



The European Community SAFA Programme

Safety Assessment of Foreign Aircraft



Background SAFA Programme

- ➔ **Concern ICAO Standards not fully applied**
- ➔ **Continuous growth in air transport, same trend in accidents?**
- ➔ **European initiative
(European Civil Aviation Conference - ECAC)**
 - ✦ **Initial discussion 1994/1995**
 - ✦ **June 1996: adoption of SAFA programme by ECAC DGCA meeting.**



Principles SAFA Programme

- ➔ **Safety Assessment of Foreign Aircraft**
- ➔ **Safety**
 - ✧ internal: crew and passengers
 - ✧ external: airspace and in vicinity of airports
- ➔ **Ramp inspections**
- ➔ **Foreign/Third Country Aircraft**
- ➔ **Executed by ECAC Member States**
- ➔ **Voluntary basis until April 2006**
- ➔ **Directive 2004/36/CE (safety third country aircraft using Community airports) to be implemented by EU MS before 30 April 2006**



Principles SAFA Programme

→ Linked to ICAO

- ✦ compliance with ICAO (regional) Standards
- ✦ complementary to ICAO USOA Programme

→ Bottom-up approach

→ General Methodology

- ✦ common procedures (inspection, reporting, classification, follow-up)
- ✦ centralised database



Legal Framework

Directive 2004/36/CE ("SAFA Directive")

Commission Regulation 768/2006

- ➔ Collection/exchange requirements
- ➔ Tasks for Member States and EASA

Commission Directive 2008/49

- ➔ Amending Annex II of the SAFA Directive
- ➔ Core elements of ramp inspection procedures

Commission Regulation 351/2008

- ➔ Prioritisation of ramp inspections



Member/Participating States

Participating
States
(42)

Albania	Armenia	Croatia	FYROM
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Moldova	Monaco	Turkey
Serbia & Montenegro	Azerbaijan	Ukraine	Georgia
Norway	Iceland	Switzerland	

EASA
(27+3+1)

EU
(27)

Estonia	Austria	Belgium	Cyprus
Latvia	Czech Rep.	Denmark	Finland
Lithuania	France	Germany	Greece
Bulgaria	Hungary	Ireland	Italy
	Luxembourg	Malta	Netherlands
	Poland	Slovak Rep.	Slovenia
	Portugal	Sweden	United Kingdom
	Spain	Romania	

(Lichtenstein)



SAFA Stakeholders

Roles and Responsibilities

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ⇒ EU Commission | Decisional |
| ⇒ Air Safety Committee (ASC) | Advisory to EC (Policy) |
| ⇒ European SAFA Steering Expert Group | Advisory to EC (Technical) |
| ⇒ EU Member States | Executive |
| ⇒ ECAC MS (Non-EU) | Executive |
| ⇒ EASA | Database management, analysis, procedures, training programme, annual report |



SAFA Ramp Inspection Process

		Class of actions		
ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN AFTER FINDINGS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN SAFA RAMP CHECKS		Class 1 Information to Captain	Class 2 Information to responsible NAA and Operator's home base	Class 3 Corrective actions
Category of findings	Category 1 Minor	Yes	No	No
	Category 2 Significant	Yes	Yes Note: Letter to NAA and copy to operator's home base (findings of several inspections may be summarised in one letter)	No
	Category 3 Major	Yes	Yes Note: Letter to NAA and copy to operator's home base. In case of aircraft damage affecting airworthiness a direct communication with the responsible NAA should be established. This NAA decides about conditions regarding return to flight status. Confirmation afterwards with letter to the NAA and copy to Operator's home base.	Yes Note: actions consisting of operational restrictions, corrective actions before flight or at maintenance-base, grounding and/or entry permit repercussions.



Recent developments

Data quality improvement:

→ At NAA level

- ✦ use of moderators (quality control)

→ At Agency level

- ✦ Quality review (general inspection data AND findings)
 - Short term quality improvement by corrections
 - Long term improvement by increased standardisation and harmonisation



Recent developments (cont'd)

CR 351/2008: Qualitative Prioritisation

- ➔ List of operators to focus inspections on
- ➔ List based on (amongst other aspects):
 - ✦ EASA analysis
 - ✦ Community list
- ➔ Monitoring tool in database
- ➔ Increased number of inspections should confirm either:
 - ✦ Safety deficiencies
 - ✦ Normal or improved safety performance



Recent developments (cont'd)

CD 2008/49 "Inspection procedures"

