LEAP Class Trains NATCA Leaders for Success & Excellence

NATCA leaders from all over the country gathered with longtime lead instructor Scott Airitam, from Leadership Systems, in Glen Rose, Texas, for the Leadership Experience Acceleration Project (LEAP) class in March. The LEAP class is an investment in our members and the future of NATCA. This training helps develop principle-centered leaders that will carry our Union into the future. Assisting Airitam as the NATCA instructors were Southern Alternate Regional Vice President (ARVP) Dan McCabe and Critical Incident Stress Management Committee Chair Sarah Grampp (Kansas City Center, ZKC), with Northwest Mountain RVP Alex Navarro and Southern RVP Jim Marinitti assisting as mentors for the course.
“This LEAP class included a fantastic bunch of selfless and talented leaders of our Union,” Grampp said. “It is always a great experience to witness them coming together to strengthen their skills for the betterment of our Union and profession.”

With this class, more than 400 NATCA members have completed LEAP training since it was introduced in 2007.

Flight delays remain a major problem in the U.S. National Airspace System (NAS), and a significant portion of delays are caused by reductions in en route capacity due to weather. Eric Avila (Houston Center, ZHU) is NATCA’s Article 114 National Weather Representative, and represents NATCA and air traffic controllers around the nation in integration of new weather technologies to improve the NAS.
Avila collaborates with his FAA counterparts on numerous NextGen weather programs. Working together, they are developing weather products that will aid air traffic controllers and air traffic managers in their daily operations.

A new system Avila and his counterparts are working to integrate into the NAS, Aviation Weather Display (AWD), will consolidate the Weather and Radar Processor (WARP) and Corridor Integrated Weather System (CIWS). The AWD will enable traffic managers to evaluate weather impacts and plan initiatives. Air traffic controllers will also have access to the AWD, replacing WARP weather displays, in their areas.

In January, the Human Factors Working Group (HFWG) and Avila hosted management and NATCA subject matter experts (SMEs) to demonstrate the AWD at the William J. Hughes Technical Center (WJHTC) in Atlantic City, N.J. Over three days, Avila assisted with demonstrating the AWD to the SMEs and instructing them in how to use it, so that they could provide the HFWG with feedback. The HFWG will work with the vendor to fix issues prior to key site testing, which is planned for Salt Lake City Center (ZLC), Salt Lake City TRACON (S56), Salt Lake City ATCT (SLC), Atlanta Center (ZTL), Atlanta TRACON (A80), Atlanta ATCT (ATL), Oakland Center (ZOA), and San Francisco ATCT (SFO) later this summer. AWD is expected to reach Initial Operating Capability in early 2024.

Read more updates from Avila and NATCA’s National Article 114 Representatives [here](#).

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**Congratulations to Our Newest NATCA FacReps!**

The NATCA Onboarding Committee welcomes and thanks all new NATCA leaders who have recently taken office for their terms as FacReps at their local facilities.
Congratulations
to our
newest FacReps

Central
Steven Martin (Jefferson City FCT, JEF)

Great Lakes
Matthew Reavis (Detroit TRACON, D21)
J. Sisk (St. Paul ATCT, STP)

Northwest Mountain
Mijeong Holmes (Pasco ATCT, PSC)

Southern
Nicholas Covey (Huntsville ATCT, HSV)
Robert Moreland (Opa Locka FCT, OPF)
Eric Slater (Columbia ATCT, CAE)
August Lambros (St. Augustine FCT, SGJ)
Jason Hayes (Paducah FCT, PAH)
Will Reeves (Flager FCT, FIN)

Southwest
Tyler Mabry (Stillwater FCT, SWO)

Western Pacific
Gregory Sargeant (Livermore ATCT, LVK)
Spencer Humphries (Reno ATCT, RNO)

Region X
Jason Holland (New England Region, Engineers and Architects)
Register Now for NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention
Cutoff Date to Book Hotel Room Is April 26

Step 1: Register for the Event

To register, click here.

When you register, you will also be given the option to buy tickets for evening events.

Please note, tickets prices will continue to increase as Convention approaches, and tickets will NOT be available at the door.

Step 2: Convention Hotel Registration

For Convention, NATCA National does not pay for members' hotel rooms nor make their hotel reservations. Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the individual member and are paid for by the member or their local.

The NATCA Convention Rate is $249/per night, plus tax. The cutoff date to book your room is April 26.

To book your room, click here.

If you have any questions, or if you'd like assistance booking, changing, or canceling a hotel reservation, please call the hotel at (855) 689-2911.

For more information, visit our website.