

NATCA at the AUVSI Xponential Conference 2023

Tom Adcock (NATCA Director of Safety and Technology), Jimmy Smith (NATCA National Article 114 UAS Representative), Will Hutson (NATCA National Article 114 UAM/UTM Representative), and Joel Ortiz (NATCA Western Pacific Regional Vice President) attended the Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) Xponential Conference at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, May 9-11.



Xponential is often referred to as the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) world. Every year, XPONENTIAL hosts thousands of researchers, executives, engineers, program managers,

policymakers, and end users from more than 20 industries and 60 countries.

The event was comprised of daily keynotes from global aviation leaders, including Acting FAA Administrator Billy Nolan, breakout sessions, and a large expo area with hundreds of industry vendors who showcased products, services, and informative briefings. This year, Xponential focused on four core themes: the design, operationalization, integration, and safeguarding of uncrewed and robotic technology.

Next year, AUVSI Xponential will be held in San Diego, Calif. from April 23-25.

ASI Committee Update

NATCA's Air Safety Investigations (ASI) Committee has had a busy 2023, accompanying the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on six investigations.

The NATCA Air Safety Investigator's primary task is to provide an objective controller-based perspective to NTSB investigations of aircraft accidents or incidents that involve air traffic control services. The NATCA ASI works as part of the team of investigators to determine the probable cause of an aircraft accident and formulate recommendations to prevent future occurrences.



Air Safety Investigations (ASI) Update May 2023

"We would like to remind our membership that the NTSB should not show up unannounced," ASI Committee Chair Karena Marinas said. "Always engage your FacRep before talking to the NTSB. FacReps should reach out to the ASI committee or your RVP/ARVP if you have any questions."

There is an impending change to the ASI accident/incident checklist for NATCA's Federal Contract Tower (FCT) members Slate book bargaining unit employees (BUEs) are only required to give personnel statements for pilot deviations. However, flight standards may require FCT BUEs at facilities using surveillance-based air traffic control to give statements. Personnel statements are not required for aircraft accidents.

Learn more about the ASI committee, and find the accident/incident checklists, <u>here</u>.

NATCA Benefits: Husk Marketplace

NATCA Benefits introduces Husk Marketplace, formerly known as Globalfit 360 and brought to you by Union Plus. Whether you want discounts at your local gym, are looking for mental health help, interested in virtual classes, or want discounts on fitness tech and equipment, Husk provides NATCA members with unbeatable prices.



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