



Around the FAA

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ASW



3 Million and Counting

Air traffic controllers at the Tulsa International Airport Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) were honored for recording more than 3 million error-free operations. Ron Morgan, Air Traffic director, presented plaques to tower representatives for their achievement.



(From left) Morgan presents an award to Joe Gill, air traffic manager, and Daniel McCurdy, NATCA representative for the Tulsa ATCT.

"We have gone all the way back in our records — more than 12 years — and to our knowledge this is the first time any air traffic control facility has reached this many errorless operations," Morgan told the *Tulsa World* newspaper. "What Tulsa has demonstrated is that . . . they are the best of the best."

Morgan and Doug Murphy, the Southwest Region's air traffic manager, also visited Tulsa Riverside Air Traffic Control Tower to congratulate FAA employees there for achieving 2.5 million operations without an error.

ASO



Promoting Safety in Latin America

Inspectors from the FAA's Miami International Field Office attended a meeting of the Experts Working Group for the Latin American Safety Initiative, in Lima, Peru.

The group is working on the development of a Spanish version of the Federal Aviation Regulations for use by South American civil aviation authorities in the development of their own aviation regulations. Participating in the project are Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Peru, Spain, Cuba and Airbus Industrie.

ACT



International Crowd Attends Tech Center Workshop

Aviation representatives from around the world attended a risk management and safety performance measurement workshop co-sponsored by the FAA's Technical Center. Participants discussed their approaches to the subject through the use of system models, hazard or threat analysis techniques, accident/incident models and vulnerability analysis approaches.

Workshop speakers came from numerous airlines such as United, Delta, Continental, Northwest and Airborne Express. Also making presentations were officials from the FAA's Civil Aeromedical Institute, Sandia National Laboratories (a co-sponsor with Rutgers University), Naval Research Lab, International Civil Aviation Organization, Boeing and AT&T.

AWP



Industry Group Recognizes FAA Employee

Sarwar Samad, an employee in the Western-Pacific Region's Airports Division, has received the Technical Excellence Award from the American Association of Cost Engineers (AACE) International. The award is considered the most prestigious given by the association.

Samad was recognized as a long-time contributor to and developer of AACE technical and other publications, including *Free Flight: Keeping Up With Changing Times*, *The US Federal Aviation Administration's Airspace System in a Changing World*, and *The Challenge of Change*, an article on the aerospace industry.



Sarwar Samad

AACE International is a non-profit, professional and educational organization founded 43 years ago. It has about 6,000 members in 78 countries.



FAA Intercom

Holiday Message from Jane Garvey

As 1999 ebbs away and we begin a new millennium, the tendency to reflect back and look ahead is stronger than usual at this time of year. We have all been inundated with lists of the most important people and events over the past century or millennium, as well as predictions of what the future holds in store for us.

Certainly, aviation was one of the most important achievements of the 20th century and would also make many lists of major millennial achievements. It's amazing to reflect on how far aviation has come in less than 100 years.



We must never forget that the FAA and its predecessor agencies have been a major factor in aviation's success. It has helped make the United States the unquestioned leader in aviation around the globe and a major factor in the global economy.

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Cooperation Creates New Solutions to Old Issues

The FAA plans to rely heavily on the expertise and experience of controllers to manage day-to-day operations at air traffic control facilities in the future. Towards this and other goals spelled out in the agency's historic contract with the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA), the FAA is collaborating with union representatives in a number of work groups to finalize details of the transition.

Bill Peacock, the FAA's co-lead of the implementation workgroups for the NATCA collective bargaining agreement, believes that by turning over some administrative functions once handled by FAA staff, the agency will benefit from controllers' front-line knowledge of day-to-day operations. "Controllers are a tremendous resource for us," said Peacock. "We should involve them more in the process."

Phil Barbarello, NATCA representative for the New York Terminal Radar Approach Control facility, agreed, saying that controllers represent a well-educated workforce that is "eager to get involved and expand their horizons."

The development of self-directed work teams comprised of operational supervisors and controllers (and perhaps

other air traffic members, such as quality assurance personnel and air traffic coordinators) is another step being taken to increase controllers' participation in the system they've helped make the safest in the world. These groups will take an overview of their facilities by focusing on issues concerning safety, efficiency,

technological innovation and customer

service. They essentially will claim ownership of their facility's performance. Barbarello believes controllers can contribute in any number of

ways, providing insight on

technical, administrative and procedural issues.

