



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: November 15, 2016

In reply refer to: A-16-51 and -52

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
Washington, DC 20590

On November 14, 2016, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) adopted our accident reports concerning the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions and our safety recommendation report concerning educating controllers on these midair collisions. Additional information about the two accidents and the findings that led to our recommendations may be found, respectively, in the reports of the investigations (ERA15MA259A/B and WPR15MA243A/B) and the safety recommendation report (ASR-16-006), all of which can be accessed at our [Aviation Information Resources](#) web page.

As a result of these investigations, we issued the following two new recommendations to the Federal Aviation Administration (and also to Midwest Air Traffic Control, Robinson Aviation, and Serco):

A-16-51

Include the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions as examples in your instructor-led initial and recurrent training for air traffic controllers on controller judgment, vigilance, and/or safety awareness.

A-16-52

Brief all air traffic controllers and their supervisors on the air traffic control errors in the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Member WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days, as required by 49 *United States Code* section 1135, detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

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Mr. Shane Cordes
CEO and President
Midwest Air Traffic Control
7285 W. 132nd, Suite 340
Overland Park, KS 66213

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. We determine the probable cause of the accidents and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, we carry out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinate the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge Midwest Air Traffic Control to take action on the safety recommendations being issued in this letter.

On November 14, 2016, we adopted our accident reports concerning the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions and our safety recommendation report concerning educating controllers on these midair collisions. Additional information about the two accidents and the findings that led to our recommendations may be found, respectively, in the reports of the investigations (ERA15MA259A/B and WPR15MA243A/B) and the safety recommendation report (ASR-16-006), all of which can be accessed at our [Aviation Information Resources](#) web page.

As a result of these investigations, we issued the following two new recommendations to Midwest Air Traffic Control (and also to the Federal Aviation Administration, Robinson Aviation, and Serco):

A-16-51

Include the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions as examples in your instructor-led initial and recurrent training for air traffic controllers on controller judgment, vigilance, and/or safety awareness.

A-16-52

Brief all air traffic controllers and their supervisors on the air traffic control errors in the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Member WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov. If it exceeds 10 megabytes, including attachments, please e-mail us at the same address for instructions. Please do not submit both an electronic copy and a hard copy of the same response.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

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Keren McLendon
CEO
Robinson Aviation
1601 NW Expressway
Suite 850
Oklahoma City, OK 73118-1435

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On November 14, 2016, we adopted our accident reports concerning the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions and our safety recommendation report concerning educating controllers on these midair collisions. Additional information about the two accidents and the findings that led to our recommendations may be found, respectively, in the reports of the investigations (ERA15MA259A/B and WPR15MA243A/B) and the safety recommendation report (ASR-16-006), all of which can be accessed at our [Aviation Information Resources](#) web page.

As a result of these investigations, we issued the following two new recommendations to Robinson Aviation (and also to the Federal Aviation Administration, Midwest Air Traffic Control, and Serco):

A-16-51

Include the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions as examples in your instructor-led initial and recurrent training for air traffic controllers on controller judgment, vigilance, and/or safety awareness.

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Brief all air traffic controllers and their supervisors on the air traffic control errors in the July 7, 2015, and August 16, 2015, midair collisions.

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By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman



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Mr. Dan Allen
Chairman and CEO
Serco, Inc.
1818 Library Street
Suite 1000
Reston, VA 20190

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. We determine the probable cause of the accidents and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, we carry out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinate the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge Serco to take action on the safety recommendations being issued in this letter.

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Chairman