

NATCA Safety & Tech Update
Week of July 3, 2017

AIR TRAFFIC REQUIREMENTS (AJV-7): James Keith (D10) is NATCA's Article 114 Representative to the AJV-7 Office. His update for this report is below.

The SRMP ended June 1st with the decision to gather more data and reconvene the SRMP in August.

Attended several meetings on AIMM SIG 3. The meetings are working on the process of digitizing and making available SOP's, LOA's, charts and other information.

Meet with the NUT in Phoenix to brief them on future concepts to include but not limited to controller-to-controller coordination using automation.

Attend Monthly ERAW meeting.

The AFTS demo at Mitre was the week of June 12-16th. AFTS is a concept in strategic route changes for traffic management.

The week of June 26th-30th I am at NCT and SFO to meet with controllers to discuss pair approaches. The work force at NCT and SFO do an amazing job with the SFO finals with the closely spaced parallels. The membership was very helpful in providing information on how the operation is run, thereby allowing the engineers some insight on what is needed in the future concept of paired approaches.

Continue work on numerous work groups on short-range radar (SRR) reduction. The agency is working on a business case that would reduce the SRR footprint in the NAS.

The terminal CHI team met with TAMR representative to discuss a path for providing a better weather display on the glass for STARS. More to come while we progress and work on the CHI. We will be traveling to Atlantic City tech center to look at possible prototypes in the coming weeks.

HUMAN PERFORMANCE: Jay Barrett (MIA) is the Article 114 Representative for Human Performance. His report is below.

No-Experience Direct Hire Initial Screen (NDIS)—This group continues to work on many activities that Tom Adcock has more details on. My current involvement is in the major milestone of the validation of the certification standards at F11, followed immediately by deployment of the validated standards at N90.

Certification Standards —We have met with the leadership team and visited F11 where we made our pitch for validation of the certification standards. The facility is very cooperative and is eager to participate in helping us validate the standards. The week of July 17 we will convene a validation workgroup in DC to scrub the standards that were developed at N90 and ensure they are ready for national TRACON deployment. There will be 4 NATCA participants from 4 different TRACONS around the country. We are on track to begin training at F11 on 8/7 with a rolling deployment of the facility using the standards over a 3-week period. The goal is to have everyone trained and using the new standards continuously by first week of September. We will support F11 for the foreseeable future, but in parallel would be transitioning to training and deployment at N90 in early October.

Safety Culture Assessment - We will be doing survey collection at TPA on the week of July 10. The goal is to encourage as much participation as possible to compile a robust data set that the HPT can analyze and conduct follow up workshops in August. The goal of the workshops is to inform the TPA workforce on the safety culture attitudes and environment, as it exists at TPA. This process is patterned after a longstanding process that was developed by Eurocontrol. A representative from Eurocontrol (Steve Sharrock) came to DC to do a 2-day demo of what the process looks like when they do it in Europe. This turned out to be very informative and helpful for us to develop the process we will use. There are a lot of organizational differences between the ANSPs in Europe and US. AJI has a goal of doing these assessments at more facilities next fiscal year, based on the efficacy of this pilot in TPA.

Investigation training - There has been some leadership changes in the AJI investigations group. The HPT did a dry run of this training for our internal team to see what materials work and what needs to be modified. We are still on track to deliver HF investigations training, but the timeline may slip due to the new players. I have been assured by AJI leadership that my involvement in this process will be welcomed. This is a radical change from the posture of this group from 2 years ago.

Teamwork Resource Management - (TRM) I was advised that we are looking for a facility to demo this class. The previous facility selected was not interested in participating. More to come.

Health & Wellness

Stress education - Materials have been forwarded to the recurrent training group. We continue to compile information and scientific research we feel will benefit the recurrent training group.

AT Survival guide - Coming along nicely. We have populated the outline with some substance and look forward to scrubbing this in mid September.

Fatigue

ZOA - We will visit ZOA on August 2-5 to do briefings and distribute the actigraphs. We will begin the 30-day sleep study of the PAC-N & S oceanic areas. We should have a report available sometime in October on sleep amounts the controllers are getting in their off duty time.

In General

I participated in a two day IBC training workshop with the majority of AJI and the NATCA reps in AJI. It was conducted by Vern Huffman and Mike Bigler. It was very refreshing to see the exchange of information and hopefully some of the lingering issues in AJI will be addressed and resolved.