

# FAA Composite Safety Awareness Course Developments

## Outline

- Overall strategies
- Structural engineering safety awareness course
- Manufacturing safety awareness course

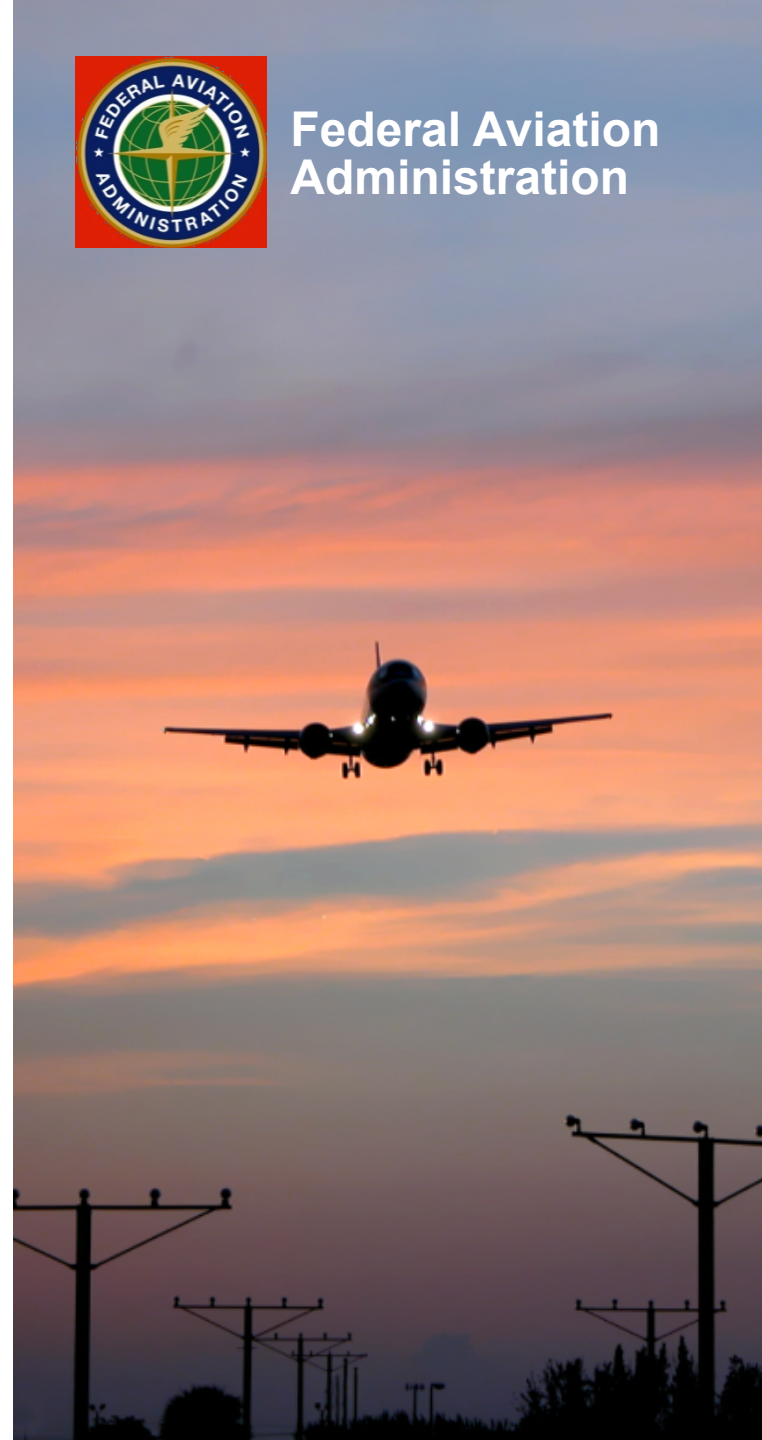
Presented to: Fall 2013 AMTAS Meeting

By: Larry Ilcewicz and Cindy Ashforth FAA

Date: November 14, 2013



Federal Aviation  
Administration



# Overview of AVS Composite Plan

- **AVS Composite Plan Consists of a Strategic Management Plan and a Working Plan**
  - These plans are linked through AVS Business Plan Items
  - Both plans will be updated annually
- **Based on safety management approach**
- **The Plans are linked to:**
  - Best Industry Practices
  - Certification and field experiences
  - Research
  - Projected technological advances in aircraft structure
- **Priority is given to structural engineering issues, related manufacturing procedures and maintenance practices resulting from service experience and industry input.**



# Three Main Areas of Coverage in the AVS Composite Strategic and Working Plans

- **Continued Operational Safety (COS)**
- **Certification Efficiency (CE)**
- **Workforce Education (WE)**



# Workforce Education (WE):

- **Comprehensive educational development program**
- **Safety awareness courses for three main functional disciplines:**
  - Structural engineering
  - Manufacturing
  - Maintenance



