

January 2021



# European Society of Air Safety Investigators NEWSLETTER

[www.esasi.eu](http://www.esasi.eu)

## WINTER 2021

### EDITORIAL

Dear ESASI Members,

I hope this newsletter finds all of you and your loved ones in good health. Let's hope that 2021 will be better than 2020, especially for our industry which has been badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. We all look forward to holding physical meetings to complement the virtual meetings that have become part of our lives. In this letter you will find a summary of our Annual General Meeting (AGM) held virtually on 13 November 2020, as well as information about our projects for 2021.

The most important news is that our annual seminar is scheduled, in person, for **1-2 July 2021 in Budapest, Hungary**. We have managed to amend the contracts with the restaurant, hotels and conference centre to make it happen with no additional costs to ESASI. If the health situation in Europe is similar to last summer, then I am optimistic that we will manage to organize an almost normal seminar with additional safety measures. However, should travel constraints still be in place, we will hold a one-day virtual seminar in its place.

The seminar in Budapest will follow the same format as previously, when we held back-to-back meetings with the ECAC ACC and MASI group. We will also keep the theme *'Maintaining the Momentum'*.

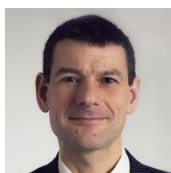
In order to maintain contact with our Members, and to build on the positive experience of our AGM, the ESASI committee are organizing, for 23 March 2021, a two hour **FocusOn...** session (webinar) on the relationship between safety investigations and the insurance industry during a safety investigation. If this session is successful then we will organise further FocusOn... sessions to help maintain the ESASI momentum. We most welcome ideas and feedback on this initiative.

I wish you all a happy and healthy new year!

Yours Sincerely,

Olivier FERRANTE  
ESASI President

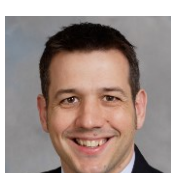
## ESASI Committee



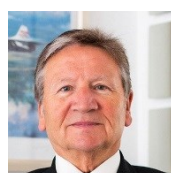
Olivier Ferrante  
President



Rob Carter  
European Councillor



Matt Greaves  
Treasurer



Steve Hull  
Secretary



Brian McDermid  
Technical Committee



Thorkell Agustsson  
Committee Member

## ESASI AGM

### Friday 13 November 2020

Some 60 participants logged onto the virtual AGM with a significant number contributing to the discussion. The ESASI committee were delighted by the turnout for what might be considered as merely an administrative meeting. Olivier Ferrante started the proceedings by presenting the ESASI activities undertaken since the previous AGM, which was held in The Hague in September 2019.

#### ESASI Activity Report

In summary, the ESASI Committee held 20 virtual meetings, and a board meeting, which was held in Farnborough, UK. Three members also visited Budapest to prepare the next seminar. In addition, three newsletters were published; as well as the report of the Derby workshop proceedings; the ESASI Constitution; updated ESASI Terms of Reference (ToRs) and a draft media policy.

#### ISASI update

Rob Carter, our European Councillor and ISASI Vice President, provided the update. The last ISASI Annual seminar was held at The Hague in September 2019 and was deemed a technical and professional success. The next seminar was due to be held in Montreal in September 2020, but was delayed to 2021 because of the pandemic. Unfortunately, due to the likelihood of travel restrictions still being in place, it was decided to make this seminar a virtual event. The Call for Papers has been issued. ISASI agreed that the next seminars will be held in Brisbane, Queensland, in 2022 and, probably, at a venue in the southeast USA in 2023. This leaves open the very real possibility of a successful bid for a European seminar, with ESASI support, in 2024.

#### ESASI financial update

Matt Greaves, the ESASI treasurer, presented the ESASI accounts for 2019 and 2020. The current balance is about £24.9k, which represents the account of cash that ESASI needs to maintain in order to cover any future contingencies, such as the cancellation of a seminar. Matt underlined that

ESASI had already paid a deposit of £10k to secure the conference centre and hotel accommodation for the seminar in Budapest.

#### ESASI Membership

Steve Hull, ESASI Secretary, briefed the AGM on the ESASI Membership, which currently stands at 169. The ESASI membership list can be found on the ISASI website in the area restricted for Members.

Steve pointed out that the ESASI Committee rely on ISASI to keep the membership numbers updated on the ISASI website. So far we have been satisfied with this arrangement and the process by which we are kept informed by ISASI of new ESASI members, and individuals who have decided not to renew their ISASI membership.

In addition to the 169 personal members, ESASI also has 41 Corporate Members that can be found listed on the ISASI website.

The ESASI membership includes:

- 17 Safety Investigation Authorities;
- 18 Operators;
- 5 Manufacturers;
- Aviation Consultants;
- Retired individuals who were employed previously in the aviation industry.

#### Constitution and Terms of Reference

Rob Carter provided a briefing, reflecting the work the ESASI Committee has done this year to update its legal status as a registered charity. The original 1983 document setting up ESASI was 'of its time' and the intent, with our increased financial turnover, is to become a '*Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees*' under the '*Charity Commission for England and Wales*'. The plan is to have a formal Constitution, adopted and amended by member vote, and a more descriptive '*Terms of Reference*' document, more easily amended. If all goes well, ESASI members will be able to adopt these at the Budapest seminar, summer 2021. The draft Constitution includes sections on the Objectives, Principal activities, Finance, Membership, AGMs, Trustees (basically, the current Committee to start with) and Elections. So, with a fair wind and a

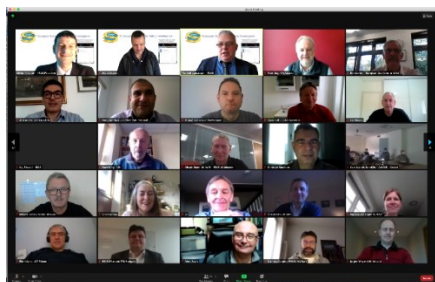
responsive Charity Commission, we should be able to move forward at Budapest 2021.

