

IAOPA eNews – February 2016

WA Update Two Keynote Speakers Confirmed

Mr. Patrick Ky, Executive Director of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), and Dr. Fang Liu, Secretary General International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), have confirmed their attendance during the keynote session at the 28th IAOPA World Assembly, July 21-24, 2016. This year's World Assembly is being hosted by AOPA US and is shaping up to be a must attend event for all affiliates. Please note that early registration is ending soon! Those that have registered prior to February 15th are automatically entered for a chance to join IAOPA President Mark Baker and experience a unique Howard fly-in being held in Rice Lake Wisconsin. All you need to do to register is to go online at www.iaopa.org/2016-world-assembly.cfm.



IAOPA Joins in Supporting Single Engine Commercial Operations

IAOPA Europe has joined with leading general aviation manufactures and associations supporting finalized rules for single engine commercial operations in Europe. In the joint letter, *“The EASA Committee is urged to adopt the long-awaited mature regulatory framework to allow safe, single engine commercial operations – allowing Europe to move with the proven ICAO framework used in all other continents – based on sound, independent safety analysis and years of experience elsewhere.”*

The letter goes on to explain that today; there are very limited operations under exemptions being conducted by a handful of European operators. Those operators are

facing economic uncertainty and are unable to make long-term business plans to grow their business. The result is having a direct impact on the connectivity and competitiveness of Europe's more distant and outermost regions, a specific target for EU's Regional Policy priorities. The group is asking for the timely review and issuance of the single engine turbine –IMC regulation by the European Commission.

2015 IAOPA Activity Report Available

The summary of IAOPA activities accomplished during 2015 is complete and will be mailed to IAOPA affiliates (along with their invoice for 2016 dues). This report highlights the many activities undertaken by the organization to protect general aviation around the globe. An excerpt from the report:

IAOPA continued to gain strength in the international aviation arena from an increased membership base when the Board approved and welcomed AOPA-Estonia as the 74th affiliate member. AOPA Bulgaria was reconstituted and became an active affiliate in 2015. IAOPA staff continued an active membership campaign by providing affiliation information and guidance to interested pilot groups in throughout the globe. Provisional approval was granted to AOPA Moldova growing the total number of affiliates to 75.

If you would like an electronic version of the 2015 Activity Report, please contact IAOPA Headquarters.

IAOPA Europe Works to Fix Problem with Part-Med

EASA has confirmed that they will fix a problem in the current medical regulations (Part-Med) that IAOPA Europe has been working at correcting for the past three years.

Under the current rules, if a pilot with a commercial allows their class I medical to expire and wants to fly non-commercially they are forced to convert their license into a PPL. Even if they possess a valid class II medical, they cannot fly legally on a non-commercial flight until they convert their commercial license into a PPL.

When his Class I medical is then renewed, the conversion process must be accomplished to regain commercial privileges. The end result is a lot of unnecessary bureaucracy and two license conversion fees with absolutely no safety benefits. On the contrary, it creates unnecessary obstacles for a commercial pilot who is temporarily without a job and who wants to stay proficient by doing some non-commercial flying.

Also it goes against the whole idea of the medical system where a Class I medical automatically downgrades to a Class II medical.

EASA has now recognized the problem and will correct this situation in the next update of Part-MED.

EASA Seeking Survey Data on General Aviation IR Activities

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) has commenced a rulemaking activity RMT.0677 on 'easier access of General aviation (GA) pilots to instrument flight rules (IFR) flying'. A key step in this process is to gain an understanding of the current situation, especially within the EASA Member States, regarding the uptake of instrument ratings.

Therefore, the Agency is kindly asking for your support by responding to the following questionnaire related to this subject as well as to forward them to the operators and training organizations involved:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/IRRatingforGA2015>

The Agency would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for responding to the questionnaires, your support in this rulemaking task and your contribution to improving aviation safety within the EASA Member States.

You are kindly requested to respond to the questionnaire by 01 March 2016.

Date for Memorial Hans Gutmann Tourist Rally Announced

AOPA Luxembourg, in coordination with FAI, have announced the dates for the 2016 Memorial Hans Gutmann Tourist Rally. This year's event will be held from Friday August 5th – Monday August 15th, 2016. Every year, pilots from all over Europe fly together, across borders, to countries all over Europe. Flying that way, they pay tribute to Hans Gutmann, the renowned Austrian airman, who organized so many long-range trips. Jean Birgen, a Technical Officer FAI-GAC and board member of UPL-AOPA Luxembourg, has taken over the responsibility to organize the annual long-range rally.

This year the group is planning to explore Georgia and the European Caucasus. Highlights of the planned event include the opportunity for pilots to fly from the hub nearby Tbilisi, Georgia pilots have options to either:

- Participate at the tourist program which will be put together
- Discover the Georgian regions by plane
 - Svaneti and fly to the newly opened Mestia airport high in the Caucasus
 - Shkhara – the highest peak in Georgia at 5200 meters and a part of the most beautiful and popular alpine climbing mountain chain – Bezengi
 - Discover the Kakheti wine region in passing - landing in Telavi
 - Discover sub-tropical Batumi at the Georgian black sea coast
- Individual fly outs to Armenia and Azerbaijan

Pilots interested in participating can find additional information at www.georgia2016.eu or email event organizers directly at: info@georgia2016.eu.

AIR SAFETY INSTITUTE RELEASES VIDEO AIMED AT COLLISION AVOIDANCE



The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Air Safety Institute (ASI) has released a new video aimed at informing pilots about how to avoid midair collisions. [Collision Avoidance: See, Sense, Separate](#) helps pilots to know when and where most midair collisions occur as well as steps to reduce the risk.

“While there are only an average of about five to ten midair collisions a year, the risk is not zero, and the AOPA Air Safety Institute is committed to working with pilots to bring that number down,” said ASI Senior Vice President George Perry. “This video does a great job pointing out the times and places where extra vigilance can prevent midair collisions.”

The video, made possible by the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA) Flight Safety Foundation and Donner Canadian Foundation, looks at some of the commonalities among midair collisions, and offers some strategies for minimizing your chance of being involved in one.

Link to IAOPA Europe Newsletter

Read the latest information on what IAOPA affiliates are doing in Europe. AOPAs in every part of the globe are making a positive difference for general aviation and there is simply not enough room to publish all that is being done to keep you flying. For the latest updates on what is going on at IAOPA Europe, check their website at <http://www.iaopa.eu/>

Pass on This Newsletter to Your Members

Nothing can keep existing members, and attract new members like reminding them of the great work that IAOPA affiliates, and IAOPA, are doing on national, regional, and international levels to keep them flying. Great work is being done in all parts of the globe to advance the interests of general aviation and the best way to share the message is to make sure that this newsletter gets to as many members and non-members alike. So I encourage you to publish this on your website, send on via email to your members, and do what you can to help spread the word.

Our focus with the e-News is to let the world know what IAOPA Affiliate around the globe are doing to keep general aviation flying. Each affiliate AOPA is encouraged to submit stories that we can post in e-News to share your successes so that others can benefit. Stories should be directed to the Secretary General, contact IAOPA HQ if you need additional information or have any questions.