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SAFE News

SAFE Association - Our 70th Year

VOLUME 28 | NUMBER 1 | WINTER 2025



DEDICATED TO ENSURING PERSONAL SAFETY AND PROTECTION IN LAND, SEA, AIR, AND SPACE ENVIRONMENTS

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Your 2024/2025 Board of Directors



On the Front Cover

SAFE Symposium Exhibitor (Center) discusses a helmet modification kit to enhance comfort, stability, and noise protection with two aircrew members in search of solutions.



On the Back Cover

Your 2024/2025 Board of Directors assembled in Mobile, Alabama for the 2nd Quarter Board of Directors meeting in preparation of the 2025 SAFE Association Symposium.



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THE SAFE NEWSLETTER?

Contact the Information Management Team:
info-mgt@safassociation.com

Follow us on Social Media



President's Message

By Steve Bromley | SAFE Association President

Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on our collective accomplishments and share my excitement for the opportunities that lie ahead for our association.

First off, I would like to thank Nicole Stefanoni for her leadership this past year as SAFE President as well as the entire 2024 Board of Directors for their dedication and devotion to our association. Without their passion and support to guide and develop the SAFE Association, we truly would not have such a well-rounded professional community as we have today. Nicole and her team of professionals volunteered their time and set a healthy bar for future Board members to work towards. My plan for 2025 is to build on Nicole's, and past Presidents', successes to continually improve and support our members.

The past year has been one of growth, collaboration, and resilience. Together, we've achieved significant milestones that have strengthened our association and brought us closer to our shared vision. Specifically, shaping a professional association comprised of Government, Industry and Academic experts who know what it is to be SAFE. From our ever-expanding membership (both corporate and individual) initiatives to the successful launch of new membership benefits such as the new Al Loving Scholarship to yet another successful Symposium in Virginia Beach, we've demonstrated the power of community and the impact of working together as one SAFE!

Looking forward, 2025 promises to be another productive year for the SAFE Association. Our goals for the year include the strengthening of our relationships with Government and Industry leaders, the development of a clearer strategic outlook for the association, the release of our new website and, of course, a successful 63rd Annual Symposium in Mobile, Alabama. These efforts are designed to deliver even greater value to you, our members, while advancing our mission.

I encourage each of you to get involved—whether by participating in events, volunteering to assist the Board of Directors, perhaps even running for a position on the Board, or simply sharing your ideas to shape the future of our association. Your engagement is needed, valued and the cornerstone of our success without which we would not exist. I am confident that with your continued support, we will continue to achieve great things together.

On behalf of the 2025 Board of Directors, thank you for your dedication, passion, and contributions to our association. Let's make this year one of innovation, collaboration, and progress. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the year, please feel free to reach out to me any time. Here's to a successful and inspiring year ahead!

SYMPOSIUM STATS

Virginia Beach Oct 2024

800

Attendees



55

Exhibiting Companies



19

Nations Represented



50+

Papers Presented



62nd Annual SAFE Symposium Recap

By Emma Sutcliffe | Symposium Chair

October 2024 – Virginia Beach, Virginia

Stacy Stuber | SAFE Association Administrator

The 62nd Annual SAFE Symposium in Virginia Beach built on the success of the previous year, offering another exceptional event with industry-leading presentations, dynamic exhibits, and unmatched networking opportunities.

In 2024, we welcomed over 800 attendees, 55 exhibiting companies, and representatives from 19 countries. The technical paper presentations remained a highlight, with over 50 papers shared across three days, and we look forward to similar levels in 2025.

The symposium featured several engaging panels, including:

- Optimizing Human Performance in Military Operational Environments
- Auditory Performance Research in Military Aviation
- Enabling Female Aircrew Panel

Additionally, training briefings such as Artificial Intelligence to Enable Safe Military Training and Modernizing Naval Training to Enhance Warfighter Safety contributed to a diverse program. We are excited to curate another compelling lineup of panels and briefings for 2025.