## ESASI's Next Seminar

Thorkell Agustsson and Brian McDermid presented a number of options for the next seminar and a proposed theme for the half-day workshop 'Disseminating information from a safety investigation'. The timeline to develop the technical program was also discussed and it was agreed to issue the call for presentations at the end of February 2021.

## AOB and Way Forward

ESASI's first online AGM ended within its allotted one hour. We managed to cover the standing business as well as addressing a number of AOB matters, notably on collaboration with other organisations. We also had time for a group picture (see example below).



Example of a screenshot with 25 participants (three of these were taken to have everyone in the group picture)

## ESASI 2020/2021

As noted in the Editorial, because of the restrictions resulting from the coronavirus crisis, the ESASI Committee and the TSB Hungary have postponed the **ESASI Seminar to 1-2 July 2021**. Regrettably, it is the third time that we have had to postpone this event, but these are unusual times. This time, we hope that the warm summer weather combined with vaccinations will make it happen. The seminar will be held back-to-back with an ECAC ACC meeting (30 June) and a half-day meeting of the Military Air Safety Investigators (MASI) group.

The ESASI Seminar has kept the original theme 'Maintaining the Momentum' and the original format.

It will consist of a one-day seminar to share experience, best practices and future

developments, followed by a half-a-day workshop on 'disseminating the findings from a safety investigation'.

## Registration

Registration for ESASI 20/21 will be open in April 2021.



## ESASI FocusOn... Sessions

### Why do we need ESASI FocusOn... sessions?

ESASI has matured since its relaunch, has a good membership base and has run successful low-cost seminars. The first foray into running a workshop (Derby, 2019) was also successful and produced a well-received report. However, we can still improve and reach out to our wide membership base. Therefore, ESASI would like to give our members an opportunity to use virtual meetings to educate and explore issues relevant to their sector, beyond an occasional presentation at the seminars. FocusOn... sessions would complement our seminar and workshop programme, and provide further opportunities each year for us to share and disseminate knowledge and experience. It also further fulfils our charitable aim of educating and informing.

### Why now?

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed individuals' approach to virtual meetings and the technology to support FocusOn... is now available and widely used. Moreover, the aerospace industry is in recession and it will take a number of years to recover. While budgets are being cut, our members still wish to keep in touch and reinforce flight safety through effective and independent safety

investigations. The time is right to start this new ESASI initiative, which will help ESASI to remain current, fresh and relevant.

### What is FocusOn...?

FocusOn... is basically the opportunity to run a mini web-based seminar/workshop that focusses on one specific sector of our industry. The intention is that we get a number of members from the sector to pull the content together and deliver it. The sessions would last between 1 to 2 hours: definitely not more than 2 hours. Feedback on FocusOn... sessions would be fed back to our members via the newsletter, updates on the ESASI website and inputs to ISASI products. The outcomes might lead to other initiatives such as a full ESASI workshop. FocusOn... sessions would be free.

### What about governance and facilitation?

The ESASI committee would approve the aim, scope and content of anything that is going to be delivered. ESASI would facilitate the session via promotion, IT and feedback. An ESASI committee member would be an active participant in any planning to ensure the session meets our standards and aims of ESASI. The same ESASI member would chair the session.

### Trial FocusOn... session - 23 March 2021

ESASI intends to run a trial FocusOn... session on 23 March 2021. The focus will be on insurance activities that run in parallel to a safety investigation. We are still developing the session and are speaking to a number of potential presenters, but would hope to cover: the relationship between the SIA and the insurer; use of the interim and final report; how the insurance industry influences safety standards.

This FocusOn... session will be hosted on Zoom and will start at **1300 UTC (1400 CET) on Tuesday 23 March 2021**. The formal session will be kept to a maximum of 2 hours and the virtual meeting room will be opened from 1230 UTC to allow you to meet and enjoy a coffee (also free!). We also intend to keep the virtual room open for a further 30 minutes at the end of the session to allow members who so which, the opportunity to continue informal discussions.

We will send you more information and joining instructions in due course.



### Call for papers for ISASI 2021

ISASI 2021 (Aug 30 – Sept 2, 2021) will be a virtual event with the theme: “Staying Safe: Moving Forward”. It will be a fully interactive platform so attendees will have the possibility to engage in a Q&A session and to provide feedback.

While many of the papers chosen for ISASI 2020 are expected to be on the program, the 2021 ISASI Committee is inviting interested individuals to submit abstracts for papers that address new investigations or technology.

### Renewal of ISASI dues - reminder

Frank Del Gandio said in his December 2020 message (ISASI update), that it is important for the ISASI financial balance sheet that, where they are able to, members and organisations renew their annual fees as early as possible. This will also help to reduce the load on the hard-working ISASI office manager.

### ESASI Update - 25 January 2021

ESASI's application to register as a charity incorporated organisation CIO was accepted on 25 January 2021. ESASI has been entered onto the Register of Charities with the Registered Charity Number **1193108**. Our society is established for charitable purposes only for the public benefit. This incorporation process has represented a long journey spearheaded by Rob Carter who is warmly thanked!

### **TO JOIN ESASI: Please contact**

**Ann Schull for ISASI membership:**

**[isasi@erols.com](mailto:isasi@erols.com) - or visit:**

**<http://www.isasi.org/Memberships/Individual.aspx>**