



CFS 2024 Officially Kicks Off: NATCA President Rich Santa, Congresswoman Dina Titus, and EVP Andrew LeBovidge Address Attendees

Communicating For Safety (CFS) 2024 opened yesterday morning with NATCA President Rich Santa introducing special guest speaker Congresswoman Dina Titus, who has served as the United States representative for Nevada's 1st congressional district since 2013. Titus welcomed CFS attendees to Las Vegas and wished them a good, productive conference. She spoke about her commitment to maintaining a safe and efficient National Airspace System (NAS) and how she values working with NATCA members as she serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.



Santa then continued with an opening address highlighting the current state of the NAS and the challenges it faces, including chronic understaffing and the need for modernization. Santa emphasized the critical role of air traffic controllers and NATCA's ongoing efforts to ensure safety and efficiency across

the NAS.



Following Santa, NATCA Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge welcomed attendees and provided an exciting preview of what to expect over the coming days. His remarks set the tone for a conference focused on innovation, collaboration, and advancing aviation safety.



**Dr. Amy Grubb, Founder, Organizational Insights and
FBI Psychologist**

At Communicating For Safety (CFS) 2024, FBI Digital Transformation Advisor Amy D. Grubb, Ph.D., delivered an insightful session titled “Curiosity & Integrity: Shaping Tomorrow’s Workforce.” Drawing from her 20 years of experience in organizational change and her role at the FBI, Dr. Grubb emphasized the importance of cultivating curiosity and maintaining integrity as essential qualities for future leaders in the aviation industry. She shared how these traits help professionals adapt to the rapidly evolving landscape of air traffic control and aviation safety.



Her presentation at CFS offered attendees practical strategies for using curiosity to view challenges as opportunities and integrity to foster a collaborative and transparent work culture. Dr. Grubb's experience, including advising C-suite leaders and her role in digital transformation at the FBI, provided invaluable insights on how these principles can shape a resilient and forward-thinking workforce in aviation.

U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell Honored with Sentinel of Safety Award at CFS 2024

At Communicating For Safety (CFS) 2024 today, NATCA President Rich Santa and NATCA Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge presented the James L. Oberstar Sentinel of Safety Award to U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, recognizing her unwavering commitment to aviation safety and the workforce that keeps our skies safe. This award was renamed in 2014 at NATCA’s Biennial Convention in Minneapolis to honor Congressman Jim Oberstar, a dedicated

advocate for aviation and NATCA.

Senator Maria Cantwell has represented Washington state in the U.S. Senate since 2001 and currently serves as Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Throughout her tenure, she has been a staunch advocate for aviation safety, playing a pivotal role in the passage of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024.



Although Senator Cantwell could not attend the event in person due to pressing Senate business, including efforts to prevent a government shutdown, her dedication to ensuring the safety of the NAS and her steadfast opposition to government shutdowns further solidify her status as NATCA's Sentinel of Safety.

Karena Marinas Honored with Steve Hansen Safety Advocate Award at CFS 2024

At Communicating For Safety (CFS) 2024, NATCA President Rich Santa and NATCA Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge proudly presented the Steve Hansen Safety Advocate Award to NATCA OSHA Committee Chair Karena Marinas (Los Angeles Center, ZLA). This prestigious award, named after former NATCA National Safety Committee Chair Steve Hansen, is given to members who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and accomplishments in advancing aviation safety.



Marinas has been a driving force in ensuring the health and safety of NATCA members since joining the OSHA Committee in 2011. Under her leadership, the committee has addressed critical issues ranging from indoor air quality to emergency evacuation procedures, ensuring that controllers work in safe and healthy environments. Marinas' commitment to safety extends beyond her technical expertise; she is passionate about educating NATCA members on their rights and the importance of a safe workplace.

CFS 2024 State of the Industry Panel: Key Aviation Leaders Discuss the Future of the Sector



Pictured (left to right): Franklin McIntosh, Jarrod Thompson, Capt. Jason Ambrosi, Rich Santa

At Communicating For Safety (CFS) 2024, industry leaders gathered today for a State of the Industry panel to share their perspectives on the pressing challenges and opportunities within aviation. The panel featured FAA Deputy Chief Operating Officer Franklin McIntosh, ALPA President Capt. Jason Ambrosi, NATCA President Rich Santa, and Airlines for America Vice President of Legislative and Regulatory Policy Jarrod Thompson.

This engaging panel provided valuable insights into the collaborative efforts required to ensure a safe, efficient, and forward-looking aviation industry.

“Never Say Never...Recovering from the Unexpected” Panel at CFS 2024 Explores Crisis Management in Aviation

At Communicating For Safety (CFS) 2024, the “Never Say Never...Recovering from the Unexpected” panel brought together aviation safety experts to discuss strategies for managing unforeseen challenges in the aviation industry. The session was moderated by NATCA Runway Safety Representative Bridget Singratanakul.



Pictured (left to right): Jason Herman, Kyle Vincent, Matt McCann, Chris Corapi, Bridget Singratanakul

The panel featured insights from NATCA Surface Awareness Representative Chris Corapi, ALPA Los Angeles Airport Safety Liaison Capt. Jason Herman, FAA Eastern Service Area Quality Assurance/Runway Safety Manager Kyle Vincent, and FAA Program Manager Office Surveillance Services Surface Team Representative Matt McCann. These industry leaders shared their experiences and approaches to recovering from unexpected events, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and quick decision-making in maintaining safety and efficiency in the National Airspace System (NAS).

The panelists discussed real-world scenarios where rapid responses were essential, offering attendees a deeper understanding of how to effectively manage crises. This session highlighted the critical role that preparation and teamwork play in ensuring aviation safety, even in the face of unexpected challenges.

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