We also had insightful briefings from USN and USAF representatives, covering topics like:

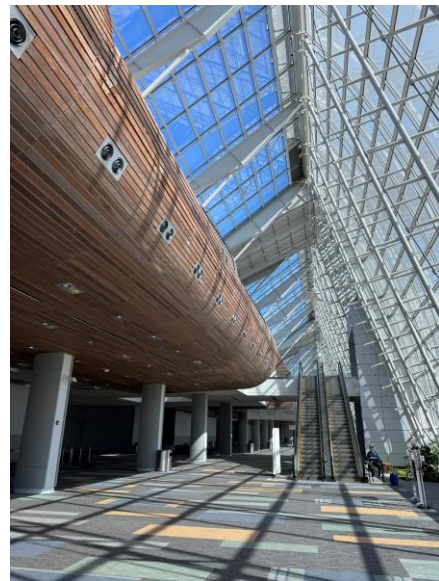
- Tri-Service Science and Technology Briefing
- Tri-Service Safety Centre Briefings
- USN – Survival in Different Environments
- USAF - Air Worthiness
- USAFA – Tomorrow's Acquisition Space between Military and Industry

Co-located Groups

Co-located groups added significant value to the symposium, including:

- Aerospace Anthropomorphic Test Device Advisory Group (AATDAG)
- CAD/PAD JPO Industry Day
- Joint Services Industry Day
- ACES 5 Steering Committee

These groups play a crucial role in fostering networking and collaboration, and we look forward to hosting them again in 2025.



Speakers

We were honoured to welcome Colonel (Ret.) Chris “Elroy” Stricklin, U.S. Air Force, as a guest speaker during the opening morning of the Symposium. He shared his inspiring journey of resilience and survival, detailing his experience of navigating life after the trauma of an aircraft ejection as an Air Force Thunderbird. Thank you, Mr Stricklin, for your powerful and thought-provoking presentation!

In addition, Cadet Second Class Max Haas, Systems Engineering Major from the US Air Force Academy spoke on the Integrated Capabilities Command stood up in October as part of the US Air Force reorganization.

Sponsorships

Sponsorships were an integral part of the symposium's success, with 20 businesses participating. From enhanced booth spaces to creative networking stations like popcorn carts and coffee kiosks, we encourage businesses to explore sponsorship opportunities for 2025 to elevate their presence. We couldn't do it without you – thank you for your continued support.



Thank You

A sincere thank you to all the authors, presenters, attendees, and sponsors who made the 2024 symposium an outstanding event. Your continued support of the SAFE Association is invaluable. We look forward to welcoming you to the 63rd Annual SAFE Symposium in 2025.

DIAMOND SPONSORS:



PLATINUM SPONSORS:



Save the Date!

The 63rd Annual SAFE Symposium will return to Mobile, AL from November 4th-6th. Keep an eye on your emails in early February for more details, including booth and sponsorship launch dates!

GOLD SPONSORS:



SILVER SPONSORS:



LANYARD SPONSOR:



POPCORN SPONSORS:



COFFEE SPONSOR:





2024 Annual SAFE Awards

**MICHAEL R. GROSST CAREER
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**



DR. BARRY S. SHENDER, PH.D.

