

2017 EASA–FAA International Safety Conference

Panel 5: Challenge of digitalisation

Thursday 15 June 13:30 – 15:00
Ballroom

Speaker Biographies

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Eamonn Brennan

Chief Executive
Irish Aviation Authority



As Chief Executive of the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) since 2003, Eamonn Brennan is the State official with direct responsibility for the safety regulation and security regulation of the Irish civil aviation industry and for the provision of Air Traffic Management (ATM) in Irish controlled airspace (covering some 451,000 square km), aeronautical communications on the North Atlantic, and Air Traffic Control at the major Irish Airports.

He has over 35 years' experience working across three continents, in over 25 countries, in both the public and private sector.

Mr. Brennan is central to Aviation Policy in Ireland and over many years has been involved in the development of the activities concerning the Single European Sky, EASA, ICAO, and SESAR. As well as being a member of the Board of the IAA, Mr. Brennan is also a member of the Board of Aireon; Chairman of the Board of Entry Point North; and is Vice-Chairman of the COOPANS Alliance Board.

Mr. Brennan graduated from University College Galway with a B. Comm and he subsequently qualified as a Chartered Accountant.

John S. Duncan

Director of Flight Standards Service
Federal Aviation Administration



John S. Duncan is the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Director of Flight Standards Service (AFS). He oversees the development, coordination, and execution of policies, standards, systems, and procedures; public rules, regulations, and standards; and program plans that govern the operations, maintenance, and airworthiness of all United States (U.S.) civil aircraft, including those of U.S. flag carriers and foreign carriers when operating in and over the U.S., its territories and possessions. His oversight responsibilities also include proficiency and certification of air agencies (flight schools/maintenance bases) and of qualified airmen (other than air traffic control personnel).

Prior to assuming his current position, Mr. Duncan served as the Deputy Director of Flight Standards Policy Oversight. In this capacity, he shared the Director's responsibility for administering and managing the full range of policy development, implementation, integration and evaluation across the organization. He provided executive direction and oversight over the following: International Programs and Policy, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Organizational Resources and Program Management, Air Transportation, Aircraft Maintenance, Flight Technology and Procedures, Flight Standards Training, Regulatory Support, Civil Aviation Registry, and General Aviation and Commercial Divisions.

Mr. Duncan joined the FAA in 1986 as an Aviation Safety Inspector in Cincinnati, Ohio. His recent FAA assignments include serving as Manager of the AFS Alaskan Region from 1998 to 2007, Manager of General Aviation and Commercial Division from 2007 to 2008, and Manager of Air Transportation Division from 2008 to 2012. He is a talented and dedicated safety professional with a sustained commitment to safety, excellence, and service to the people of the U.S.A.

John Craig

Chief Engineer of Cabin & Network Systems
Boeing Commercial Airplanes



John Craig is currently the Chief Engineer of Cabin & Network Systems and the executive responsible for Airplane Systems Information Security Protection at Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

In this role, he is responsible for cabin systems, connectivity, onboard networks, cyber security, and airborne software. In addition, he is the chairman of the board of the Aviation Information Sharing and Analysis Center and on the policy board of RTCA.

In his 31 years of aviation experience, he has held roles in Electrical Subsystems, Engine Systems, Avionics, Cabin Systems, Onboard Networks, Connectivity Systems, and been a previous FAA Designated Engineering Representative.

Jon Beatty

President and CEO
Flight Safety Foundation



Jon Beatty is president and CEO of Flight Safety Foundation, an international, independent non-profit founded in 1947 to advance aviation safety.

Prior to joining the Foundation in April 2014, Jon served as president and CEO of International Aero Engines, a division of United Technologies from 2007 – 2009 and again from 2012 – 2013, and was senior vice president, airline customers, at Pratt & Whitney from 2010 to 2012. In addition, he has held management and executive positions at Pratt & Whitney, BF Goodrich and Allied Signal.

He started his career as a quality engineer at Sikorsky Aircraft.

