

NTSB // Aviation SAFETY Presentations

EAA AirVenture // Agenda At-a-Glance

July 20–26, 2026 ★ Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Times stated are Central Time; program is subject to change.
Location is the **EAA International Federal Pavilion (IFP)** unless otherwise noted.

Visit our booth in the IFP

Monday, July 20

1000–1045 Vintage Hangar
A Ghost Story: Recovering Wreckage with the NTSB *
David Case, Computer Engineer

1130–1215 IFP
On the Edge: NTSB Investigations in Alaska *
Clint Johnson, Chief, Alaska Region
1430–1515 IFP
Lightweight Recorders: Tiny Black Boxes *
Steven Smith, Recorder Specialist

Tuesday, July 21

1130–1215 IFP
Inside the Black Box: Lessons Learned from the NTSB Lab *
Sean Payne, Branch Chief, Vehicle Recorders Laboratory
1330–1415 IFP
A Day in the Life of an NTSB Aerospace Engineer
Caleb Wagner, Aerospace Engineer
1430–1515 IFP
Wreckage to Rulemaking: Follow an NTSB Accident Investigation That Led to an Airworthiness Directive *
Brian Rutt, Air Safety Investigator

Wednesday, July 22

1600–1715 Forum 6

**Recognize, Respond, Recover:
Loss of Control In-Flight Lessons
from NTSB Investigations**



MODERATED BY: Hon. Michael E. Graham, Vice Chairman
DISTINGUISHED PANEL:

- Tim Sorensen, National Transportation Safety Board
- Charles Precourt, Experimental Aircraft Association
- Jurg Grossenbacher, Federal Aviation Administration
- Randall Brooks, Aviation Performance Solutions

Thursday, July 23

1000–1045 Vintage Hangar
**Keeping Vintage Aircraft in the Sky:
Understanding Accidents and Improving Safety** *
Kristi Dunks, Deputy Director for Regional Operations

1130–1215 IFP
Lessons for FAA Certificate Holders
NTSB Administrative Law Judges:
Chief Judge McGinn-Shapiro, Judge Fun, Judge Couch
1330–1415 IFP
**Collision Course: An NTSB Look at
Runway Incursions from an ATC Investigator** *
Michael Brown, Aviation Accident Investigator (ATC)

Friday, July 24

1130–1215 IFP
**Under Pressured: Hydraulic Actuator Failures
in Cessna 210s** *
Brian Fuchs, Materials Engineer

Saturday, July 25

1130–1215 IFP
**Suspended? Revoked? Denied? How FAA
Certificate Action Appeals to the NTSB Work**
Raphael Johnson, Case Manager
Chad Mayer, Attorney Advisor
1330–1415 IFP
**WeatherWise: A Review of Several
Weather-Related Accidents** *
Don Eick, Meteorologist

Sunday, July 26

0930–1015 IFP
**URGENT: Writing Safety Recommendations
That Can't Wait**
John Curran, Technical Writer Editor

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AND NTSB RESOURCES



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Session Descriptions

Times stated are Central Time; program is subject to change. Location is the **EAA International Federal Pavilion** (IFP) unless otherwise noted.

Monday, July 20

1000–1045..... Vintage Hangar

A Ghost Story: Recovering Wreckage with the NTSB *

David Case, Computer Engineer

On December 15, 1944, big band leader Glenn Miller disappeared over the English Channel after departing England for France. Exactly 79 years later, on December 15, 2022, an airplane departed Maui for the Big Island, disappeared over the Alenuihāhā Channel, and its wreckage was ultimately recovered from nearly a mile beneath the ocean. NTSB Computer Engineer David Case discusses the recovery effort, camera data recovered from the wreckage, spatial disorientation, and the surprising connection to Glenn Miller.

1130–1215..... IFP

On the Edge: NTSB Investigations in Alaska *

Clint Johnson, Chief, Alaska Region

Get a behind-the-scenes look at how NTSB investigators conduct accident investigations in Alaska's challenging environments—from the North Slope to the Aleutian Chain. Learn why aviation is essential to everyday life in Alaska and how investigators overcome extreme conditions to improve aviation safety.

1430–1515..... IFP

Lightweight Recorders: Tiny Black Boxes *

Steven Smith, Recorder Specialist

Learn how compact flight data recorders are bringing "black box" technology to general aviation. This session covers certification standards, current products, laboratory recovery techniques, and a TBM accident where lightweight recorder data provided critical investigative insights.