**GENERAL SPRUANCE INDIVIDUAL
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**



MSGT COREY HOLT, USAF

**TEAM
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**



**NAVAL AVIATION SURVIVAL TRAINING
PROGRAM, F-35 CURRICULA DEVELOPMENT**

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
AWARD**



KEVIN "DUMPSTER" DIVERS

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
AWARD**



MR. MARK RUDDELL

2024 Annual SAFE Awards, Cont...

PRESIDENT'S AWARD



DR. CAMILLE BILGER, PH.D.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD



MARCIA BALDWIN

PRESIDENT EMERITUS



ALLEN LOVING

PRESIDENT'S AWARD
SAFE CORPORATE SUSTAINING
MEMBER



EAST/WEST INDUSTRIES

CHRIS J. MOTTA – SMALL
EXHIBITOR AWARD



EAGLE INDUSTRIES

CHRIS J. MOTTA – LARGE
EXHIBITOR AWARD



OMNI DEFENSE
TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION

MERITORIOUS SERVICE
AWARD

NO RECIPIENT FOR 2024



MURRAY P. KOCH
INDUSTRY AWARD

NO RECIPIENT FOR 2024



Maximize Your Membership in 2025

By Chris Moore | Membership Committee Chair

I am excited to take on the role of your 2025 Membership Chair! The SAFE Association continues to stand by its vision of preserving human life through innovation, collaboration, and sharing of information. This mission would be hard to achieve without membership, individual or corporate, as a strong backbone of this mission, which helps in extending invitations, increasing the knowledge base and creating an environment for change that leads to saving of lives.

As an individual member you are an important part of our community with your viewpoints, experiences and expertise. Your presence at events, your ideas, your information, your participation in the forums are valuable to us and help us in achieving our objectives.

For our corporate members, your presence enhances our visibility and effectiveness. Your organization's support in the form of sponsorship, funding of research and business partnership is crucial in identifying ways of enhancing production of life saving products and services. Also, your organization's support makes it a safety and survival champion and puts it side by side with other big players in the market.

We would not be where we are without individual and corporate members' active participation. The collaboration and innovation that happens within the SAFE Association depend on your participation and support. We would lack the development of new ideas, the benefit of combined effort, and the funding to support our activities and events.

Your support as an individual, or as a corporate partner, is what keeps the SAFE Association moving forward in safety and survival efforts. We can keep on developing, planning, and achieving together to save lives.

How to Maximize Your Membership in 2025

Expand Your Network: Through participation, you get to meet industry leaders, innovators, and peers. Individual members can build professional relationships, while corporate members can showcase their expertise and establish business connections that advance safety initiatives.

Enhance Your Expertise: Access a wealth of knowledge through industry insights, case studies, and collaborative discussions, keeping you informed about the latest trends and advancements in safety and survival.

Make an Impact: Share your ideas, experience, and knowledge to shape the future of safety and survival. Individual members can join committees, present papers, or mentor others, while corporate members can sponsor initiatives, develop thought leadership, and champion critical projects. No matter if you are an individual member wanting to develop yourself or a corporate member wishing to enhance your organization's effect, there are many ways to enhance your membership. By participating, you aren't just getting value, you're helping to create a safer world for everyone.

Renew or purchase your membership now!

Contact us at admin@safeassociation.com or visit [SAFE Association Membership](#) for help.

Let's make 2025 a year of growth, collaboration, and innovation. Together, we can do something extraordinary.

Corporate News

RAF COMPLETES RED 6 AUGMENTED REALITY TRIAL ABOARD HAWK 2

By Craig Hoyle | Flight Global | 2 January 2025 Article

The UK Royal Air Force (RAF) has completed a series of flight trials using Advanced Tactical Augmented Reality Systems (ATARS) technology developed by Red 6. The activity was performed using a BAE Systems Hawk T2 advanced jet trainer operating from the service's Valley base on Anglesey, North Wales.

"Supported by Red 6 staff, pilots were immersed in scenarios to assess the viability of augmented reality technology," says the RAF, which is exploring the potential of such equipment for use as part of its future flight training system.

"ATARS enables pilots to identify, engage and defeat virtual adversaries programmed to act and react as a pilot would experience in hostile combat, and cooperate with synthetic support aircraft whilst airborne," the RAF says.

The service says it is exploring whether technology such as ATARS could enable it to "improve training quality, increase throughput and lower essential overheads like aircraft, airspace and instructors".

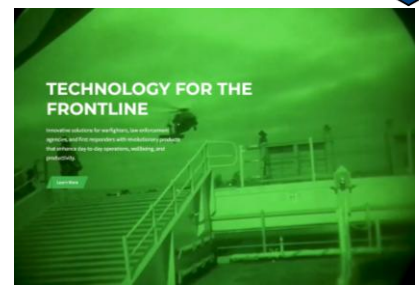
Plans for the trial activity were announced in July 2024, with BAE acting as prime contractor for the work.



NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS:



Battle Sight Technologies, LLC
Dayton, Ohio



Reminder: SAFE Association Benefits!

