

NATCA Hosts 2025 Corporate Partners Event in Washington, DC

On June 16, NATCA hosted the 2025 Corporate Partners Event which celebrates the important collaboration between air traffic controllers and corporate members dedicated to modernizing the National Airspace System (NAS). As aviation rapidly evolves with space launches, unmanned systems, and emerging technologies, this collaboration is essential to maintaining the NAS as the safest, most efficient, and most forward-looking in the world.

"The NAS of tomorrow won't look like the NAS of today. It demands a shared vision—and leaders who won't wait for change to happen to us but are ready



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to build it with us," said NATCA President Nick Daniels. "With the increasing presence of space launches, unmanned aerial systems, and emerging technologies, we cannot afford to stand still. We must evolve—and we must do it together."

Daniels emphasized the need for continued investment in new technologies, equipment, and training—grounded in strong collaboration. NATCA's corporate partners bring the innovation and expertise needed to turn challenges into practical solutions, strengthening every phase of system development and deployment.

Keynote speaker Kristie Greco Johnson, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs at the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA), spoke on the aviation industry's role in helping convince Congress to fund Department of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy's plan to modernize the ATC system.

"We've got our work cut out for us here," Greco Johnson said. "I think what we

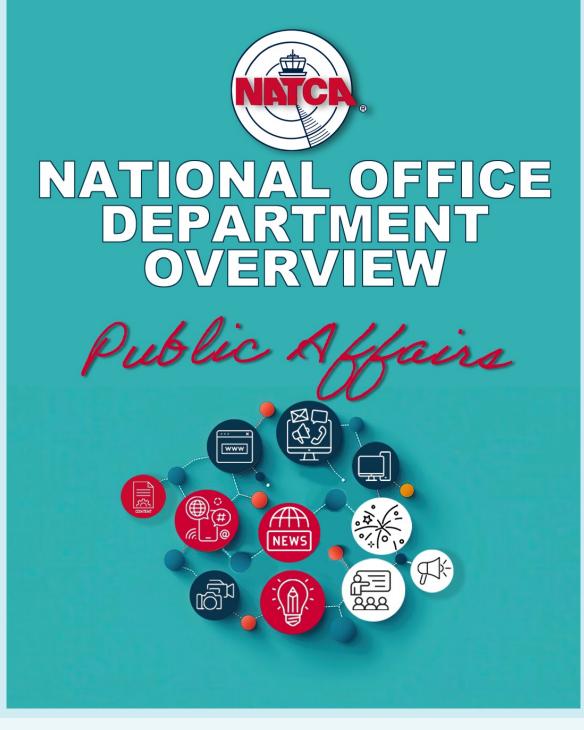
should all focus on here in the next few weeks is increasing this investment. I think what Congress is looking for here is what's different. How is this investment going to be any different than the billions of dollars that the Congress has invested in next-gen technology? And I think we've got the knowledge and expertise here in the room with the partners here and our partners in our Modern Skies coalition to talk a little bit about what is different."

Photos from the 2025 Corporate Partners Event are available on<u>NATCA's</u> Flickr page.

NATCA Department Overview: Public Affairs

NATCA is incredibly fortunate to have staff at our National Office that exemplify dedication and excellence in support of the goals of our Union. Each day, they deliver unparalleled service and representation to NATCA's members. To give NATCA members more information about the work they do, we will be sharing articles that provide an overview of the work done by each department to support our Union. Today, we are presenting the first of this series of articles – an overview of NATCA's Public Affairs Department – spotlighting the work the department's team members perform.

NATCA's Public Affairs Department has a broad range of responsibilities. The department currently has a team of a dozen employees. It is led by a staff director and three deputy directors who each oversee on a day-to-day basis one of the following areas: 1) media relations and public and member communications, 2) planning for NATCA National events and trainings, and 3) our Union's information technology (IT) functions.



Communications

In addition to the director and deputy director, NATCA's two public affairs specialists and a graphic designer lead a robust media outreach and public and member communications effort. They have managed hundreds and hundreds of high-profile media engagements in recent months, including national interviews on Fox News, MSNBC, CNN, ABC, CBS, Politico, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, and others. This team drafts communications such as press statements, talking points, speeches, and news articles. They create content for our Union's website and social media channels that continues to draw growing website traffic, social media views, and engagement. These staff members coordinate with all NATCA departments and member committees to generate news items and work with NATCA's Communications Committee to share information for regional communications.

Events & Training

In addition to the director and deputy director, NATCA's two additional events team members provide the staff planning leadership for our Union's national events, such as NATCA in Washington, NATCA's Communicating For Safety Conference (CFS), NATCA's Activism and Training Expo (ATX), and NATCA's biennial conventions. In addition, this team provides logistical oversight for the 25 classes that the NATCA Academy organizes, arranges 10 meet & greet events for FAA Academy trainees each year, plans NATCA's annual Corporate Partner reception, and coordinates our Union's involvement in dozens of other aviation events each year, including NATCA's pavilion at EAA's AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis., as well as our Union's exhibiting and speaking opportunities at other conferences. They also work closely with NATCA Members to support multiple regional outreach efforts.

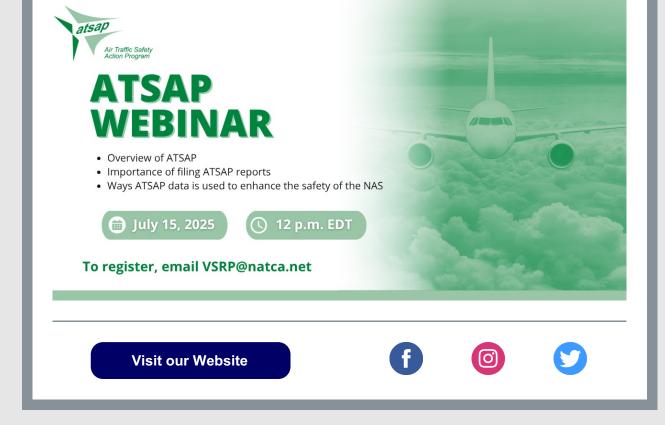
Information Technology

In addition to the director and deputy director for IT, NATCA's IT manager, IT administrator, and web administrator coordinate hardware and systems used by NATCA members and staff. Their responsibilities include administering the email accounts used by members and staff and making sure they aren't compromised by malware and phishing attacks, administering our Union's Microsoft 365/Teams environment, maintaining the backend of NATCA's websites and preventing viruses and other hacks, and maintaining NATCA's member databases. At our headquarters, this team procures and maintains computers and other hardware for all NATCA staff. They have built and maintain smart teleconference equipment in several of NATCA's HQ conference rooms. They also maintain NATCA's telephone and Wi-Fi systems and other office equipment. These employees coordinate closely with NATCA's IT Committee on these duties.

You can read more detail about what work falls under each of these areas on our website.

Join the ATSAP Webinar on July 15

Join ATSAP's quarterly webinar on July 15 at 12 p.m. EDT. This collaborative webinar will provide an overview of the ATSAP process, why it is important to file reports, and how reports are being used to enhance safety within our national airspace system. This webinar is open to all members. Please email <u>VSRP@natca.net</u> to register.



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