# Composite Educational Initiatives

## FAA AVS Composite Training

- **FAA composite training strategy using existing courses, FAA COE & industry support [Sept., 2009]**

- Courses to support airframe engineering, manufacturing and maintenance functional disciplines

- **Incl. three levels of competency:**

### I) **Introduction** (common to all functional disciplines)

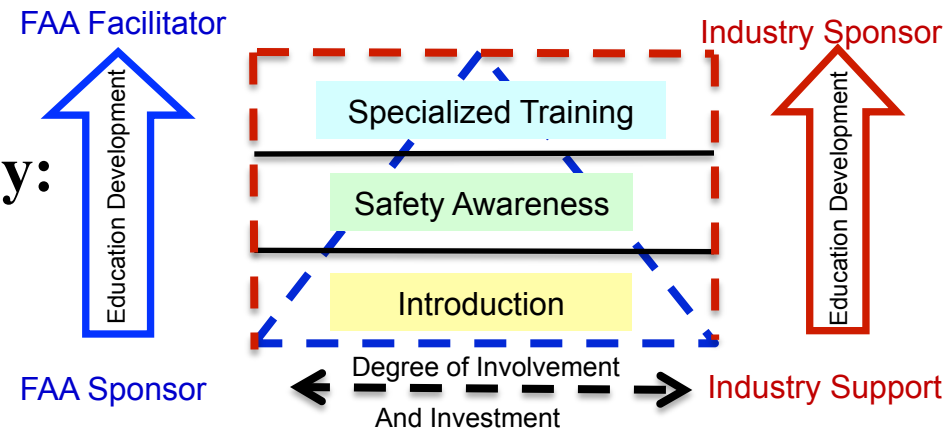
- Self-study intro content for composite basics/terminology
- CMH-17 Tutorial for composite certification & compliance [Aug, 2008]

### II) **Safety Awareness** (courses for each functional discipline)

- Skills needed for FAA workforce supporting composite applications
- FAA development status summarized on the following charts

### III) **Specific Skills Building** (most courses developed by the industry)

- Specialized skills needed in the industry and some FAA experts



# Status - Level II Courses Development

- **Maintenance Safety Awareness (CMT)**  
**[International Standard: CACRC AIR5719]**
  - FAA-led course development completed [9/2008]
  - AFS-500 class-room version available to FAA [Since 2009]
    - ~ 350+ AFS Inspectors trained to date through FAA contract with ABARIS
  - On-line version available to the industry through WSU
- **Structural Engineering Safety Awareness (CSET)**  
**[Completed - Sponsored by FAA R&D, AIR-520]**
  - FAA “M&PC” Workshop and Module [2010]
  - Content Development [4/2012]
  - Beta Course [6/2012]
  - Content Completion [8/2012]
  - Teaching points & Assessments [9/2012]
  - First course offering through Wichita State Univ. (WSU) [4/2013]
  - Current WSU course offering Oct., 2013 through Jan., 2014



# Status - Level II Course Development (cont.)

- **Manufacturing Safety Awareness (CMfgT)**  
[In Work - Sponsored by FAA R&D, AIR-520]
  - Detail Outline [12/2011]
  - Content Development [12/2013]
  - Beta Course [Spring, 2014]
  - Content Completion, Teaching points & Assessments [9/2014]
  - First course offering through Wichita State Univ. [Fall, 2014]

CMT – Target Audience: FAA Flight Safety Inspectors  
[Content: 64 Hours]

CSET – Target Audience: FAA Airframe Engineers &  
Delegations [Content: 80 Hours]

CMfgT – Target Audience: FAA Manufacturing Inspectors  
[Content: 64 Hours]



# Contributors - Level II CSET Course

- **FAA Composite Team** (led by **Larry Ilcewicz**, **Lester Cheng** & **Charlie Seaton**)
  - Structures Specialists: Dave Walen (Lightning Protection CSTA), **Mark Freisthler** (Transport Directorate Standards), **Cindy Ashforth** (Transport Directorate International Branch), **Angie Kostopoulos** (Chicago ACO), **Allen Rauschendorfer**, **Melanie Violette** and **Nathan Weigand** (Seattle ACO)
  - Cabin Safety Experts: Joseph Pelletiere (Crash Dynamics CSTA), Dick Hill, Robert Ochs & Alan Abramowitz (FAA Technical Center), Jeff Gardlin (Transport Directorate Standards),
- **Key subject matter experts (SME)**
  - **Peter Smith** (retired Boeing)
  - Keith Kedward & Steve Keifer, UCSB (incl. composite design/analysis textbook)
  - Steve Ward (M&P control, design/analysis and proof of structure)
  - Tom Walker and D.M. Hoyt, NSE Composites (fatigue & damage tolerance)
  - Wichita State University (Yeow Ng, Waruna Senevertine, Beth Clarkson, lab development)
  - Delft University (**Christos Kassapoglou**)
  - Other SME (contractors and volunteers)
    - Michael Niu (UCLA, composite design)
    - Max Davis (Adhesion Associates, metal-bonding)
    - Michael Borgman (Spirit Aero, repair substantiation)
    - FAA JAMS (Paolo Feraboli, Hyonny Kim, Dan Adams)
    - Convergent Manufacturing Technologies (Univ. of British Columbia composite manufacturing experts)
    - Heatcon (Field and Production repairs, including those performed on-airplane)
    - Workshop participants: presentations, discussions, testimonials (M&P control, fatigue & damage tolerance, crashworthiness)
    - John Halpin (retired Air Force)
    - Will McCarvill (retired Hexcel)
    - John Adelman (retired Sikorsky)
    - Dan Ruffner (Boeing, Mesa)