INDIVIDUALS

- Quarterly SAFE Newsletter
- Proceedings from the SAFE Annual Symposium
- All Symposium-related mailings
- Reduced Symposium registration cost
- Access to members only area of the SAFE Association website
- Voting privileges for your SAFE Board of Directors
- Submission information for our Annual Awards Program

CORPORATE MEMBERS

- Same as Individual Membership
- Corporate listing and description of products and services on SAFE Association website with link to company website
- Reduced registration and exhibit space fees for the SAFE Annual Symposium
- Free use of the SAFE Newsletter to deliver news releases - such as personnel changes, new products, new office locations, and contact information
- Corporate Membership includes a Primary and Secondary Corporate Representative



NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:

Trevor Luma

Mesa, Arizona (U.S.A.)

William Ensey

Virginia Beach, Virginia (U.S.A.)

Warren Irvine

Port St. Lucie, Florida (U.S.A.)

Heather Howell

Lexington, Maryland (U.S.A.)

Jonathan Frechette

New Bern, North Carolina (U.S.A.)

Julien Martinez

Yverdon les Bains, Switzerland

Eric Frijters

Soesterberg, Netherlands

Donna Dulo

Barnegat, New Jersey (U.S.A.)

Ricardo Lesmes Sanchez

Rionegro, Columbia

Harry Spreadbury-Troy

Denham, United Kingdom

David Hale

Pikesville, Virginia (U.S.A.)

Aithinne Quinn

Laurel, Maryland (U.S.A.)

Darryn Bryant

Beavercreek, Ohio (U.S.A.)

William Nelson

Overland Park, Kansas (U.S.A.)

Sean Kelley

Haslet, Texas (U.S.A.)

Stephan Kassmayer

Canoas, Brazil

Aaron Chua

Singapore, Singapore

Rob Makros

Huah Springs, Colorado (U.S.A.)

Steve Madaras

Salisbury, South Australia

Cal Naughton, Jr.

Truth or Consequences, New Mexico (U.S.A.)

Eric Demers

Fransford, Canada

Paul Brown

Davenport, Iowa (U.S.A.)

Correy Machesky

Cardiff by the Sea, California (U.S.A.)

Eduardo Gadea

Sunrise, Florida (U.S.A.)

Max Haas

USAFA, Colorado (U.S.A.)

Alexander Hall

Dayton, Ohio (U.S.A.)

Frank Chen

Chaiyi, China

Richard Huviler

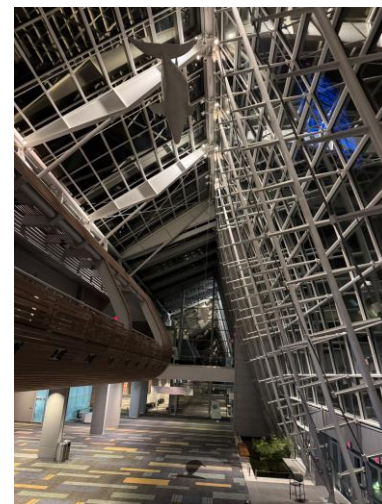
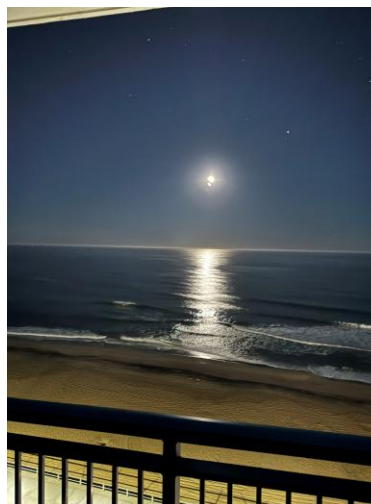
Fort Meyer, Florida (U.S.A.)

Eldred Magner

Santa Ana, California (U.S.A.)

John Slezak

Newport News, Virginia (U.S.A.)