Tuesday, July 21

1130–1215..... IFP

Inside the Black Box: Lessons Learned from the NTSB Lab *

Sean Payne, Branch Chief, Vehicle Recorders Laboratory

Explore how flight recorders are recovered and analyzed after accidents worldwide. Through real-world recovery stories, discover how these devices survive extreme conditions and the safety lessons they reveal about procedures, training, and checklist discipline.

1330–1415..... IFP

A Day in the Life of an NTSB Aerospace Engineer

Caleb Wagner, Aerospace Engineer

Follow the daily work of an NTSB aerospace engineer, from examining wreckage and aircraft systems to supporting investigations that lead to significant aviation safety improvements.

1430–1515..... IFP

Wreckage to Rulemaking: Follow an NTSB Accident Investigation That Led to an Airworthiness Directive *

Brian Rutt, Air Safety Investigator

See how a single accident investigation uncovered a broader safety issue that ultimately resulted in an FAA Airworthiness Directive, demonstrating how investigative findings can lead to nationwide safety improvements.

Wednesday, July 22

1600–1715..... Forum 6

Recognize, Respond, Recover: Loss of Control In-Flight Lessons from NTSB Investigations



MODERATED BY: Hon. Michael E. Graham, Vice Chairman

DISTINGUISHED PANEL:

- Tim Sorensen, National Transportation Safety Board
- Charles Precourt, Experimental Aircraft Association
- Jurg Grossenbacher, Federal Aviation Administration
- Randall Brooks, Aviation Performance Solutions

Stall accidents often develop quickly and unexpectedly, leaving little time for recovery. This presentation will examine NTSB investigations to show how loss of control events begin, how they progress, and how pilots can interrupt the chain of events before an accident occurs, with an emphasis on recovery techniques, training, and proper situational awareness. The presentation will be followed by a moderated panel and Q&A session.

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Thursday, July 23

1000–1045 Vintage Hangar

Keeping Vintage Aircraft in the Sky: Understanding Accidents and Improving Safety *

Kristi Dunks, Deputy Director for Regional Operations

Vintage aircraft present unique restoration and operational challenges. Through case studies, this presentation explores common risks and practical lessons to help preserve these historic aircraft safely. Presented by Kristi Dunks, Deputy Director for Regional Operations, who is also restoring a 1933 Aeronca C-3.

1130–1215 IFP

Lessons for FAA Certificate Holders

NTSB Administrative Law Judges:

Chief Judge McGinn-Shapiro, Judge Fun, Judge Couch

Hear directly from three sitting NTSB Administrative Law Judges about FAA certificate appeals, including falsification cases, drug testing refusals, Pilot's Bill of Rights, and other common legal issues affecting certificate holders.

1330–1415 IFP

Collision Course: An NTSB Look at Runway Incursions from an ATC Investigator *

Michael Brown, Aviation Accident Investigator (ATC)

Examine recent runway incursions through the perspective of an NTSB air traffic control investigator, with lessons for pilots and controllers on reducing ground collision risks.

Friday, July 24

1130–1215 IFP

Under Pressured: Hydraulic Actuator Failures in Cessna 210s *

Brian Fuchs, Materials Engineer

Explore six NTSB investigations involving Cessna 210 and 210B accidents in which laboratory analysis identified fatigue cracking within main landing gear hydraulic actuators. Learn how microscopic evidence led to new NTSB safety recommendations issued in 2025.

Saturday, July 25

1130–1215 IFP

Suspended? Revoked? Denied? How FAA Certificate Action Appeals to the NTSB Work

Raphael Johnson, Case Manager

Chad Mayer, Attorney Advisor

Learn which FAA actions can be appealed to the NTSB, how to file appeals, applicable deadlines, emergency versus non-emergency cases, and the differing burdens of proof.

1330–1415 IFP

WeatherWise: A Review of Several Weather-Related Accidents *

Don Eick, Meteorologist

Learn how professionalism, checklist discipline, and situational awareness influence flight safety through real-world lessons drawn from flight data and cockpit recordings analyzed by the NTSB.

Sunday, July 26

0930–1015 IFP

URGENT: Writing Safety Recommendations That Can't Wait

John Curran, Technical Writer Editor

Go inside the high-pressure process of developing urgent NTSB aviation safety recommendations before an investigation is complete. Learn how investigators identify immediate hazards, manage uncertainty, and rapidly communicate recommendations to manufacturers, regulators, operators, and pilots to prevent additional accidents.



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