Luc Tytgat

Strategy and Safety Management Director
European Aviation Safety Agency



Luc Tytgat is since 1st January 2015 Director of the Strategy and Safety Management Directorate of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

Luc Tytgat has a significant experience when dealing with matters related to the European Commission amongst others, air transport, Single Sky, and space domains. In this regard, he was responsible for the Single European Sky regulatory package (SESAR), which led to the creation of the European Network Manager and an economic regulator function for ATM. He also initiated the GALILEO programme and established the EU competence in the space policy sector. Having spent ten years in the Belgian Air Force, he was more recently director at EUROCONTROL for the implementation of the Single European Sky.

Michael J. O'Donnell

Director of Accident Investigation and Prevention
Federal Aviation Administration



Mr. Michael J. O'Donnell joined the Office of Aviation Safety in December 2016, as the Director of Accident Investigation and Prevention (AVP.) His mission is to make air travel safer through investigation, data collection, risk analysis, and information sharing. Michael leads a staff of 78 people and is responsible for aircraft accident investigations and all activities related to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Michael is the co-Chair of the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee. The (GAJSC) is a public-private partnership working to improve general aviation safety and uses a data-driven, consensus-based approach to analyze aviation safety data and develop risk reduction efforts. Michael also serves a primary member of the Commercial Aviation Safety Team (CAST). Michael leads four separate Divisions to include; Accident Investigation, Safety Analytical Services, Safety Management and Research Planning, and Management Services and Recommendations. Michael's office also supports the FAA's international activities including participation in ICAO safety teams and has the lead for all research and development activities with the Office of Aviation Safety.

Michael joined the FAA as Director of the Office of Airport Safety and Standards in June 2008. As Director, he is responsible for the certification and safety of 540 commercial service airports and for all airport design, construction, maintenance, operations, and safety standards for the nation's 3,300 federally obligated airports. Michael is also responsible for more than 90 Advisory Circulars, and oversees the Airport Technology Research and Development Branch at the FAA Tech Center in New Jersey and the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP).

Before joining the FAA, Mr. O'Donnell was the Executive Director of the South Carolina Division of Aeronautics. As Director, he was responsible for oversight and development of the state's 60 airports and for the promotion of aviation safety and air commerce.

Mr. O'Donnell is an accredited airport executive with 12 years of airport management experience at several general aviation and commercial service airports in the Northeast, including nearly 7 years as airport manager of the Waterbury-Oxford Airport in Connecticut. His background includes Bachelor and Master's degrees from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and 6 years of active-duty service in the U.S. Air Force. Mr. O'Donnell has been recognized at least five times by the Secretary of Transportation for his leadership in major initiatives such as Runway Safety Areas.

Mr. O'Donnell is an experienced aircraft accident investigator and ARFF fire fighter. Mr. O'Donnell holds a private pilot certificate and is an experienced college professor who has taught courses in airport management, aviation history, commercial aviation safety, and airport certification.

Philippe Keryer

Executive Vice President Strategy, Marketing & Technology
Thales



Philippe Keryer has joined Thales as Executive Vice-President, Strategy, Research and Technologies, and will be a member of the company's Executive Committee.

A graduate of France's Supélec engineering school and EDHEC business school, Philippe Keryer began his career in 1990 at Alcatel. After holding several strategic management positions, he was appointed President of the Mobile Radio Division in 2005, and President of Evolium™, a joint venture between Alcatel and Fujitsu.

In 2007, he joined the board of Alcatel-Lucent Shanghai Bell and became President of Alcatel-Lucent's Mobile Access division, where he was in charge of the GSM and UMTS radio access businesses.

In 2009, Philippe Keryer was promoted to President of the Networks & Platforms business group and became a member of the Alcatel-Lucent Executive Committee.

From 2013 to 2015, he was Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer where he played an important role in repositioning the Alcatel-Lucent group and in the merger of Alcatel-Lucent and Nokia. He was also successfully involved in developing and growing innovation, notably through the company's research entity, Bell Labs.

In August 2015, Philippe Keryer became directly involved in sustainable development and social innovation when he was appointed as the Chairman of the Alcatel-Lucent Foundation.