

August 2021



European Society of Air Safety Investigators NEWSLETTER

www.esasi.eu

Summer 2021

EDITORIAL

Dear ESASI Members and Friends,

This summer has been marked by virtual seminars. We held a successful ESASI annual webinar on 1-2 July 2021 and are looking forward to meeting again soon during ISASI 2021, from 31 August to 2 September 2021, again in virtual format.

This newsletter contains some feedback and lessons learned from the ESASI July Webinar. In conjunction with this annual seminar, ESASI held its Annual General Meeting. This newsletter also includes the main points of the AGM report.

To maintain our momentum and remain connected, ESASI will have another members' meeting at the end of the second day of the ISASI sessions, as is traditionally the case during the ISASI Annual Seminar, when regional and national societies have an opportunity to get together.

After ISASI 2021, we will try to get together for another 'Focus On...' event in November. It will probably be 'Focus On... Protected Information'. Details will follow on the ESASI website.

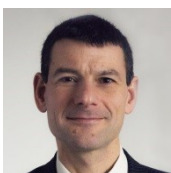
Because of the restrictions resulting from the coronavirus crisis, the ESASI Committee and the TSB Hungary had to postpone again the face-to-face ESASI Seminar that was scheduled this summer. We remain hopeful to meet in Budapest, Hungary, in Spring 2022.

I look forward to meeting you again on the 1st of September 2021 during our Members' (virtual) meeting.

Yours Sincerely,

Olivier FERRANTE
ESASI President

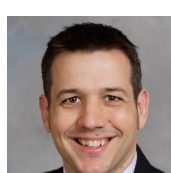
ESASI Committee



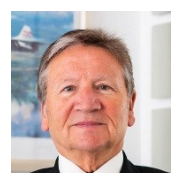
Olivier Ferrante
President



Rob Carter
European Councillor



Matt Greaves
Treasurer



Steve Hull
Secretary



Brian McDermid
Technical Committee



Thorkell Agustsson
Committee Member

ESASI 2021 Annual Seminar (Virtual, 1-2 July 2021)

Summary and Feedback

Out of the 227 registered delegates, 181 participants managed to attend the ESASI webinar, which had a more compact programme than for in-person meetings. The feedback from the online survey showed that the length of the sessions was just right – about 2.5 hours each, with a 15-20 minute break in the middle.

The presentations are summarized hereafter:

Peter Swaffer, Swedish SHK, presented a fatal accident in Sweden involving a parachuting Airvan with 8 jumpers that experienced a rapid descent and in-flight breakup after entering cloud. He showed part of an SHK-generated video describing the investigation and the Safety Recommendations. Peter also described advantages of discussion on the Recommendations with the regulator, EASA, following publication as well as before, also as a good way to have his investigators meet the EASA staff assessing the report.

Mark Jarvis, UK AAIB, presented the AAIB's first deployment to a UAS accident, an Australian-built racing prototype of some 90 kg being demonstrated at a public event. In this case, after loss of ground control the UAS climbed, out of control, to an apogee of about 8,000 feet (into controlled airspace!), before crashing spectacularly, close to housing, when the batteries ran out. The AAIB investigation generated 15 Safety Recommendations, particularly on design standards and the Regulators' role in the approvals process.

Toni Flint and Mark Ellis, UK AAIB, gave an account of a serious incident where an Airbus A321 (G-POWN) suffered engine issues on takeoff due to overdosing of the fuel with biocide. The incident was rich in HF aspects, including the dose miscalculation and the error not being captured before flight. Several Safety Recommendations were made to worldwide regulators to make biocide treatment a Critical Maintenance Task.

Tim Rolfe and Duncan Trapp, representing the wider operator membership of **HeliOffshore**, shared their experiences with accident investigations from operators' viewpoints. They support professional SIA investigation, the appropriate use of cockpit cameras, the consistent involvement of the operator as a key stakeholder and encourage better implementation of Safety Recommendations.

Ragnar Gudmundsson, Icelandic TSB, described a published B757-200 (TF-ISR) EGPWS go-around event, which occurred on approach to Keflavik in very poor weather and included a sink rate of 1,700 ft/min and a minimum height of 221 ft AGL. The report included eight Safety Recommendations.