**Main Instructors in red, FAA support instructors in green**





# Composite Structural Engineering Technology (CSET) Course

- **Top-level Course Objectives**

- Students will describe essential safety awareness issues associated with composite structural engineering important to safe composite aircraft product applications
- Students will describe engineering principles of composite airframe substantiation during all stages of aircraft product certification

- **Course Outline**

- 1.0 Introduction
  - 2.0 Challenges of Composite Applications
  - 3.0 Design, Material and Fabrication Development
  - 4.0 Proof of Structure
  - 5.0 Quality Control of Composite Manufacturing Process
  - 6.0 Maintenance Interface Issues
  - 7.0 Additional Considerations
    - 7.1 Proof of Structure – Flutter +
    - 7.2 Crashworthiness
    - 7.3 Fire safety and fuel tank issues
    - 7.4 Lightning protection
- } **70% of Course**



# Composite Structural Engineering Course Syllabus

(April to June, 2013)

Course Schedule	WEEK	TOPICS	DISCUSSION BOARD (20 topics) 400 points	EXAMS
	<b>First Week</b> TCO A April 1-7	Basic Knowledge of Composite Materials and Structures Technology	Not Applicable (self-study)	Prereq. Exam (Score >= 80%)
	<b>ONE</b> TCO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5  April 8-14	Introduction, Challenges, and Material and Fabrication Development	1: Top ten issues from the introduction module 2: Functional inter-relationships through Integrated Product Teams in support of safety management principles and ensuring the existence of stable materials	
	<b>TWO</b> TCO 6, 7, 8, 9  April 15-21	Design, Material and Fabrication Development	1: Importance of establishing a stabilized manufacturing process, including schedule considerations 2: Structural design details and consideration of environmental effects, including sandwich moisture ingress	
	<b>THREE</b> TCO 9, 10  April 22-28	Design, Material and Fabrication Development	1: Analysis methods and considerations for FEM 2: Material allowables and knockdown factors	
	<b>FOUR</b> TCO 10, 11, 12, 13  April 29-May5	Design, Material and Fabrication Development	1: Bonded and bolted considerations for designing a front wing spar 2: Designing for ease of manufacture and maintenance	
	<b>FIVE</b> TCO 14, 15, 16, 17, 18  May 6-12	Statistics and Proof of Structure	1: Contrasting environmental approaches for calculating A- and B- values 2: Damage in fatigue and static strength substantiation using analysis supported by test evidence	Mid-term (50 points)



# Composite Structural Engineering Course Syllabus, (April to June, 2013) *continued*

<p><b><u>SIX</u></b> TCO 19, 20, 21, 22, 23</p> <p>May13-19</p>	Proof of Structure	<p>1: Implications of high energy, low velocity impact events</p> <p>2: Reliability for composite fatigue and damage tolerance assessments</p>	
<p><b><u>SEVEN</u></b> TCO 24, 25, 26, 27</p> <p>May20-26</p>	Proof of Structure	<p>1: Reasons for more reliance on testing for composite structure</p> <p>2: Managing 'significant changes' related to materials and processes</p>	
<p><b><u>EIGHT</u></b> TCO 28</p> <p>May28-June 2</p>	Maintenance	<p>1: Roles and responsibilities of the repair team</p> <p>2: Issues associated with repairing composites having complex geometry with different thermal environments</p>	
<p><b><u>NINE</u></b> TCO 33, 34, 35, 36</p> <p>June 3-9</p>	Laboratory (2.5 days)	Hands-on reinforcement of teaching points	
<p><b><u>TEN</u></b> TCO 29, 30, 31, 32</p> <p>June 10-16</p>	Additional Considerations	<p>1: Evaluate the effect of large damage and environment on flutter, and repair to reestablish lightning protection</p> <p>2: Evaluate design options for accommodating crashworthiness and fire safety</p>	Final (50 points)



