Flight Crew Performance: Operational Factors

Captain David Tew
Operations Group Chairman
Before Taxi Activities

- Captain required to conduct a taxi briefing
  - Airport diagram
  - Extra care crossing runways
- Abbreviated briefing
- First flight as a crew
Before Taxi Activities

• First officer briefed “taxi to runway 22 via taxiway alpha”
  – Runway end lights out
  – “Lights out all over the place”

• Did not include crossing runway 26
Before Taxi Activities

• Controller issued standard clearance to runway 22
• Consistent with two earlier flights
Before Taxi Activities

- Chart and taxiway identifications
  - Taxiway A5 redesignated A
  - Chart depicted paved surfaces accurately
- Crew did not receive local NOTAM
- Construction not on ATIS broadcast
- Closed taxiway had barricades
Taxi Activities

- First officer performed before takeoff checks
- 40 seconds of nonpertinent conversation
  - Noncompliance with sterile cockpit regulations
Taxi Activities

• Stopped at runway 26 hold short line
• Advised controller that flight ready to depart
• Time was available for flight crew to confirm airplane’s location
Safety Recommendation

• Recommendation A-06-83
  – Require cross-check and location confirmation
• FAA issued guidance
• Cross-checking and location confirmation should be required
Takeoff Actions

- Crew noticed absence of runway lights
- No guidance for operations on unlighted runways
- Recommendation to establish relevant guidance
- FAA complied
Takeoff Actions

• V1-rotate call out followed by “whoa”
• Callout made 11 knots below planned rotation speed
Takeoff Actions

- End of runway indicated hazardous situation
- First officer pulled control column full aft
- Beyond point at which takeoff could be aborted