Philip Plantholt, FlightRadar24, discussed the use of FlightRadar24 in safety investigations. The ADS-B receiver volunteer network keeps expanding rapidly, giving good coverage in most parts of the world and the system also integrates third-party data such as Flight Plans and Flight Status. Philip stressed that FR24 can provide this service for commercial aviation safety cases only, that requests must be timely and that the data provided within this free service can only be offered 'as available'.

David Ferrullo, Airbus Helicopters, discussed "The Myth of Losing Tail Rotor Effectiveness". He provided a description of the apparent phenomenon of 'tail rotor stall', more accurately described as 'Unanticipated yaw'. Accidents with unanticipated yaw are still common. Tests demonstrated how a pilot may feel that the tail rotor is ineffective and showed the need for early and full pilot opposing

pedal reaction to unanticipated yaw. This builds a clear and consistent message, appropriate to the low height conditions where the problem occurs, to be propagated by authorities, industry and flight schools.

Dr. Marcus Bauer, Aviation GmbH, described novel techniques for flight data reconstruction based on video evidence, mostly from witnesses and security cameras. He showed a number of instances of video evidence assisting investigations, giving useful flight parameters not available otherwise. Looking forward, he looked at 'Visual object identification' using artificial intelligence, including algorithms for automatic detection of aircraft attitude that will support further accurate data reconstruction based on video evidence.

ESASI President **Olivier Ferrante**, chair of the ICAO **Accident Investigation Group Panel (AIG-P)**, also gave an extra update on the recent AIG-P/6 virtual meetings.

On-line Survey

92 participants responded to the on-line survey, which is a good number with regard to the 227 registered participants and 181+ attendees. The ESASI 2021 Webinar got excellent feedback, in particular regarding the length of the sessions. The duration (2 half days) and format (Zoom + pre-registered participants) has worked well for this short virtual seminar.

In addition, the choice of timing (afternoon session for Europe) made it possible for colleagues from North and South America to join us at a decent time for them. The pleasant surprise was that participants from Asia and Australia had also made the effort to register and to join us. Overall, ESASI seems to have reached out well beyond Europe.

The survey also displayed good suggestions for future events!

ESASI AGM - Thursday 1 July 2021

The Webinar was also the opportunity for ESASI to hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Committee reported on the year and presented the new Constitution for adoption by the membership.

Introduction and Summary Report

The AGM was introduced by Olivier Ferrante, ESASI chairman, who provided a summary of the activities carried out by the ESASI executive committee since the last virtual AGM, held on 13 November 2020. The Committee could not meet in-person but managed to hold 16 videoconferences during the past 7 months, while publishing two newsletters.

On the initiative of Steve Hull and Brian McDermid, the ESASI Committee organized a new type of event called 'FocusOn...' that was held on 23 March 2021. This inaugural 'FocusOn...' looked at Aviation Insurance, particularly the claims process and the role of loss adjustors that runs in parallel to a safety investigation. The event was a success, with over 120 attendees from Europe and the wider international community.

Olivier Ferrante also reported on the support provided by ESASI to the Military Air Safety Investigators (MASI) group, which held a successful meeting on 30 June 2021 in conjunction with the ESASI Seminar and the 54th meeting of the group of experts on Air Accidents and Incidents Investigations (ECAC ACC).

ISASI Update

Rob Carter reported on his recent experience as ISASI Vice-President. Last year, he succeeded Ron Schleede as ISASI vice president and has also become the new Membership Committee chair, which

has to deal with a couple of challenges, such as setting an electronic renewal system for Corporate and Individual Members.

On finances, Rob stated the ISASI Treasurer, Bob Macintosh, has had to cope with a difficult “challenging” year due to the COVID crisis. The situation has apparently stabilised for 2021, but efforts remain underway to limit costs and collect more membership dues. For example, savings could be achieved by switching from paper to digital Forum subscriptions.

ISASI is also about to amend its ByLaws, at the request of its President Del Gandio. The changes would include becoming an ISASI Life Member from the age of 75, having the International Council Meeting minutes available in 30 days and providing two votes for Corporate members (one the member and another one for his/her alternate).

Rob concluded with the upcoming ISASI seminars between 2021 and 2024:

- ISASI 2021 is organised by CSASI. It was supposed to be held in-person last year in Montreal but was converted into an online/virtual event from 31 August to 2 September 2021.
- ISASI 2022 is organised by ASASI to be held in Brisbane, Queensland. It is hoped that the travel restrictions will be over but there is also discussion about a possible ‘hybrid’ event.
- ISASI 2023 should take place in the South-East Region of the United States, possibly in Charleston, Nashville or Savannah.
- ISASI 2024 could be organised by ESASI in a European venue. This project will be discussed in the upcoming meetings.