Association Development Developments



By Kevin "Dumpster" Divers | Association Development Committee Chair

The Association is working hard to bring more benefits to membership and more to continuous membership. With some new initiatives and the updated Constitution and Bylaws we have created a couple more tiers of membership. We have worked with Waldorf University as well to bring about an Annual Academic Scholarship named after long-time member Al Loving. Finally, we are working closely with the Symposium Committee to bring in Keynote and other Speakers that capture the outcomes of our Industry and Government members work to Preserve Human Life.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

What was originally called Senior Fellow Member has been changed to simply Fellow Member. This change was to bring about an Associate Fellows Membership Category as well as make attaining Fellow Member something more in control of the individual member who shows continuous membership in SAFE (10 continuous years in good standing) and is to mark the highest grade of membership in the Association. These fellows will be a great cross section of what our members do across Industry and within the Department of Defense and other Federal Agencies. The Board of Directors is reviewing the first candidate pool and will be announcing the Fellows in the Spring of 2025 with a Presentation of the First Class of Fellow Members. Soon after, members with 5 Continuous Years Membership will be invited to join as Associate Fellows where they will be given a track towards attaining Fellow. The hope is that these members form mentorship relationships with new members and a network of professionals able to support the preservation of human life in the name of the SAFE Association as we further get into the space of being a professional association relied on for advancement of safety and further enhancement in safety devices and equipment.

AL LOVING ANNUAL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP – WALDORF UNIVERSITY



<https://waldorf.edu/>

This scholarship covers up to 60 credit hours towards one online degree program with Waldorf University. It is open to any SAFE Association Member or any family member of a SAFE Association Member. The application window is from 1 October to 31 December each year and SAFE will provide a document of eligibility to any one looking to apply. For more information email admin@safeassociation.com and we will get you all you need to know!

SPEAKERS WITH IMPACT – SAFE IMPACT (PUN INTENDED)

We have always had great speakers kick off our Symposium mornings, ready to share their story or a project close to members of the Association. But we are now taking a more pointed approach to reach out to the current warfighters, former warfighters, and innovators in the realm of land, sea, air, and space that can tell their stories of survival, success, and ultimate lessons learned while using the equipment, gear, and devices designed, tested, and evaluated by many in our membership. The goal is to show you how much impact you have as a member of the SAFE Association no matter the suit or uniform you wear. This fall we look forward to hearing from retired Air Force Colonel Kim "KC" Campbell and her story of Survival By Design as an A-10 pilot in combat over Iraq. Look forward to your Association bringing many great speakers in the years ahead!

SAFE Association Chapters

DFW
METRO
CHAPTER




President: Lizanne Luchetti
E-mail: lizanne.luchetti@serastarsystems.com

WRIGHT
BROTHERS
CHAPTER



President: Ken Robinson
E-Mail: kenrobinsoniii@gmail.com

DOWN
UNDER
CHAPTER



President: Steve Madaras
E-mail: smadaras@aeropartsaustralia.com.au

ROCKY
MOUNTAIN
CHAPTER



President: Kassidy Carson
E-mail: kassidy.carson@collins.com

GRAND
CANYON
CHAPTER



President: Jenn Nikopoulos
E-mail: jenn.nikopoulos@taskaero.com

PACIFIC
RIM
CHAPTER




President: Dr. Robert Yonover
E-mail: seerescue@juno.com

EAST
COAST
CHAPTER



President: Dave DeSimone
E-Mail: desimoneassoc@me.com

ROCKET
CITY
CHAPTER




President: VACANT
E-Mail: If you would like to take
the role of President contact
plagaia@gmail.com