# CSET Course Experience (Spring, 2013)

- **What students liked**

- Syllabus & Prerequisite were great
- Students loved all of the different subject areas
- Blackboard was a great tool because students were able to participate when it was convenient for them (work schedule, vacation, time zones, etc.)
- Classroom mix was great (FAA & Industry)
- The 2 ½ day lab was a great hands-on learning tool



**THE  
GOOD**

- **What Needs Work**

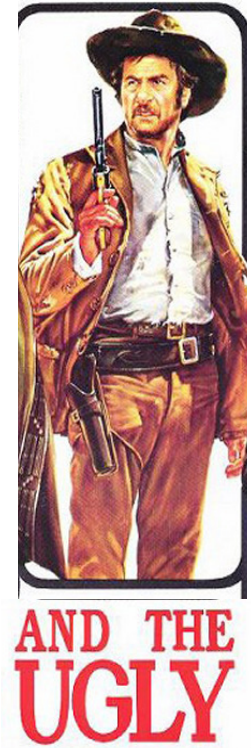
- Time (course schedule is too ambitious)
- Discussion Boards
- Tests
- Blackboard Structure (PDFs)
- Minor Lab Improvements (content)
- Testimonial



**THE  
BAD**

# CSET Future Updates (Fall, 2013+)

- **Time**
  - Edit and reduce main content (optional charts)
- **Discussion Boards**
  - Make it more situational (mini case studies)
  - Structure of grading
- **Tests**
  - Review questions and improve wording
  - Have bi-monthly quizzes instead of 2 large tests
- **Blackboard Structure**
- **Course Structure (extend by 1 week)**
- **Testimonials (make optional?)**
- **Lab Improvements (Increase to 3 days)**
  - Long term goal to make more videos (e.g., A/B statistical)
  - Make Lab more consistent with course content



# **Level II Composite Manufacturing Technology (CMfgT) Course**

*Under Development (to be available in late 2014)*

## **Overall Objectives of CMfgT Course**

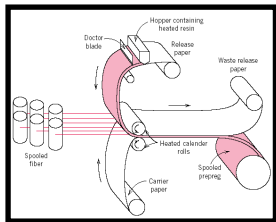
- **Students will describe the essential safety awareness issues associated with composite manufacturing technologies & processes important to conformity of type design.**
- **Students will describe deficiencies on the factory floor that have safety implications.**





# Composite Manufacturing Technology (CMfgT) Course Outline

Prepreg Production



Transportation



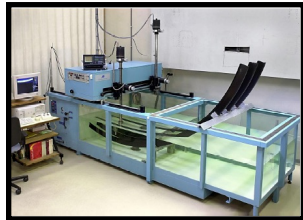
Storage



Tooling Preparation



Inspection



Cure



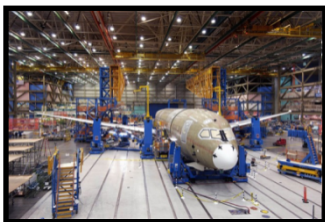
Debulking / Bagging



Layup



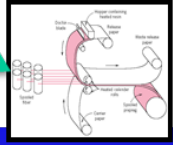
Assembly



- Recommendations that course is presented from a factory perspective as experienced by a Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO) Inspector
- At each step, discuss deviations (and defects), root causes, in-process and post-process controls
- Introduce information over a number of passes

0.1. Introduction to composites

0.2. Composite factory workflow



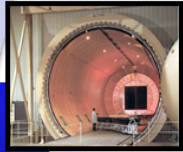
1. Materials manufacturing



2. Transport, incoming QC, storage

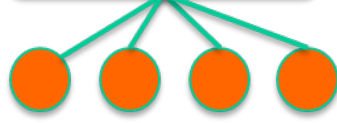


3. Tool prep, cutting, lay-up, bagging



4. Cure, consolidation

10. Common manufacturing issues



# COURSE MODULES

6. Inspect

5. Drill, machine



7. Paint, finish



8. Bonding and Assembly



9. Handling and Storage





# Overview – CMfgT Laboratory Session

- **Students will fabricate panels with intentional defects**
  - They will use NDI inspection techniques
  - They will test the panels to show effects of defects
- **Students will see various material forms and defects**
- **There will be optional tours of a prepreg manufacturing facility and composite structures manufacturing facility**



# Summary

- **FAA composite training developments are focused on safety awareness (Level II)**
  - Industry has supported the efforts since 2005
  - Separate courses for maintenance, structural engineering and manufacturing functional disciplines
  - Learning enhancements include labs, testimonials, case studies and application discussion threads with experts
  - Composite maintenance course first taught in 2009
- **Two active composite training initiatives**
  - Composite Structural Engineering Technology (CSET) has been completed and is available through WSU
  - Composite Manufacturing Technology (CMfgT) is under development and scheduled to be available in 2014