ESASI financial update

Matt Greaves, ESASI Treasurer, gave a short update on ESASI’s accounts. Overall the situation has not changed since his last update. The current balance is about £24.9k while ESASI had already paid a deposit of £10.2k to secure the conference centre and hotel accommodation for the seminar in Budapest.

ESASI Membership

Steve Hull reported on ESASI’s membership, which is currently 172 members on the basis of what is displayed on the restricted pages of the ISASI website. He underlined that ESASI does not receive a yearly listing of ESASI Members but is informed as soon as a new European Member joins ISASI. Each year, ESASI receives a list of those who have not renewed their membership.

In 2021 so far, five new Student Members have joined which is good news. ESASI Members have been asked to actively encourage other Aviation Professionals, in particular airlines, to join as well.

There are currently 38 ESASI Corporate Members from State Investigation Authorities, Airlines, Manufacturers, Universities, Suppliers and other entities such as the recent registration of the Dutch Aviation Police.

Steve Hull invited non-ESASI members to register and pointed out that ESASI does not take any membership dues separate from ISASI.

ESASI Constitution and ToRs

Rob Carter provided the rationale for the need of an ESASI Constitution, notably as regards to taxation considerations. Since 25 January 2021, ESASI has become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the Registered Charity Number 1193108. Our society is established for charitable purposes, only

for the public benefit. The AGM was asked to accept the Constitution approved by the Charity Commission and to review the draft Terms of Reference that have been made available since the previous AGM.

The ESASI 'Constitution' on Charity Commission is a formal document based on a Charity Commission template. It has to be formally adopted and can be amended by member vote. The ESASI President pointed out that there were ESASI Members and non-members in the audience. To ease the process and avoid checking the voting rights of everyone, he asked if anyone was against the proposed text of the ESASI Constitution, on which Members had multiple opportunities to comment during the past months. There was no opposition and the CIO was considered as adopted by the AGM of 1st July 2021.

As regard the 'Terms of Reference', this document covers a description of ESASI, the relationship with ISASI as well as the practical aspects of running ESASA (how we do it, who does what, etc.). The ToRs may be amended by the Charity Trustees (the ESASI committee).

ESASI's next events

Brian McDermid and Thorkell Agustsson, the pillars of the ESASI Technical Committee, provided an update of ESASI's next events.

They announced that ESASI 2021 would be followed by a second 'FocusOn....' that would be on 'Protected Information'. It is due to be held in November 2021. The next topic for 2022 remains to be decided.

Regarding ESASI 2022, it will be organized (again) in Budapest in Spring 2022, in the format of a one-day normal seminar followed by half-a-day workshop on Reporting (in the continuation of ideas expressed during the Derby workshop, 2019).

Way Forward

Olivier Ferrante opened a discussion with Members as to how ESASI and ISASI should move forward. In the short term, ESASI elections will be organised by the end of the year to expand the current Committee. Candidates who might consider joining the Committee, who are also the Charity Trustees, will be invited to step forward and send a letter of intent ('motivation'). He wrapped up the meeting by highlighting that the discussion would continue during the ESASI Society Meeting organized during ISASI 2021.

ESASI SOCIETY MEETING

1 September 2021 – 19:00 UTC

In conjunction with ISASI 2021, the ESASI executive committee elected to maintain the traditional national society meeting, even though ESASI held its AGM exactly two month ago, on 1 July 2021.

This short meeting aims to keep in touch and to discuss a couple of topics listed hereafter in this informal agenda:

- 1) Introduction of ESASI Committee
- 2) AGM report

- 3) Discussion on the enlargement of the ESASI executive committee (from 6 to 8)
- 4) ISASI 2024 in Europe
- 5) AOBs

The ESASI Committee (now Charity Trustees) are aware of the weird time and of the fact that this meeting will take place after a long day of interesting presentations. The connection to the ESASI meeting will flow from the main ISASI stream.

TO JOIN ESASI: Please contact
Ann Schull for ISASI membership:
isasi@erols.com - or visit:
<http://www.isasi.org/Memberships/Individual.aspx>