aviation Administration
Standards Organizations	Cynthia McLean Senior Human Factors Research Specialist (Retired) Office of Aerospace Medicine – Aerospace Medical Research Division United States Federal Aviation Administration
International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations (ICCAIA) Cabin Safety Working Group (CSWG)	Robert P. Irons; The Boeing Company Jean-Francois Petit; Airbus SAS

Victoria B. Wassmer

Acting Deputy Administrator

US Federal Aviation Administration



Victoria B. Wassmer was selected by FAA Administrator Michael Huerta to serve as the Acting Deputy Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration in July 2016. In this role, she is responsible for helping to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the largest aerospace system in the world with over 50,000 operations daily as well as regulating the safety of equipment and operators of the U.S. aviation industry. Wassmer also serves as the Acting Chief NextGen Officer and is responsible for the development and implementation of FAA's NextGen modernization of the air traffic control system.

Previous to this position, Wassmer served as the FAA's Assistant Administrator for Finance and Management with oversight of the agency's \$16.9 billion budget and more than 3,000 employees. Wassmer managed the FAA's financial management, regional and Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center operations, information technology, contracting and acquisition offices.

In 2012, she spearheaded the agency's move toward "Shared Services," a revolutionary approach to reducing bureaucracy while improving service to the flying public. The shared services effort eliminated duplicate staffs and reduced the agency's administrative overhead expenses. Wassmer also instituted an effort by the agency to reduce and eliminate information technology costs, including the move to state-of-the-art cloud computing for the administrative systems used by 60,000 FAA employees and contractors.

Previously, Wassmer was Vice President of Administration and Finance at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a federal agency that works with developing countries to reduce poverty through economic growth. At the Millennium Challenge, she oversaw finance, human resources, information technology, logistics, acquisition, grant management, overseas administration and security.

Before joining the Millennium Challenge, Wassmer served in several senior positions at the FAA from 2004-2010. She was Deputy Assistant Administrator and Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Director of the Office of Budget and manager of Performance and Cost Analysis.

In the years prior to her work at the FAA, Wassmer was a Senior Associate with the Carmen Group and also worked in the Office of Capital Programs & Oversight for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Her work there included creating legislative proposals for innovative financing solutions for the Surface Transportation Act reauthorization, capital project management, as well as program prioritization.

From 1996-2002, Wassmer was a policy analyst with the Office of Management and Budget. At OMB, she also served as Special Assistant in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, and was a Program Examiner. In 1994, Wassmer worked in South Africa as a Research Assistant at the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

She holds a Masters in Public Policy from Harvard University and Bachelors in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College. She resides in the District of Columbia.

Jonathan Tan
Senior Manager
Airworthiness Engineering, Standards
Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS)



Jonathan Tan is the Deputy Head for Airworthiness Engineering, Standards in the Airworthiness/Flight Operations Division. His responsibilities include ensuring that the regulations related to Airworthiness Engineering remains relevant and development of mutual recognition agreements. Jonathan also processes after the certification of cabin interior and structure modification for aircraft ranging from general aviation to transport category aircraft.

As a cabin interior specialist, Jonathan certificated the first flammability test facility in Singapore. Besides certification activities, Jonathan conducts safety oversight over a number of CAAS Design and Production Organizations.

Prior to joining CAAS, Jonathan was an engineer in ST Aerospace providing technical services support to the Republic of Singapore Air Force. His duties included; liaising with aircraft OEMs to troubleshoot in-service issues, developing repair schemes, and reviewing weight and balance limitations. Jonathan holds a degree in Mechanical and Production Engineering from Nanyang Technological University and a diploma in Mechatronics from Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Jeff Gardlin
Transport Airplane Directorate
Transport Standards Staff – Airframe, Cabin Safety Branch
United States Federal Aviation Administration

Jeff Gardlin is a Senior Aerospace Engineer with the Standards Staff in the Federal Aviation Administration's Transport Airplane Directorate. His responsibilities include development of regulations and policies relating to all aspects of Transport Airplane occupant safety. He has worked in this capacity for 25 years. He has conducted training in aircraft certification requirements for other airworthiness authorities around the world. He has also been involved with the development of research programs relating to fire protection, evacuation testing, and crash dynamics. He is the principal author of rulemaking on incorporation of security measures into aircraft design, fuselage doors and aircraft fire protection.

Bob Irons
Interiors Safety and Airworthiness
Chief Engineer
Boeing Commercial Airplanes



Bob Irons began his career at the Boeing Company as a certification engineer supporting the FAA and JAA Type Certification of the 737 Next Generation and 757-300 models, and is now currently responsible for overseeing Certification and Safety activities for Interiors on Boeing production airplanes. Bob has also worked as an Evacuation Systems Airworthiness Representative for the Boeing ODA (Organization Designation Authorization) as well as an engineering manager on multiple airplane models.

Bob earned his Aeronautical Engineering degree from the University of Washington, and has a Master of Science degree in Technical Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Jean-Francois Petit
Certification Manager
Cabin & Cargo and R&T
Airbus SAS



Jean-Francois Petit is a Cabin and Cargo Safety Certification Manager at the Airbus' Airworthiness Technical Directorate. He was responsible for cabin safety and fire protection during the A380 Type Certification project. Prior to working at Airbus he was the head of the cabin fire safety department of the CEAT (Aeronautical Test Center of Toulouse). As an expert in cabin safety, Jean-Francois has also supported many cabin safety working groups.

Jean-Francois has an Engineering degree in Chemistry (ENSC Toulouse), and a Doctorate in Chemistry (Université Paul Sabatier Toulouse)