→ SAFA Inspectors Qualification

✦ Eligibility

- Education and/or Knowledge
- Inspection privileges

✦ Mandatory SAFA Training

- Initial training (theoretical/practical) provided by evaluated Training organisations
- On the job training by Senior Inspectors

✦ Maintain validity of qualification

- minimum number of inspections per year
- recurrent training



Developments in progress

SAFA Standardisation concept

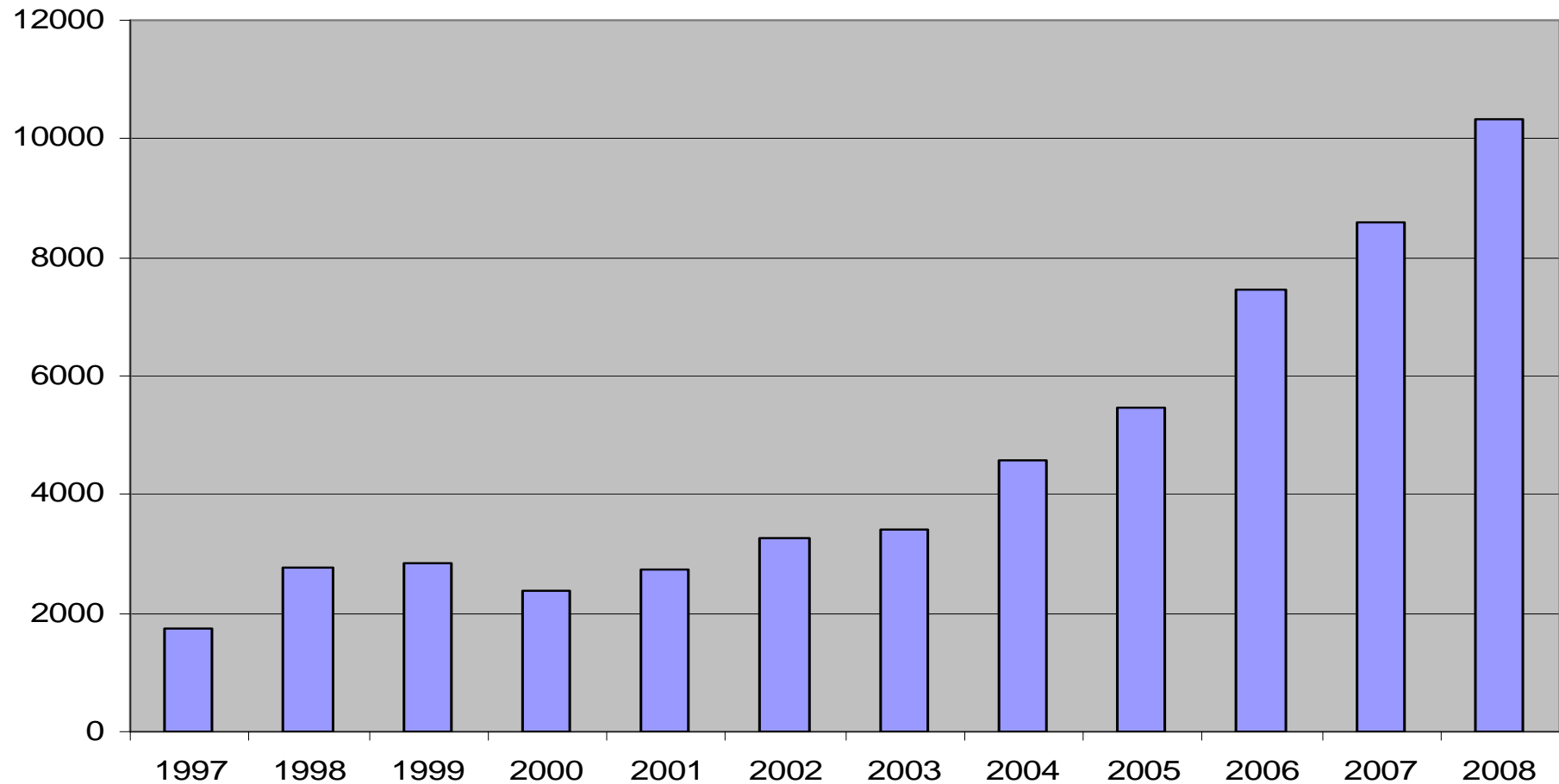
- ➔ **Standardisation Audits on Participating States**

Guidance material

- ➔ **Ramp inspection procedure**
- ➔ **Includes revised pre-described findings**
- ➔ **Will be published for maximum transparency**



Yearly number of inspections





European Aviation Safety Agency

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Questions?