SAFE
EUROPE



Chair: Peter Marston
E-mail: pmarston@martin-baker.co.uk

MIDDLE
EAST
CHAPTER



President: Mohanad Alakai
E-mail: mohanad.al.akal@hotmail.com

CHAPTER
ONE –
SO-CAL



President: Jim Shaw
E-Mail: jim.shaw@dtsweb.com

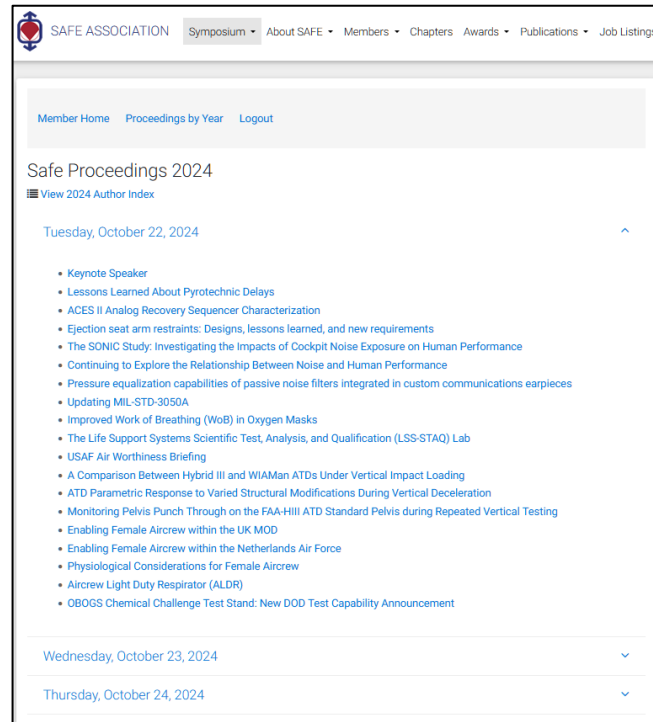
Reminder to All SAFE Members:

It is important that the SAFE Association has your current contact information so we can contact you and distribute SAFE products, such as the Newsletter. Periodically, please go to the “Member Login” at the top, right corner of the SAFE Association web page. When the SAFE Directory appears, click on “**Update Your Profile**” at the top, left. Please review your personal information and, update anything needs to be changed, and click on “**Save Profile**” at the bottom of the page. Your efforts are much appreciated!!

SAFE Proceedings for 2024 Symposium Have Posted

Another great benefit of membership is access to the SAFE Symposium Proceedings Archive found at www.safeassociation.com. Once you log in as a member you are able to see publications such as these newsletters, electronic copies of the SAFE Journals, a member directory, as well as the SAFE Symposium Proceedings.

You can find the presentation you are looking for split up by the days of the Symposium. The presentation comes up in a viewer within your browser, but you can also select view pdf file full screen if you would like to see it bigger. Again, another great benefit to our members with archives of proceedings going back to 2018 in this format.



UPCOMING SAFE BOARD MEETING

MEETING	DATE	LOCATION
SAFE BoD 3 rd Qtr Meeting (FY25)	30 Apr 2025 Wednesday 9am – 5pm	Grand Sierra Resort Reno, NV

If you wish to attend virtually, feel free to contact the SAFE Association Administrator, Stacy Stuber (admin@safeassociation.com for details)

NEXT SYMPOSIUM

MEETING	DATE	LOCATION
63 rd Annual Symposium	November 4–6, 2025	Mobile, AL

FUTURE SYMPOSIA

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
64 th Annual Symposium	November 3–5, 2026	Mobile, Alabama
65 th Annual Symposium	October 26–28, 2027	Reno, Nevada
66 th Annual Symposium	November 7–9, 2028	Reno, Nevada

Information Management

By Lauren Divers | Chair, Information Management Committee

SAFE's Information Management committee is looking to expand the Committee with non-voting members. These roles will be in support of Information Management and do not require attendance at quarterly Board Meetings or Board commitments. Both of these will work closely with the Information Management Chair and Editor as well as the SAFE Administrator. See below for more details:

Social Media Manager

- Someone with basic knowledge of running Social Media pages, coordinating and creating content for the Symposium and the Association throughout the year.

Website Management

- Someone with either the skills or the willingness to learn how to manage a Website and keep it up to date throughout the year for the Symposium and Association.

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES

This year in Mobile we are looking to increase booth visits for you all ahead of time. If you have any products or anything in particular you want to showcase at the Symposium, please let us know so that we can start highlighting you all on the Social Media. Please limit your request to 100 words and good quality photos and videos so that our audience can see your amazing content. Contact info-mgt@safessociation.com with your photos and stories and we will get it posted!