It's a significant change from traditional labor relations, Peacock admits, but he's confident that controllers will embrace the chance for increased involvement in the system.

Assumption of some staff responsibilities by controllers also meets the agency's goal of doing more with less, a necessity in today's financial climate. And increased controller involvement in their day work lives will help them expand their outlook to include facility goals.

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Page 2. DSR makes it to Indianapolis.



Pages 8. Getting the drop on crash test dummies.



Pages 11. View the FAA menagerie.



Page 14. Remembering fallen co-worker.

In This Issue:

Read about Employee Recognition Day, the latest on Core Compensation, Jane Garvey's Oprah experience, the farewell thoughts of a United pilot, and much more!



Airports Office Recognizes Its Own

The Second Annual Airports Awards for Excellence ceremony took place Oct. 27 in the Bessie Coleman Conference Center at Headquarters. Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports Paul Galis hosted the event in which 12 employees and two teams were honored in eight categories.

The awards program promotes peer recognition and emphasizes the unique contributions each individual and team brings to the work place, and the esteem placed on their performance by their colleagues.

All Airports employees except those in the Executive System were eligible to be nominated for their accomplishments during the period spanning June 1, 1998 through May 31, 1999.

This year's program featured two new categories: The "Ellis A. Ohnstad Award for Technical Excellence" was created in memory of the Airports colleague who passed away earlier this year. Members of the Ohnstad family were on hand to receive a special tribute to Ellis and to present the first of the annual awards to its recipient.

The second new award, "The Airports Ally," is a non-monetary award designed to

honor an employee or group outside of the Airports office who provided significant assistance to help the office fulfill its mission. The winners and their awards included:

Management Excellence Award

Honors a management employee considered by coworkers as having displayed excellence in leadership, demonstrated effective communications skills at all levels of the organization, and made substantial contributions to the organization.

Winner: Rick Marinelli, *Headquarters*
Runner-up: Barbara J. Johnson, *Alaskan Region*

Staff Excellence Award

Honors a staff employee who has demonstrated skill and ability to perform superior staff work.

Winner: Jane Mehrtens, *Headquarters*
Runner-up: Catherine Zimmerman, *Northwest Mountain Region*

Ellis A. Ohnstad Award for Technical Excellence

Honors an Airports employee as the recognized specialist in his/her field of expertise.

Winner: Rodney N. Joel, *Central Region*
Runner-up: Sarwar A. Samad, *Western-Pacific Region*

Administrative Excellence Award

Honors an employee in an administrative job function who demonstrated a dedication to excellence.

Winner: Gloria Martinez, *Northwest Mountain Region*
Runner-up: Judith Bice, *Southern Region*

The Extra Mile Award

Honors an employee who has proved a consummate professional, providing exemplary support to fellow employees and outside organizations in support of Airports' mission.

Winner: Jonathan N. Larson, *Alaskan Region*
Runner-up: Rodney Clark, *Southwest Region*

Innovator Extraordinaire Award

Honors an employee or group that has provided an innovation or process improvement that is of major significance to the Airports organization.

Winner: James A. Johnson, *Central Region*
Runner-up: Nancy Watson, *Headquarters*

Team Excellence Award

Honors an Airports self-managed team for its work in assisting the organization in fulfillment of its mission.

Winner: Airports Certification Safety Team, *Southern Region*

Airport Ally Award

Honors an employee or group, not in the Airports line of business, who has provided significant assistance to the organization in accomplishment of the Airports mission.

Winner: Integration Support Platform Team, *Southern Region*



Paul Galis and Ann Ohnstad pose with the award named after her husband, Ellis.



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

Memorandum

Subject: Letter of Appreciation

Date: AUG 08 2002

From: Regional Administrator, AWP-1

Reply to
Attn. of:

To: Sam Samad, Airport Planner, AWP-612
Thru: Manager, Airports Division, AWP-600

Sam, please accept my sincere appreciation for your participation in the Facility Review Committee (FRC) Workgroup. The quality and thoroughness of the information and materials the workgroup prepared and presented to the FRC is greatly appreciated. Your efforts have already provided benefit to the FRC in resolving mission related issues.

I appreciate your professionalism, dedication and the many hours you spent working on the workgroup. Once again, thank you for your contribution to a highly successful FRC Workgroup.

William C. Withycombe
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