*Attention
Corporate Members*

**Please Send Us Your
Advertisements!**

The SAFE membership is eager to hear about what is going on with your organization! Members want to hear about anything new....like job openings, internal promotions, new products, recent contract awards, accomplishments, plans, and patents. It is up to you! SAFE members are interested in what is going on with your organization and your product lines. Please consider sending articles for future SAFE News editions. They should be sent to:

Stacy Stuber

admin@safessociation.com

Lauren Divers

Info-mgt@safessociation.com

Christine Hussey (Editor)

Info-mgt@safessociation.com

SAFE Journal

By Dr. Camille Bilger, 2025 Journal and Editorial Committee Chair

THE SAFE ASSOCIATION JOURNAL ACCEPTS MANUSCRIPTS SUBMISSION ALL YEAR ROUND!

We accept:

- Original research articles
- Literature reviews
- Technical reports (example shown on the side)
- Short Communications/ Case studies (~4 pages)
- For example: acquisitions need or operationally observed challenges)
- Letter to the Editor: a short form of communication, to comment objectively on a previously published article.

Get writing! So that our community can benefit from your knowledge, your experience, your expertise; to make a difference for our servicemen and servicewomen.

Get your work published!

The process for manuscript submission and publication is comparable to any other international peer-reviewed journal. A Guide to Authors will take you through the submission and publication processes. Please email me at Editor@safeassociation.com for further information.



Human Factors / Aircrew Flight Equipment Doings Elsewhere

By Kevin Divers, Association Development Committee

National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA): The Human Systems Conference will be held at George Mason University on 11 – 12 March 2025. Link to Event Information and Registration –

<https://www.ndia.org/events/2025/3/11/2025-human-systems-conference>

77th DOD Human Factors Engineering Technical Advisory Group (DOD HFE TAG): The next meeting of the DOD HFE TAG should be scheduled soon (usually April). The TAG and its more-than-a-dozen SubTAGs will meet to review HFE plans, accomplishments, trends, etc. Industry personnel may attend if requested or if a member of the Technical Society/Industry SubTAG.

For more details go to the following link –

<https://rt.cto.mil/ddre-rt/dd-rtl/hfetag/>

Aerospace Medical Association: AsMA will hold its Annual Scientific Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on June 1-6, 2025. 95th Aerospace Medical Association Annual Scientific Meeting “Innovation” Registration –

[LINK](#)

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) ASPIRE: HFES will hold its annual meeting, called “ASPIRE,” on 12-17 October in Chicago, Illinois.

[More info, click here](#)



SAFE Association 63rd Annual Symposium Mobile, Alabama

November 4 - November 6, 2025

Corporate News

One-on-One with Teresa Ferraro

President and CEO of East/West Industries, Inc.

We speak with Teresa Ferraro to learn more about the history of this woman-owned small business, what enables their success, and where the company is heading.

Questions:

1: East/West has been in business for nearly 60 years can you tell us something of the company's origins and how it came to the helicopter seat market?

East/West began as small business on Long Island, NY, started by my parents Mary and Dom Spinosa in 1968. It was in our dining room that my father began designing and developing small oxygen components for fixed wing aircraft. He was a true visionary and an extraordinary engineer. Over the next 5 decades, East/West grew from 5 employees producing small aircraft components in the dining room, to more than 80 employees producing seating systems and complex aircraft components in a 75,000 sq. ft. facility. With a team of talented design engineers, management and support personnel that we call family, East/West is celebrating the legacy that my parents started.



2: As a relatively small and family-owned business, East/West has been competing successfully with some of the biggest names in the business. How does the company accomplish this? What are the essential qualities that enable you to succeed in such a competitive market?

East/West takes pride in delivering first class support to our customers. We are a small, agile team, providing us the flexibility as a solutions provider to fulfil the needs of our customers quickly and effectively. East/West has continuously invested in state-of-the-art technologies like 3D printing, Laser and Optical Scanning, and developed strategic partnerships to support higher end capabilities like digital twin modelling and simulation. Our facility houses all functions of the business, from R&D to manufacturing, resulting in a flat communication structure that expedites our response time when addressing the priorities of our customers and end users. We have industry leading experience in the entire product life cycle for seating, emergency oxygen systems, survival kits, and ground support equipment, further strengthening our position in the market.

3: Let's talk about your products. A good crashworthy performance implies weight, generally speaking, yet you manage to keep the overall weight of your products down what can you tell us about how you make that possible?

Our journey into crash attenuating seating systems started nearly 30 years ago with the patenting of our first energy attenuation system in 1998. Over the years, we have refined our understanding of human dynamics in aviation crash sequences, leading to advancements in our crash attenuating systems. The basis of our crashworthy seats is our patented attenuation system which offers very high levels of performance and adaptability while also being extremely lightweight. By using this system across many of our designs are able to maintain high performance while not adding weight. We are dedicated to constantly refining our attenuation technology and the materials we use to provide the lightest, strongest seats on the market.

4: Weight and protection seem a winning combination; what civil and defense programs have you been working on? (with this one if you could focus on B505, and FLRAA with a dash of CH-53)

Through our track record as a supplier to multiple OEMs, we have developed a strong reputation as a reliable industry partner. Sikorsky selected our team to produce Crashworthy Troop Seats for the CH-53K, a major program for us that is now maturing to full-rate production. Most recently, we were selected by Bell to develop and manufacture Troop and Gunner Seats for the Army's Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA). Selection for this program is a true milestone in the history of our organization, and we are proud to play a key role in developing the rotorcraft of the future. Additionally, we continue to support the Bell 505 program with Crashworthy Utility and VIP Seats, bringing our crash attenuation technology and lightweight seating systems to the civil market.

5: With the potential of 465 aircraft, the CH-47F block II program looks to be an enticing project what can you tell us about your involvement with this program?

Since 2005, we have been steadfast supporters of Team Chinook and the CH-47 program, starting with development of our CH-47 Crashworthy Crew Chief Seat.. We have implemented additional design upgrades to the CCCS over the years, while also developing the Cargo Ramp Gunner Seat (CRGS) and, most recently, the Improved Troop Seat (ITS). The Improved Troop Seat is the first major upgrade to the CH-47 troop seating system in nearly 60 years, and we are proud to be produce a modular system that is safer, stronger, and more comfortable for Chinook operators worldwide. We are committed to the Chinook and look forward to supporting the program for years to come.



The CH-47 Crashworthy Crew Chief Seat is designed to protect crewmembers on the Boeing CH-47D/F transport/heavy lift helicopter.



Bell's V-280 Valor tiltrotor won the US Army's Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA) competition. (Bell), East West is making the Troop and Gunner Seats



See more items East West manufacturers for the DoD and Civilian Market
<https://www.eastwestindustries.com/>

**SAFE Europe**Survival And Flight Equipment Association
(SAFE Europe Chapter)

The **SAFE Europe Symposium** makes a welcome return to the Netherlands in 2025!

When: Monday, March 31st to Wednesday, April 2nd

Where: Houten, Utrecht, Netherlands.

The draft technical programme is being finalized and is shaping up to be an exciting one, with presentations covering topics such as: challenges of ejection seats in electric aircraft, measuring blood pressure in the air and Medical Planning and Risk Management in Space Exploration, as well as briefings on new equipment.

Companies that will be exhibiting include: Martin-Baker Aircraft Company, Beaufort, Massif, Cooneen, HR Smith, LSI, Omni Defence, SES, Autoflug, Belleville Boots, Collins Aerospace, Transaero, Nordic Safety, Insta, Aviation Survival AB, Airsafe Sweden AB, BCB, Gentex, CF Helmets, Cypres Aero and Elbit.

Visit www.safeeurope.co.uk for more information.

Registration and accommodation links can be found at the SAFE Europe website (www.safeeurope.co.uk).

If you would like to find out more, please contact the committee at infor@safe.co.uk

Hope to see you all there.

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